Helen Keller International/ChildSight® Program

General Information

Contact Information

Nonprofit
Helen Keller International/ChildSight® Program

Address
One Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
Floor 2
New York, NY 10017

Phone
(212) 532-0544

Web Site
Web Site

Facebook
Facebook

Twitter
Twitter

Email
info@hki.org

At A Glance

Year of Incorporation
1915

Former Names
Helen Keller Worldwide
American Foundation for Overseas Blind
American Braille Press
Permanent Blind Relief War Fund for Soldiers & Sailors of the Allies
British, French, Belgian Permanent Blind Relief War Fund
Helen Keller International
Organization's type of tax exempt status  
Public Supported Charity

Organization received a competitive grant from the community foundation in the past five years  
Yes
Mission & Areas Served

Statements

Mission
The mission of Helen Keller International is to save and improve the sight and lives of the world’s vulnerable by combating the causes and consequences of blindness, poor health and malnutrition.

A Great Opportunity Ending Date June 30 2023

Background
Helen Keller International is honored to carry on the work and legacy of our founding trustee, Helen Keller, whose indomitable spirit continues to guide our work worldwide. Founded in 1915, Helen Keller International is one of the world’s leading nonprofit organizations working to prevent blindness and reduce malnutrition. We combat the causes and consequences of blindness and malnutrition by establishing low-cost, evidence-based programs in vulnerable communities. Headquartered in New York City, Helen Keller currently works in 22 countries—13 in Africa, 8 in Asia Pacific, and in the United States, where we have worked since 1994 to address the critical need for vision care among low-income, underserved children. Helen Keller International’s international work is focused on preventing blindness for millions of vulnerable people through cataract surgery, vision correction, vitamin A supplementation, screening and treatment for diabetic retinopathy, and distribution of treatments for Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs). Helen Keller is also dedicated to reducing malnutrition in children and women through vitamin A and other micronutrient supplementation, promotion of optimal infant and young child feeding, fortification of staple foods with essential nutrients, homestead food production, and community-based management of acute malnutrition. Our program beneficiaries are among the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the world, ranging in age from newborns to the elderly, and including people disabled by blindness and low vision, as well as other conditions stemming from NTDs. In the United States, Helen Keller International’s US Vision Programs (formerly known as ChildSight®) identify and treat common vision disorders among economically vulnerable populations through the provision of no-cost vision screenings, prescription eyeglasses and ophthalmological referrals for follow-up care. Our US Vision Programs work directly with schools and social service centers in underserved communities to eliminate the primary barriers – access and expense – to vision care services for Americans in critical economic need. Since its inception, our US Vision Programs have screened the vision of more than 2 million individuals in the United States and have provided free prescription eyeglasses to nearly 315,000 people living in some of our country’s poorest neighborhoods.

Impact
Headquartered in New York City, Helen Keller International’s programs prevent blindness and reduce malnutrition in 20 countries – 12 in Africa, 7 in Asia Pacific, and in the United States – reaching 300 million people each year. In 2009, Helen Keller International received the prestigious António Champalimaud Vision Award in recognition of our significant achievements in preventing blindness worldwide. In 2014, Helen Keller International received the Henry R. Kravis Prize in Leadership, which recognizes extraordinary leadership in the nonprofit sector. In 2015, we received the BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Award in Development Cooperation for our broad impact around the world. In 2017, HKI was named a "Top Charity" by GiveWell, one of only nine charities to have received this designation to date.

Needs
In classrooms across Connecticut, students are unable to make the most of their education because their families are unable to afford or easily access the eyeglasses they need to see clearly. Students struggling with poor vision struggle to learn, to read the blackboard, and to fully engage with their teachers and peers. With a gift of $30, Helen Keller International can provide a vision screening and pair of prescription eyeglasses to a student in need, improving their sight and their academic potential.

Service Categories

Primary Organization Category Health Care / Management & Technical Assistance
Secondary Organization Category Food, Agriculture & Nutrition / Nutrition
Areas Served

Internationally
Ansonia
Bethany
Branford
Cheshire
Derby
East Haven
Guilford
Hamden
Lower Naugatuck Valley
Madison
Milford
New Haven
North Branford
North Haven
Orange
Oxford
Seymour
Shelton
Shoreline
State wide
Wallingford
West Haven
Woodbridge
National
Other

Headquartered in New York City, HKI’s programs prevent blindness and reduce malnutrition in 20 countries – 12 in Africa, 7 in Asia Pacific, and in the United States – reaching 300 million people each year. In the United States, our US Vision Programs serve students in California, Connecticut, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and Wisconsin. In Connecticut, our office is located in New Haven and serves individuals in New Haven and Bridgeport.
Helen Keller International's US Vision Programs

Description
Helen Keller International's US Vision Programs (formerly known as ChildSight) identify and treat common vision disorders known among economically vulnerable populations through the provision of no-cost vision screenings, prescription eyeglasses and ophthalmological referrals for follow-up care. Our US Vision Programs work directly with schools and social service centers in underserved communities to eliminate the primary barriers - access and expense - to vision care services for Americans in critical economic need. Since their inception, our US Vision Programs have screened the vision of more than 2 million individuals in the United States and have provided free prescription eyeglasses to nearly 315,000 people living in some of our country's poorest neighborhoods.

Budget
$2,500,000.00

Category
Health Care, General/Other / School Health Services

Population Served
Children and Youth (0 - 19 years) / Blacks, African Heritage / Hispanic, Latino Heritage

Program is linked to organization's mission and strategy
Yes

Short Term Success
In the coming academic year, we anticipate that 75% of students surveyed will report that their Helen Keller glasses "help them with their schoolwork" and that 85% of the teachers surveyed will report observing a positive influence on academic performance, classroom participation and/or classroom behavior among students who received Helen Keller eyeglasses.

Long Term Success
Increase access to eye health services for low-income people in the communities we work; Improve the vision and academic potential of the targeted students who receive free prescription eyeglasses; and raise community awareness about the importance of maintaining healthy vision.

Program Success Monitored By
To measure the qualitative impact of our program impact, Helen Keller International conducts surveys of students, teachers, and school liaisons on a yearly basis. The surveys are used to determine perceived changes in vision, academic performance, and classroom behaviors among students who received glasses from its program. In particular, student surveys are used to assess student eyeglass use prior to and after receiving HKI glasses; the frequency and length of eyeglass use; and the impact on social adjustment, self-perception, and self-reported academic performance. Teacher surveys track perceptions of changes in behavior, class participation, and academic performance among students who receive glasses. School liaison surveys gather feedback on the overall management and implementation of the Connecticut Vision Program.
Examples of Program Success

"The glasses help students to see the board better and therefore their attention is held for a longer period of time. Students have said it helps them when working on computers. One student said she used to get headaches working on the computer a long time but doesn't with the glasses." - Kelly Inga, 5th Grade Math/Science Teacher at Quinnipiac Elementary

"One of my students was not able to see the board well and therefore became distracted and was not participating. Since wearing glasses she participates more and is more confident." - Mr. Restrepo, 5th Grade Math Teacher at Columbus Family Academy

"I have a very behaviorally challenged student. Since he's received the glasses, he's paid attention so much more to the instructions. He is no longer squinting or complaining of headaches and now copies notes [from the board.]" - Whitney Parra, 6th Grade ELL Teacher at Truman
Leadership & Staff

CEO/Executive Director
Ms. Kathy Spahn

Term Start
Mar 2005

Email
kspahn@hki.org

Experience
Kathy Spahn, President and Chief Executive Officer of Helen Keller International, is responsible for all operations, programs, finances, communications and public policy initiatives of Helen Keller International. Ms. Spahn works closely with the Board of Trustees, global leaders in public health, staff members throughout Helen Keller, partner organizations, and Helen Keller supporters in carrying out her responsibilities. Prior to joining Helen Keller International, Ms. Spahn was President and Executive Director of Orbis, a global non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention and treatment of blindness in the developing world. At the time, the organization had four affiliate offices and five country programs, and a medical volunteer corps of 370. Prior to her work with Orbis, she was Executive Director of God's Love We Deliver, a New York-based AIDS service organization dedicated to combating malnutrition and hunger among people living with HIV/AIDS. Ms. Spahn serves on the Boards of Directors of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and The Bernadotte Foundation for Children’s Eyecare, and has also served as a Board member and Chair of InterAction and a member of GAIN’s Partnership Council. She is a Founding Board member of both the North America chapter of IAPB and the Association of Nutrition Services Agencies (ANSA), and a founding partner of the Global Network for Neglected Tropical Disease Control. She also serves on the 2020 and Strategic Advisory Council of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and IFPRI’s Leadership Council Compact of 2025. She joined Helen Keller International in March 2005 and is located at headquarters in New York City.

Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Full Time Staff</th>
<th>952</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Part Time Staff</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Volunteers</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Retention Rate</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff Demographics - Ethnicity

- African American/Black: 0
- Asian American/Pacific Islander: 0
- Caucasian: 0
- Hispanic/Latino: 0
- Native American/American Indian: 0
- Other: 952 n/a

Staff Demographics - Gender

- Male: 0
- Female: 0
Plans & Policies

Organization has a Fundraising Plan?  Under Development
Organization has a Strategic Plan?  Yes
Years Strategic Plan Considers  4
Date Strategic Plan Adopted  July 2017
Management Succession Plan?  No
Organization Policy and Procedures  Yes
Nondiscrimination Policy  Yes
Whistleblower Policy  Yes
Document Destruction Policy  Yes

Senior Staff

Mr. Nicholas Kourgialis
Title  Vice President for Eye Health

Ms. Patricia Manyari
Title  Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Emmanuel D'Harcourt
Title  Chief Program Officer
Experience/Biography  Dr. d'Harcourt is a pediatrician and public health expert with over 20 years of international experience. As Senior Health Director of the International Rescue Committee (IRC), d'Harcourt provided strategic direction for primary health and environmental health programs serving over 20 million people in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. He led a team of 60 public health professionals who were responsible for technical oversight of program quality and impact in 23 countries. Under his leadership as Senior Child Survival Technical Advisor at the IRC, a post he held for seven years, the child health program grew from a single district in one country to one of the organization's largest programs.

Formal Evaluations

CEO Formal Evaluation  Yes
CEO/Executive Formal Evaluation Frequency  Annually
Senior Management Formal Evaluation  Yes
Senior Management Formal Evaluation Frequency  Annually
Non Management Formal Evaluation  Yes
Non Management Formal Evaluation Frequency  Annually
Collaborations

To help achieve maximum impact in our work, Helen Keller International collaborates with hundreds of program partners including local communities, international and local NGOs, national and local governments, and a variety of corporations and foundations in the private sector.

Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award/Recognition</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vision Award</td>
<td>Antonio Champalimaud Foundation</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Henry R. Kravis Prize</td>
<td>Henry R. Kravis Prize in Leadership at Claremont McKenna College</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Award in Development Cooperation</td>
<td>BBVA Foundation Frontiers of Knowledge Award in Development Cooperation</td>
<td>2015</td>
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Board & Governance

Board Chair
Mr. Henry Barkhorn III

Company Affiliation
Retired Financial Executive

Term
Jan 2016 to July 2020

Board of Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Randy C. Becher CPA</td>
<td>Fossil Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. D. Brooks Betts</td>
<td>Riverview Asset Consulting Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Jennifer A. Buda</td>
<td>Management and Capital Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. R.V. Paul Chan M.D., M.Sc, FACS</td>
<td>University of Illinois Department of Ophthalmology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Anthony Dormet</td>
<td>Authentic Artists, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Desmond FitzGerald</td>
<td>Holyoke Partners LLC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Diana Fong</td>
<td>Deutsche Welle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Cutberto Garza</td>
<td>Cornell University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. David M. Glassman</td>
<td>Prince Management Consulting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Daniel L. Gray</td>
<td>Northstar Companies, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Carla Hall</td>
<td>ABC's The Chew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. David P. Lecause</td>
<td>Allergan, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. John &quot;Jack Linville</td>
<td>Law Office of John Linville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Reynaldo Martorell PHD</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Mark J. Menting</td>
<td>Sullivan &amp; Cromwell LLP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Beverly Miller Orthwien</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Pierce Moser</td>
<td>Attorney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Bradford Perkins</td>
<td>Perkins Eastman Architects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Chantal Piani</td>
<td>CP Conseil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Bruce E. Spivey MD, MS, MED</td>
<td>International Council of Ophthalmology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Melissa R. Thompson</td>
<td>Alcon Laboratories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. William &quot;Bill J. Toppeta</td>
<td>Macomber Peak</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Board Demographics - Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American/Black</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian American/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American/American Indian</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Board Demographics - Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Governance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board Term Lengths</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Term Limits</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Meeting Attendance %</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Full Board Meetings Annually</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Board Selection Criteria</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Conflict of Interest Policy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage Making Monetary Contributions</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constituency Includes Client Representation</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Board Co-Chair

Mr. Desmond G. Fitzgerald

- **Company Affiliation**: Holyoke Partners LLC
- **Term**: June 2019 to July 2020
- **Email**: fitzgerald Desmond@hotmail.com

Standing Committees

- Audit
- Development / Fund Development / Fund Raising / Grant Writing / Major Gifts
- Human Resources / Personnel
- Nominating
- Finance
- Program / Program Planning
- Board Governance
Financials

Fiscal Year Start
July 01 2019

Fiscal Year End
June 30 2020

Projected Revenue
$81,213,469.00

Projected Expenses
$81,213,469.00

Detailed Financials

Prior Three Years Total Revenue and Expense Totals Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$83,239,867</td>
<td>$77,925,894</td>
<td>$69,215,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$84,044,128</td>
<td>$75,280,180</td>
<td>$69,505,838</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prior Three Years Assets and Liabilities Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$46,528,866</td>
<td>$46,897,187</td>
<td>$39,503,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>$41,565,971</td>
<td>$41,817,889</td>
<td>$34,487,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Liabilities</td>
<td>$1,773,558</td>
<td>$1,605,804</td>
<td>$1,215,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>$12,488,541</td>
<td>$12,292,487</td>
<td>$8,054,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$32,266,767</td>
<td>$32,998,896</td>
<td>$30,233,459</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prior Three Years Top Three Funding Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top Funding Source &amp; Dollar Amount</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development (USAID) $52,437,404</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development (USAID) $47,226,185</td>
<td>USAID $34,199,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Highest Funding Source &amp; Dollar Amount</td>
<td>Good Ventures $7,200,000</td>
<td>Morgan Stanley Global Impacting Trust $6,000,000</td>
<td>Dept. of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Dev. $11,087,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Highest Funding Source &amp; Dollar Amount</td>
<td>Save the Children International $2,969,218</td>
<td>Conrad N. Hilton Foundation $5,975,000</td>
<td>The Gates Foundation $6,462,104</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Solvency

Short Term Solvency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Ratio: Current Assets/Current Liabilities</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>4.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Long Term Solvency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Liabilities/Total Assets</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Capital Campaign
Currently in a Capital Campaign?
No

Comments

Foundation Staff Comments
This profile, including the financial summaries prepared and submitted by the organization based on its own independent and/or internal audit processes and regulatory submissions, has been read by the Foundation. Financial information is inputted by Foundation staff directly from the organization’s IRS Form 990, audited financial statements or other financial documents approved by the nonprofit’s board. The Foundation has not audited the organization’s financial statements or tax filings, and makes no representations or warranties thereon. The Community Foundation is continuing to receive information submitted by the organization and may periodically update the organization’s profile to reflect the most current financial and other information available. The organization has completed the fields required by The Community Foundation and updated their profile in the last year. To see if the organization has received a competitive grant from The Community Foundation in the last five years, please go to the General Information Tab of the profile.