Call for Ideas: Innovative technology to reduce visual impairment & blindness

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Call for Hospitals and Clinics who are part of the Global Sight Initiative through a commitment of $250k to spark innovation in technology

US based Seva Foundation has announced a call for ideas to identify innovative technology-based solutions to improve eye care delivery. It is committing $250k to spark innovation in technology to help people see.

This call for ideas is limited to hospitals and clinics that are currently an active part of the Global Sight Initiative. The Global Sight Initiative, a network of more than 100 hospitals around the world, collaborates to accelerate the development of high quality, high volume, sustainable eye care services through innovation, training, mentoring, research, and advocacy.

Globally, at least 2.2 billion people have a vision impairment, and of these, at least 1 billion people have a vision impairment that could have been prevented or is yet to be addressed. A recent study in the Lancet Global Health projected a three-fold increase in global blindness by 2050. Reversing this trend will require innovation and identifying creative uses of technology to multiply effectiveness in providing eye care to people who need these services.

Seva seeks innovative, locally applicable solutions that leverage technology to extend the reach and impact of eye care services.

"We know that there are a lot of innovative ideas that our partner eye clinics want to try but just don't have the initial capital investment to get their idea off the ground. With these funds, Seva can promote these great ideas and further our mission to end avoidable blindness", says Kate Moynihan, Seva Foundation’s Executive Director.

Qualifications

Must be a hospital or eye clinic that is actively part of Seva’s Global Sight Initiative.

Apply

Seva will release awards of up to $50,000 per award and announce the recipients by the end of Q2 2020. Interested applicants may submit a 1-2 page Letter of Intent (LOI) that clearly outlines your organization’s ideas on how to use
technology to reduce visual impairment and blindness.

Key information to include:

- Purpose and mission of your organization
- Key objectives and approach
- Measurement of program success
- Intended impact including number of people reached
- Timeline
- Funding request and brief budget

Submissions

Submit LOI via email with a subject line: “Your Organization Name — Call For Ideas Submission.” LOI’s must be received by 11:59 pm (Pacific Time) on 25 March 2020.