



## **NPR Features Project Prakash's Work with Blind Children**

I am happy to share with you the good news that NPR featured Project Prakash today as part of its "Visionaries of Boston" series. This segment beautifully highlights the value of our work and speaks of the continuing need to identify and treat curably blind children. Every child should have a childhood in which they are educated and allowed to live in dignity.

You can view the segment here: <http://commonhealth.wbur.org/2015/04/visionaries-blind-project-prakash>.

We can all take collective pride in Project Prakash's accomplishments. Your encouragement and unstinting support has been crucial for the successes thus far, and for giving us the confidence to tackle the even bigger challenges that lie ahead of us. One of these is simply the need to scale up. We have to enhance our outreach and treatment programs to be able to help many more children, such as the one you see above who is learning to play catch after gaining sight.

To this end, we have set for ourselves a target of treating at least 50 more children this year. The cost of treating a blind child is \$400 for each eye surgery and \$200 for transporting them to and housing them at the hospital. It is hard to think of very many other occasions when a few hundred dollars can truly transform a child's life. I know that we as a group can rise to this challenge and would welcome your support for doing so. As one can hear in the WBUR segment, one surgery can take a child from darkness to light and inspire them to help others; paying goodness forward.

Together, we can ensure that Project Prakash continues to live true to its stated mission of 'Illuminating Lives and Illuminating Science'.