

## CBM India and Schiefflin Institute launch inclusive eye health project in Tamil Nadu

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**Project will be implemented over three years starting in September 2024 and concluding in July 2027**



CBM India, a non-profit organisation committed to improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities, has partnered with the Schiefflin Institute of Health Research & Leprosy Centre to launch a three-year disability-inclusive eye health project in the Vellore district of Tamil Nadu.

This initiative aims to provide high-quality eye care services to people from marginalised communities, with a special focus on children and adults with disabilities.

The disability-inclusive eye health project aims to prevent avoidable visual impairments, including blindness, in marginalized communities. By offering primary eye examinations, building the capacity of key stakeholders, and developing strong referral networks among hospitals, vision centres, and schools, the project seeks to ensure timely access to essential eye care services for all, particularly those who often face barriers to accessing quality eye care.

By using a child-to-child and patient-to-patient approach as a key strategy, the project aspires to create a ripple effect where people who have benefited from the program amplify awareness about the importance of eye care and the services available within their communities.

Beyond providing eye care, the initiative seeks to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to comprehensive support

services and opportunities for empowerment. This will be achieved by collaborating with the health, education, and rehabilitation sectors. The project will be implemented over three years starting in September 2024 and concluding in July 2027.