



# Sightsavers

**Imagine a person's future  
being your legacy**

**Your guide to leaving a gift in  
your Will to Sightsavers**

[www.sightsavers.ie/legacies](http://www.sightsavers.ie/legacies)

Registered Charity Number **CHY 15437**



Photo Credit - Janshyd Masud/Sightsavers

## A Million Miracles Appeal

Sightsavers has set a goal to raise €36 million and working with partners throughout Asia and Africa, we plan to use this money to fund one million sight-restoring operations by the end of 2018.

Patients waiting area Colombo Eye Hospital, Sri Lanka

# Why make a Will?

Thinking about making a Will can be difficult and some people have all sorts of reasons for not making one, but for others it's a chance to seriously consider how they may shape the future, even after they're gone.

Making a Will is probably one of the most important things you can do to ensure your wishes will be carried out, exactly as you want. It's also the only way to protect the rights of your children and loved ones. Despite this, one in three people in Ireland die without making a Will. As a result, the state may lay claim to your estate. At best, it's an expensive and legal nightmare for those you leave behind, causing stress and upset at a time when they need it least.

Making a Will doesn't have to be hard work or expensive and the satisfaction you'll get from putting your affairs in order will be one of relief. Did you know, if you leave a gift to a charity in your Will, this will be tax free? This means that every cent of your money goes towards helping those who need it most.

We recommend that you consult a solicitor to draw up your Will. Keep an eye out for the **My Legacy Week** in October/November each year for further information on making a Will and on identifying a solicitor in your local area.

## Cover Photo

Riya from Patna in northeast India had struggled to see the blackboard in class. Here, in one of the poorest states in the country, it is a challenge to to access and even to afford eye care services. Thanks to a Sightsavers' eye-screening program run in her school Ria had her eyes tested and was provided with a new pair of glasses to correct her vision. She is now continuing her education.



## Leaving No One Behind

Seven-year-old Animata from Senegal was born blind and growing up she would spend most days simply sitting at home.

Animata now attends a school, supported by Sightsavers, that welcomes and educates children with vision impairment. Going to school now brings purpose and structure to her day.

The promotion of equal opportunity for people with disabilities is a core part of Sightsavers Vision. We're committed to 'leaving no one behind' by ensuring that all our programmes are also available for people with disabilities.

# Why include Sightsavers in your Will?

Making a Will gives you a unique chance to provide for those causes closest to your heart and make a lasting contribution that will literally transform the lives of families and whole communities.

Our vision is of a world where no one is blind from avoidable causes and where visually impaired people participate equally in society. If you believe in this vision, please consider leaving a gift to Sightsavers in your Will.

When adults and children are plagued by the darkness of cataract, dependant on their families, or suffering from the advanced stages of trachoma, your legacy could mean that so many more people get the sight-saving treatment they so urgently need, before it's too late.

Each year gifts from legacies help us make real progress in our battle to fight avoidable blindness; progress such as providing one million sight-restoring cataract operations by the end of 2018.

We are also committed to eliminating trachoma in countries where we currently work by 2020 and river blindness by 2025. With your support many thousands of adults and children can have their sight protected and restored.

**Imagine a person's future being your legacy.**

# A brighter future, thanks to you

Here are just two examples of the wonderful ways a Gift in your Will could make a lasting difference.

Like every other two year old, Baraka should have been full of life and eager to explore. Instead, cataract had left him almost blind. He struggled to take steps on his own and rarely played with other children.

Baraka lived in Mkenge in rural Tanzania with his mother Zena, grandfather and aunts.

His mother worried constantly for his future, that he wouldn't be able to go to school, that he wouldn't be able to see properly. When she took him to the local health centre, the doctor confirmed her worst fears - Baraka had cataracts and, without surgery, he'd be blind for life. Zena was distraught, knowing she couldn't afford the journey to the hospital, let alone the surgery itself.

But thanks to our generous supporters Sightsavers was able to give Baraka's family the sight-saving operation they

so desperately needed.

Accompanied by his mother, Baraka was brought to Muhimbili hospital in Tanzania's capital. Here a straightforward operation removed the cloudy lens from each of Baraka's eyes and inserted new lenses - ones that will last a lifetime.

The next day Baraka's bandages were removed. As he opened his eyes, he looked around the room, first at the doctor and then Zena. He seemed a little fearful but, between cries, he called out, "*I'm seeing you*" to his delighted mother.

**€56 is all it costs to give a child back their sight.**

**There is no better legacy, than ensuring a child's future is brighter.**

**A delighted two-year-old Baraka from Tanzania with his mother Zena after his successful cataract operation.**



## Getting life back on track, thanks to you

**Winesi joyfully hugs his wife Namaleta after an operation has successfully restored his sight.**

Because of his cataracts, 69 year old Winesi was completely blind. His sight had been getting worse for more than a decade, which meant he had never seen his grandchildren, and it had been 12 years since he had last seen his wife's face clearly. "I imagine what she looks like, but I can't remember that well".

When Winesi had his sight, his typical day used to be full of activity; but being blind had left him housebound. Losing his sight had completely knocked his confidence and he was always afraid that something bad would happen.

These weren't his only fears. With Winesi unable to work, his wife Namaleta was struggling to support their family and he worried about their future.

A quick cataract operation changed everything. "Because of my blindness, I wasn't able to help my family with the

harvest. Instead, I was sitting around helplessly while they did all the work. I felt really sad and sometimes I couldn't hold back my tears. But this year I was able to help harvesting the crops, which was a great relief!

My illness affected every aspect of our lives. It was like our lives were on hold. Now I am a free man again and can go anywhere by myself. The most important thing is that I can see my wife, my children and my grandchildren. I missed seeing their faces so much".

**€36 is all it costs to give an adult back their sight. Imagine - your legacy could mean a grandparent like Winesi can see his loved ones again and he can even help care and provide for his family once more.**

# 8 simple steps to leaving a legacy to Sightsavers

Eight simple steps is all it takes to leave a gift in your Will that will mean a little child like Baraka will get the treatment they need in time to ensure they do not live in darkness.

## 1 Arrange to see your solicitor

Your estate is everything you own – your home, contents, shares and insurance – minus any outstanding commitments you may have such as a mortgage. This should give you a clear idea of how much you would like to leave and to whom.

## 2 Assess your estate's value

To ensure your Will is legally valid, we recommend you always use a solicitor. If you don't have one, simply phone the Law Society on 01 6724800.

## 3 Choose what kind of legacy you'd like to leave

We recommend that you discuss with your solicitor which type of gift you wish to leave in your Will; Residual legacy is the safest way to ensure your gift retains its value.

## 4 Prepare the paperwork

If you are writing your Will for the first time and decide to leave us a legacy, you will need to make a note of our exact details, including our full name, address and charity number in your Will. These are:

Sightsavers  
First Floor, Spencer House,  
Spencer Row, Dublin 1.

Registered charity number CHY 15437

If you already have a will and would like to add a gift to Sightsavers, simply complete the codicil document on page 11 of this guide.

## 5 Return the enclosed pledge invitation

Knowing your intentions enables us to plan for the future. It also allows us to say 'Thank You' within your lifetime.



## 6 Choose your executor

If you are writing a new Will, you will need to choose someone to be your executor. Their job is to carry out your wishes after you have passed away. The task may be time-consuming, so it's best to consult them first. It's also worth noting that for this reason most people name two executors.

## 7 List any questions

Sightsavers is on hand to answer your questions in the strictest confidence. Please feel free to call us on 01 663 7666.

## 8 Visit your solicitor

Your solicitor will discuss the specific detail of your Will with you. Once you are happy all you need do is sign and date your new Will or codicil before two independent witnesses, who must also sign the document.



Two-year-old Bakir Rashid, who suffers from congenital cataracts, plays with his father, just before undergoing a sight restoring operation supported by Sightsavers.

**Thank you. Your legacy could really change lives for the better in some of the world's poorest countries.**

# Your Estate checklist

Take this simple checklist with you to your solicitor when making your Will, it'll help you answer all their questions.

<b>Property</b>	<i>List your major assets and their approximate value</i>
Home	€
Holiday home	€
Jewellery	€
Car	€
Home contents (e.g. furniture)	€
Antiques	€
Other items of value	€

<b>Financial</b>	
Bank/Building Society accounts	€
Stocks, Shares, Investments etc.	€
National Savings	€
Pension / Benefits	€
Life Assurance	€
Business Assets	€
Any other Financial Interests	€

<b>Financial Commitments</b>	
Mortgage Outstanding	€
Loans	€
Overdraft	€
Hire Purchase Agreements	€
Credit Card Loans	€
Other Loans	€

<b>Money You Are Owed</b>	
Name	
Address	
Date of Loan	
Amount Outstanding	€

<b>Name and Addresses of Executors</b>	
Name	
Address	
Name	
Address	



# Your Codicil for a Bequest to Sightsavers

To add a bequest to Sightsavers in your existing Will, simply fill out this legal document. Make sure that you sign it before two witnesses, neither of whom stand to benefit from either your Will or from this codicil. Once completed, you may wish to forward this document to your solicitor for checking. It should then be kept in a safe place, together with your Will.

Thank you for your kindness. Your gift of sight will be valued for many years to come.

## For You to Complete

By the first (appropriate number of Codocil) <sup>1</sup>	
to my Will Dated	
I (Full name)	
of (address)	

in addition to the provisions of my said Will give to:  
**Sightsavers, First Floor, Spencer House, Spencer Row, Dublin 1.**  
Registered charity number CHY 15437 the sum of:

<input type="checkbox"/> Residential Legacy <sup>2</sup>		%
<input type="checkbox"/> Pecuniary Legacy	€	
<input type="checkbox"/> Specific Legacy (item)		

for its general charitable purposes and I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being or other duly authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors/trustees. In all other respects I confirm my said Will.

Signed <sup>3</sup>	Date	<input type="text"/>
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## For Your Witnesses to Complete

Signed by the alongside in our joint presence and then by us in his/her's.

1st Witness	
Address	
Occupation	

Signed <sup>3</sup>	Date	<input type="text"/>
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1st Witness	
Address	
Occupation	

Signed <sup>3</sup>	Date	<input type="text"/>
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- 1 It is important to state which codicil this is, eg first, second, third etc.
- 2 A percentage of your estate left after all specific gifts, debts, fees, taxes and other expenses have been paid.
- 3 In front of witnesses.



**First Floor  
Spencer House  
Spencer Row  
Dublin 1**

**Tel: 01 663 7666**

**Email: [info@sightsavers.ie](mailto:info@sightsavers.ie)**

**Website: [www.sightsavers.ie](http://www.sightsavers.ie)**

**Donations: 1850 60 20 20**

For more information or if you have any queries  
please do not hesitate to call Elaine on **01 663 7666**  
or email [eherb@Sightsavers.ie](mailto:eherb@Sightsavers.ie)

