

RUN FOR SIGHT MARATHON 2026



CATEGORY: COMMUNITY HEALTH

DATE: 12ND JANUARY 2026

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LALJI FOUNDATION

Committed to Community Health,

Eye camp

Oyster-bay, Kinondoni District- Dar es Salaam region,

Date: 12nd January, 2026

Venue: Oysterbay - Dar es Salaam

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Lalji Foundation is a philanthropic organization based in Tanzania, dedicated to community empowerment, education, health, and social welfare. The foundation aims to create sustainable social impact by addressing the needs of vulnerable populations, including women, children, and underserved communities. The foundation operates with the vision of improving quality of life and fostering self-reliance through initiatives that combine direct support, capacity building, and long-term development projects.

The Run for Sight Marathon 2026 is a charitable, non-profit marathon event organized by Lions Clubs International – District 411C Tanzania (focused on community service and vision health) with the purpose of raising awareness and funds to support eye care services in Tanzania. It brings together the local community, runners of all levels, volunteers, sponsors, and health advocates to address avoidable visual impairments through a fun, impactful sporting event.

Lalji Foundation is one of the main sponsor of this marathon event. The proceeds of this event and the funds collection will be fully utilized in setting up Free eye camps across the villages of Tanzania raising awareness for eye care, offering, free glasses/medicine and conducting cataract surgeries free of cost.

2. OBJECTIVES

- Promote Eye Health and Prevent Blindness, raise awareness about preventable blindness and the importance of regular eye check-ups.
- Support screenings, treatments, and surgeries for eye conditions such as cataracts and glaucoma.
- Raise Funds for Vision Care Programs generate financial resources to support eye health initiatives led by Lions Clubs and partner organizations.

- Ensure funding reaches underserved communities with limited access to eye care services.
- Engage the Community in Health Advocacy, encourage community participation through running, walking, and volunteering.
- Strengthen Partnerships for Eye Health Collaborate with corporate sponsors, NGOs, government agencies, and health institutions to scale impact.
- Promote long-term sustainability of eye care projects in Tanzania.
- Create Awareness on the Importance of Physical Activity highlight the link between healthy lifestyles and overall wellbeing, encouraging fitness alongside social impact.

3. EVENT OVERVIEW

Parameter	Details
Location:	Oyster- Bay, Kinondoni District – Dar es Salaam
Handover Date:	12 January 2026
Organized by	LIONS CLUB

4. PARTNERS & STAKEHOLDERS

SN	Partners/ stakeholders	Role/contribution
1.	LIONS CLUBS	Project
2.	LALJI FOUNDATION	Main Sponsor

5. BUDGET & EXPENDITURE

SN	ITEMS	BUDGETED (TZS)	BUDGET EXPENDITURE
1	Eye camp	25,000,000	25,000,000
2	Media + photographer		90,000
	TOTAL		25,090,000

6. IMPACT OF THE PROJECT ON THE COMMUNITY.

Impact of the Run for Sight Marathon on the Community

- Improved Eye Health and Access to Medical Care thousands of people screened for eye conditions like cataracts, glaucoma, and refractive errors.
- Early detection and treatment help reduce preventable blindness in the community.
- Increased Awareness on Eye Care and Preventive Health in Community members gain knowledge about the importance of regular eye check-ups and eye hygiene.
- Encourages a culture of health consciousness in communities that historically have limited access to health education.
- Economic and Social Empowerment Events like the marathon generate local economic activity, including temporary employment for event staff, vendors, and health workers.
- Partnerships and Long-Term Community Development to Strengthens collaboration between Lions Clubs, Lalji Foundation, government bodies, and NGOs, ensuring continued investment in health infrastructure.
- Supports long-term programs that enhance quality of life, such as mobile eye clinics and health education campaigns.

7. MEDIA COVERAGE

SN	Platform	Details	Type
1.	Television	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ IBN TV, ITV, TBC, CHANEL TEN, START TV,	Events news features
2.	Social Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Instagram▪ Facebook▪ WhatsApp group	
3.	News papers		- Daily news 14 th January 2026 pg 18

8. MONITORING AND EVALUATION.

Monitoring focuses on ongoing tracking of activities and outputs during planning, execution, and post-event stages, and evaluation assesses the overall outcomes and long-term impact of the marathon, providing insights for future improvements.

9. CONCLUSION

The Run for Sight Marathon 2026 successfully brings the community together to fight preventable blindness, raise funds for eye care programs, and promote health awareness. With the support of Lions Clubs International and Lalji Foundation, the marathon not only improves access to vision services but also strengthens community engagement, fosters social responsibility, and leaves a lasting impact on the lives of Tanzanians.

10. PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Lalji Foundation, and Lions International clubs.









Lions turn every stride into hope against preventable blindness

By EMMANUEL
MSABAHA

FOR the fourth year running, Lions Clubs International District 411C Tanzania has once again showcased the powerful union of sport and social impact by successfully

staging the Run for Sight, a flagship charity race dedicated to eliminating preventable and treatable blindness.

The vibrant event, held over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, attracted hundreds of runners who took part in races ranging from 5km to

15km. While the streets buzzed with colour, energy and competition, the heart of the event lay in its humanitarian mission: mobilising resources and awareness to expand access to vital eye care services for underserved communities.

Addressing participants after the race, District Governor Manish Chavda, who served as the Guest of honour, highlighted the enduring global footprint of the Lions' vision initiatives. He noted that since 1990, the Sight First Programme, implemented in partnership with healthcare professionals and key stakeholders, has touched the lives of more than 544 million people worldwide, restoring sight and transforming livelihoods.

"In 2023, our efforts raised 41m, which enabled eye screening for 6,027 people and 453 cataract surgeries," Chavda said.

He further underscored the programme's steady growth. "In 2024, we collected 58m, facilitating eye examinations for 7,960 people and 502 cataract operations. This year, we are proud to have raised 77 m, allowing 8,128 people to be screened and 592 patients to undergo life-changing cataract surgeries," he added.

Medical experts involved in the outreach reaffirmed their commitment to the cause. Dr Majala Majala, one of the eye specialists supporting

the initiative, stressed that eye-related challenges remain widespread in Tanzania, making sustained interventions essential.

"Many Tanzanians continue to suffer from preventable eye conditions. As specialists, we are determined to reach as many people as possible and reduce cases of poor vision," Dr Majala said.

Participants praised the event for seamlessly blending fitness with purpose. Mussa Selemani, who competed in the 10km race, described Run for Sight as a powerful platform that channels physical activity into tangible support for those in need of eye treatment.

"People should engage more in physical exercise, not only for health, but also to support initiatives that truly change lives," he said.

Fellow jogger Mariam Hussein Ramadhuni echoed the call for active lifestyles, noting that regular exercise strengthens the body and helps prevent many diseases. She also applauded the organisers for the consistency of Run for Sight, describing it as a lifeline for thousands facing eye health challenges.

With growing participation, rising impact and unwavering commitment, Run for Sight continues to prove that every stride taken is a step closer to a clearer, brighter future for countless Tanzanians.



LALJI Foundation Chairman, Imtiaz Lalji, presents an award to the youngest participant of the Run for Sight marathon, Raniah Salimani (4), after the 5-kilometre race that started and ended at Oysterbay Primary School in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Others are the guest of honour, the Governor of Lions Club District 411C Tanzania, Manish Chavda (second left) and other participants. (Photo by Robert Okanda)