

Publication:The Dominion
Post;

Date:Jun 17,
2008;

Section:
Opinion;

Page Number:8

Foundation has eyes on future

EDITORIAL

Raju's vision continuing to change
lives and restore sight to thousands

FOR MORE INFORMATION or to donate to the Eye Foundation
of America, visit its Web site at eyefoundationofamerica.org/

Your eyesight doesn't determine your vision.

The one determines how you see things, while the other deter-
mines your deeds.

One naturally expects Dr. V.K. Raju, as an ophthalmologist,
to understand the limits of poor eyes, which he does. However,
Raju has an innate ability to translate his vision into a real-
ity that knows no limits.

Thanks to his leadership and dedication to the Eye Foun-
dation of America, which he founded almost 30 years ago, thou-
sands of people have a different outlook on life — literally.

Recently, the Eye Foundation
hosted a fundraiser to raise aware-
ness and seek contributions for
the group's newest initiative, the
building of a children's eye hos-
pital in India.

Over the years this foundation
has been instrumental in a host of
such initiatives dedicated to
improving screenings, surgery and corneal transplants in
rural India.

Restoring the eyesight of children and others has been the hallmark of Raju's efforts. However, he has worked just as hard to extend his expertise to others.

Thanks to Raju and other local philanthropists, the foundation has been instrumental in not only providing treatment, but also fostering critical research and training for others to use in their own countries.

The foundation has also made many contributions to the West Virginia Eye Bank and the Navajo nation in the Southwest. Other countries are also playing host to one of the foundation's most ambitious initiatives, preventing the No. 1 cause of blindness in children — vitamin A deficiency.

This effort, in collaboration with one of the world's foremost research hospitals, Johns Hopkins University, now reaches 15 nations.

Helen Keller, America's most brilliant advocate for the blind once said, "The most pathetic person in the world is someone who has sight, but has no vision."

Though this observation might apply to way too many of our political leaders, ophthalmologists like Dr. Raju have transcended their knowledge into a vision that offers not only eyesight to many, but hope, as well.

His contributions in no way can only be measured in terms of his substantial philanthropy or abilities as a skilled ophthalmologist.

If any measure of Raju and the Eye Foundation is to be taken it has to be of its vision.

Which appears to have no measure.

**If any measure of
Raju and the Eye
Foundation is to
be taken it has to
be its vision.**
