



Idaho - Eastern Oregon
**LIONS SIGHT &
HEARING FOUNDATION**
The Campaign for Endowment



For Sight, For Sound, For Health

OUR HISTORY



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In 1968, George Wehman and W.D. “Bill” Hallock presented to the Lions Multiple District 39 Convention in Sun Valley a proposal to create a foundation to organize and expand the humanitarian efforts of Lions in Multiple District 39, covering Eastern Oregon and the Southwestern and Eastern portions of Idaho. The proposal was ultimately adopted in 1969 and the Idaho-Eastern Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation was formed.

The foundation’s work began with the formation of the Idaho Lions Eye Bank. The eye bank provides critically needed eye tissue for transplant made available by individual donors. Shortly after the successful launch of the eye bank, the foundation’s programs of personal financial assistance for eye surgeries, school vision screening, the hearing aid bank and hearing financial assistance began.

Operations continued to grow and in 1985 the foundation entered into a partnership with Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center to aid in the operations of the eye bank. The first Mobile Screening Unit (MSU) was purchased in began its operations in 1999. This screening unit travels throughout Idaho providing vision, hearing blood pressure and diabetes screening at health fairs, schools and Lion Club events.

By 2007 the work of the eye bank under the auspices of Saint Alphonsus and the health outreach programs of the foundation had expanded sufficiently to allow the foundation and Saint Alhphonsus to enter into a new agreement that allowed the eye bank to now operate under the foundation. In that same year, the Foundation hired its first executive director and moved into its own home on Latah Street in Boise.

The work and outreach of the foundation through the eye bank and health screening programs continues to grow and in 2010, the foundation was gifted its new home on Cole Road offering greatly expanded lab and office space.

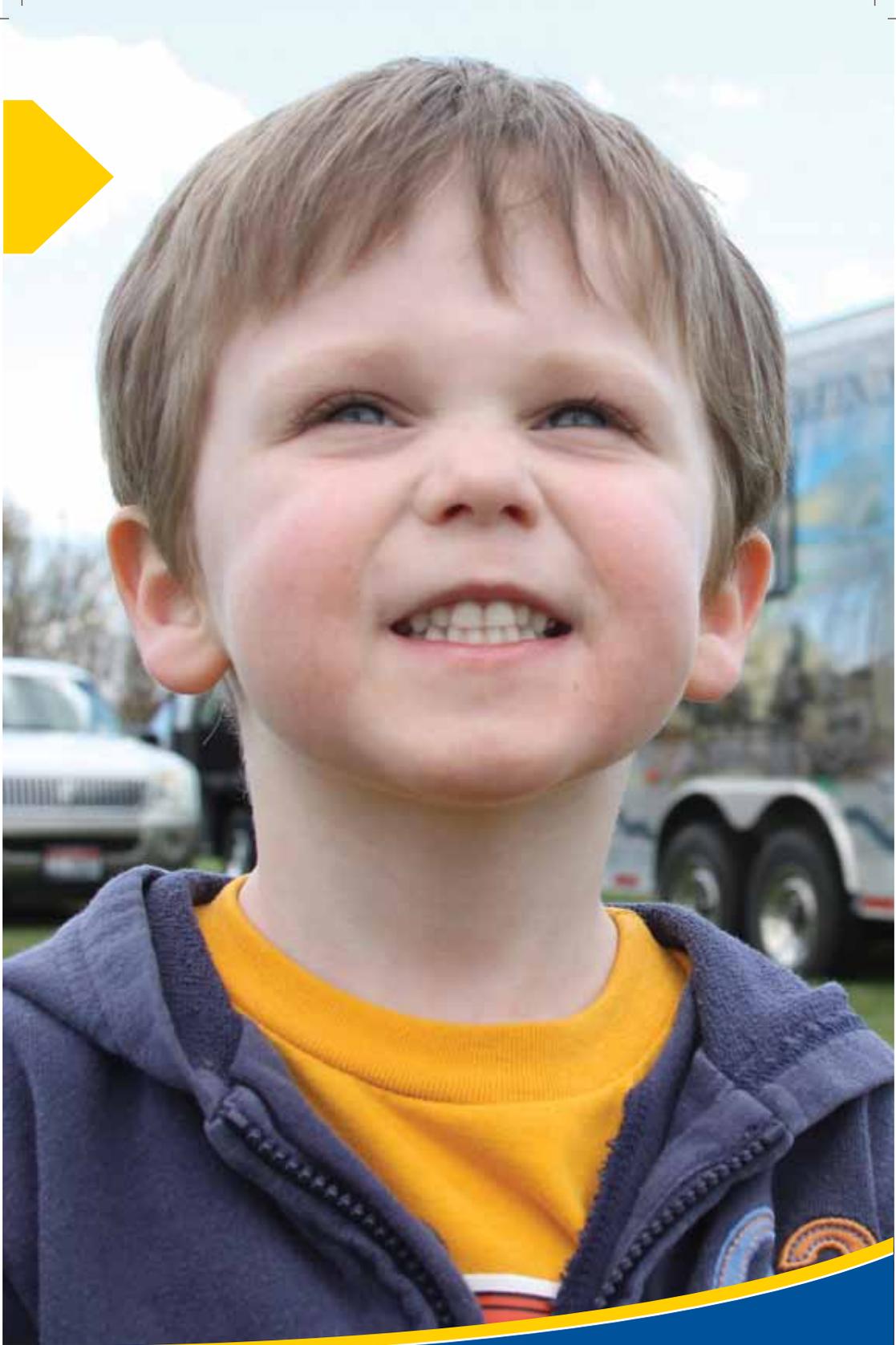


A NOBLE PURPOSE

In fulfilling its founding mandate, the foundation touches the lives of more than 85,000 adults and children each year through its health screenings, by restoring sight to those afflicted with corneal blindness, and through its programs of surgical and hearing aid assistance to those at poverty levels.

The foundation's programs of early detection screening as well as eye surgery and therapy assistance are the critical safety net for many—if still too few. The Foundation's programs are specifically designed for those not covered by adequate private health plans or those on public assistance such as Medicare or Medicaid. In a word, those that fall “between the cracks”—primarily the working poor in our region.

The foundation has come to be recognized as an outstanding quality provider of critical health services. The foundation is often the bridge between sight and blindness, hearing and deafness and the early detection of these conditions for the men, women and children of Idaho and Eastern Oregon.





A GROWING UNMET NEED

Even with its current outreach and assistance, the foundation estimates that over 200,000 men, women and children in the region go without preventative eye, ear and diabetic screening as well as critical corrective eye surgeries each year. With Type 2 diabetes—the third leading cause of death in the United States—rising almost exponentially, diabetic induced blindness and heart disease will follow.

Personal Financial Assistance for Surgery and Therapy

Each year the number of those offered financial assistance for critical eye and ear surgeries falls short of the number of qualified applicants. The foundation, regrettably, turns away between 25 and 30 qualified applicants each year. This gap continues to expand despite raising qualifications for applicants to 150% of the poverty level—truly the working poor. Almost 30% of these individuals are children.

Sight, Hearing and Diabetes Screenings

Through the work of the Mobile Screening Unit as it traverses Idaho and Eastern Oregon, over 20,000 men, women and children are directly impacted each year. Despite this work, the foundation estimates that over 200,000 persons living in Idaho and Eastern Oregon go without preventative eye, ear and diabetic screening. The current single mobile screening unit is operating at capacity, given the travel distances involved with one unit.

The Campaign

The foundation has historically relied upon income from the Eye Bank and small event fundraisers to provide the funding for its assistance programs and humanitarian outreach. Even with the foundation's history of careful and conservative financial management, the current revenue is inadequate to either increase its humanitarian outreach or expand its eye bank services without sacrificing the work of the other.

To expand critical surgical services and health screenings to meet more of the need in our region and to provide a stable financial platform on which the eye bank itself can grow and prosper, the Board of Trustees of the foundation have embarked upon a bold undertaking in a campaign to significantly increase the standing endowment of the foundation, through gifts from fellow Lions and like-minded individuals.

An endowment of \$5,000,000 will generate approximately \$250,000 in operating funds per year and would be applied in the following manner:

<i>Mobile Screening Unit (2 units @\$50,000)</i>	\$100,000
<i>Surgical and Therapy Assistance</i>	\$100,000
<i>Diabetes Awareness</i>	\$20,000
<i>Eye Research through Eye Bank</i>	\$30,000

Revenue from the eye bank operations, currently used to fund humanitarian efforts would be used to expand eye bank operations

An enhanced endowment will not only enable the foundation to fulfill its mission as a high-quality provider of sight and hearing assistance, but will also help to position the foundation to achieve its long-term goal of establishing a state-of-the-art eye institute to serve the people of the region.

The long-term effect of a significant endowment would be to expand and strengthen both eye bank and humanitarian outreach thereby touching the lives of many more of those in our region in severe need.

A GROWING UNMET NEED



The Vision

The foundation leadership is under no illusions that the foundation's work alone is the solution to the sight and health issues that face the people of our region. They are committed, however, to do whatever is within their power to save the sight, hearing and health of as many as possible. It is by building a strong endowment, that dream can become a reality.

You are an important part of realizing that dream. Your gifts and pledges to the Campaign for Sight, for Sound, for Health will make the difference between sight and blindness, sound and deafness, health and chronic illness for many of the adults and children in our region.

Campaign Leadership

Daniel Frison
General Chair

Terry Brady
Leadership Gifts Chair

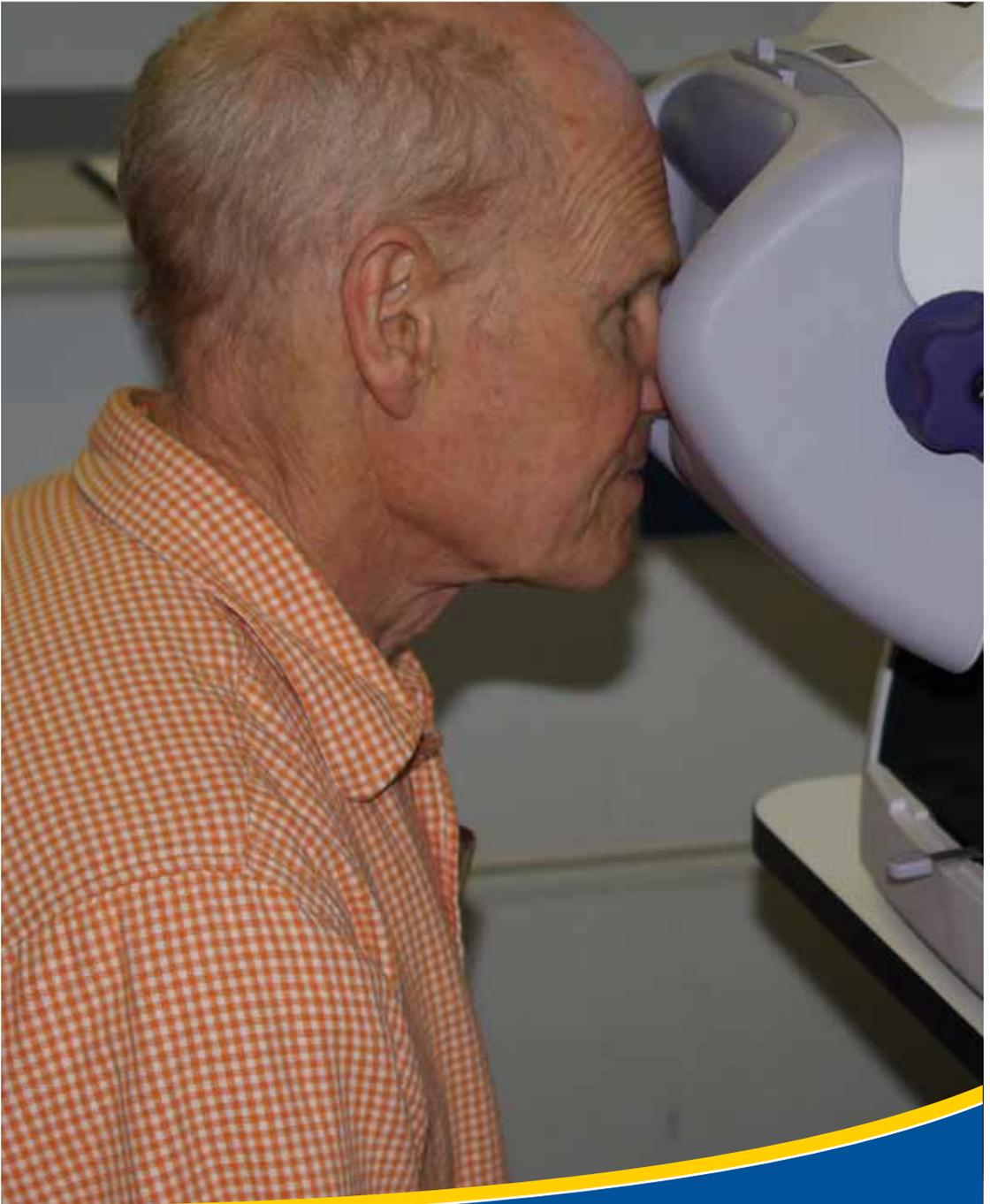
Curt Kelley
Board Gifts Chair

Jerry Stevenson
Communications Chair

Tonya Westenskow
Treasurer

Jay Lugo
Executive Director
Idaho and Eastern Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation

A GROWING UNMET NEED





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