

## Who are Lions?

We are over 1.35 million members, belonging to over 46,000 clubs worldwide in 208 countries and geographic areas. Founded in 1917 by Chicago business leader Melvin Jones, The International Association of Lions Clubs began with a belief that members should work for the betterment of their communities and the world at large. Lions Clubs International Foundation is the #1 ranked non-governmental agency.

— We Serve Our Communities —

### Our Mission:

To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation.

### Our Motto Is —

***We Serve***

### Why Vision?

In 1925, Helen Keller addressed the Lions Clubs International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio. There, she challenges Lions to become “knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness”.

Since then, Lions have worked tirelessly to aid the blind and visually impaired.

## The EYES have it

Let Lions  
Assure  
Good  
Vision



For more information about Lion District 20-E2's Vision Screening Program, or to learn about becoming a Lion, please contact:



## Lions District 20-E2

“The Finger Lakes District”  
Serving 10 NY Counties



## Early Childhood Vision Screening Program



**Lions Clubs International**



## What Lions Have Done Worldwide to Prevent Blindness

Campaign SightFirst I & II since 1990:

- Saved the sight of more than 15 million children by providing eye screenings, glasses and other treatments through Sight for Kids.
- Established or strengthened pediatric eye care centers that have helped more than 120 million children.
- Helped halt the spread of trachoma in Ethiopia by providing 10 million doses of the sight-saving drug azithromycin annually.
- Prevented serious vision loss for more than 30 million people worldwide.
- Improved eye care for 100 million people by training more than 650,000 eye care professionals and building 315 eye hospitals.
- Distributed more than 147 million treatments for river blindness.
- Provided nearly 8 million cataract surgeries.
- Vaccinated 41 million children in Africa against measles – a leading cause of childhood blindness.

Since 1990, Lions have raised US\$415 million through two SightFirst fundraising campaigns to help provide vision for all.



## Why Vision Screening?

- Millions of children will start school this year with a vision problem that may inhibit their ability to learn.
- According to one study, approximately 60% of students identified as “problem learners” have undetected vision problems.
- According to the American Optometric Association:
  - 1 in 4 children have an undetected vision problem.
  - 1 in 6 school-age children experience learning difficulties that are attributed to a vision condition.
- It is estimated that vision accounts for as much as 80% of the learning process for a child's reading, writing, chalkboard, and computer use.
- Even sports and the arts rely on healthy vision.

**One of the most important things parents can do to help ensure their children's ability to learn is to ensure their ability to see properly.**

## Our Goals Are:

- Reach out to parents, schools, and care-givers, emphasizing the importance of identifying potential vision problems early.
- Conduct vision screening sessions on as many children as possible to identify those needing referral for further care.
- Encourage all parents to seek visual assessments for their children to diagnose and correct conditions before they impact learning.

## How Does It Work?

- Portable screening unit (7 available)
- Trained screeners from local Lions Clubs
- Local contacts
- Familiar settings
- Parental permission
- Simple and non-intrusive
- Pass/refer result



## What We Screen For:

- Near-sightedness (myopia)
- Far-sightedness (hyperopia)
- Unequal refractive power (anisometropia)
- Irregular eye shape (astigmatism)
- Pupil size deviations (anisocoria)
- Eye misalignment (strabismus)
- Light reflexes



(95% accuracy on referrals)