



OREGON LIONS  
**Sight & Hearing Foundation**

BRINGING LIFE CHANGING ASSISTANCE TO YOUR COMMUNITY

2009 Annual Report

# The Next 50 Years



## Lions Build Partnerships to Restore Sight

**T**he growing number of people in need of sight, hearing and preventative health assistance in our state is staggering. According to recent statistics, there are over 600,000 Oregonians without health insurance. Last year, the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation, in collaboration with the Lions of Oregon, assisted more than 137,000 of those individuals through various programs and services.

Cataract surgery is one area where demand is increasing. The National Institute for Science Education (NISE) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) report 400,000 new cases of cataracts occur each year in the United States. Through the Mission Cataract USA program, three Oregon Lions Clubs, including Roseburg, Klamath Falls and Beaverton, are working diligently to address this need. Mission Cataract USA offers a free cataract surgery once a year to people who have no means to pay and do not qualify for government assistance or have private insurance. The program started in Fresno, California in 1991, by Frederick A. Richburd, MD, Medical Director of Valley Eye Institute and in 1993 spread nationwide as various states joined the program.

The program was first introduced in Oregon by Dr. Jon-Marc Weston, an ophthalmologist in Roseburg who has been performing free cataract surgeries for 15 years. He and his staff donate their time and skills and host a free "Cataract Surgery Day" in May each year to low-income individuals who need a cataract surgery but cannot afford the operation. This year, Dr. Weston performed over 20 free cataract surgeries, while medical suppliers and manufacturers donated the needed medical supplies.



Dr. Balish removes a severe cataract from patient Donald Minson.

"In the early 1990s, I heard of Mission Cataract USA, a program that while acknowledging the need for vision care worldwide, recognized the unmet need for vision restoring surgery in our own communities. Although there were many joining the program across the country when I first started, I was the only one in the Northwest. We were seeing patients from Portland, Klamath Falls and receiving requests from as far away as Georgia. It became clear that I couldn't meet this need alone. Joining with my club, the Roseburg Lions, we co-sponsored "Lions Mission Cataract" for a year. We then approached the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation with the goal to share the opportunity with Oregon Clubs and encourage them to participate in the program. Jake Jacobssen, Past District Governor and Immediate Past Foundation Chair, challenged clubs in every community where the need existed to partner with surgeons and facilities to host a local, annual program. This would provide a dramatic increase in people cared for and free up the Foundation's funds for other services," stated Dr. Weston.

Last year, the Beaverton Lions Club accepted the challenge and David Rich, project coordinator for the club, spearheaded the effort. The partnership with the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation, and Dr. Martin J. Balish, a board certified ophthalmologist at Oregon Eye Specialists in Portland, led to two successful "Mission Cataract Days" during the 2008-09 fiscal year. A total of 12 pre-screened and

(article continued on page 4)

## Leadership Message



### 50 Years of Service - And Beyond!

Sharon Rollins  
2009-10 Chairman, Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

The year was 1959, and leaders of the Lions organization in Oregon took up the challenge posed by Helen Keller to become "Knights of the Blind", in order to offer vision services to those beyond the reach of local clubs. The organization, then called the Oregon Lions Sight Conservation Foundation, began with a modest budget and began offering sight saving services in conjunction with the Devers Memorial Eye Clinic at Good Samaritan Hospital.

The year is now 2009, and 50 years of dedicated Lions service have seen the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation grow from that small organization into a statewide service provider of vision, hearing and related assistance. What a momentous answer to the Keller challenge! As the second 50 years of service begin, our Foundation is poised to increase our numbers served beyond the 137,000 people this past year.

Plans are being put into place for screening more Oregon school children with our MHSU fleet, and for reaching out to more communities through an increased number of local Lions Club's screening events. Increased patient care services are planned to help meet the needs of some 600,000 uninsured Oregonians. Lions clubs statewide are energized to meet new goals of service for these citizens.

These goals are lofty, and reaching toward them will set a new pace of growth for the OLSHF. However, such service can only be possible by increasing the financial strength of the Foundation. The current endowment of \$3.2 million needs to grow for its earnings to support continued growth of service. I ask that all Lions, individuals and clubs, set a goal of raising funds to grow the endowment to \$4 million by June 2010. Can we do it? With guided efforts, you bet we can! Let's take the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation into the next 50 years of service – and beyond!



### From Good to Great

Glen Gilbert, Executive Director  
Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

What an eventful year. Overall this has been one of the most successful in the history of the Foundation in terms of people served. The MHSU screened over 31,000 children and adults and detected 11,000 health issues, Patient Care approved 71 cases including 21 cataract surgeries, the KEX Kids Fund helped 1,393 children receive eyeglasses, over 350 people have received 573 hearing aids, we recycled over 180,000 pairs of eyeglasses, and 145 students received comprehensive vision exams through our Low Vision Clinic. Here are a few highlights in a year of transitions:

- The Board voted to restructure the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon by creating a subsidiary corporation with its own 501(c)(3) status, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Over the summer, LEBO moved into tremendous new headquarters and we completed a major renovation and moved (back) to our offices at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital.
- In December, we were sad to say farewell to Amber Kern as Executive Director. On April 1, I began serving as the sixth Executive Director in OLSHF history.
- In May, we were informed of two of the largest bequests in Foundation history from Don and Susan Rose, and Deora Holm.
- On July 25, we will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at a sold out Gala Dinner.

I want to thank immediate past Chair Jake Jacobssen who has been a terrific mentor. I also want to thank the entire Board, and Paul Lipscomb and Jeri Alcock for acting as Interim Executive and Development Directors. You kept us going during the transition. Finally, I want to thank the staff, drivers, and volunteers that make us a success. Brenda, Sherry, Karina and Eliza, we could not do it without you. The future looks bright. The budget is balanced, staff is energized and we have new Board and staff leadership, as well as a new Development Director, as we go into the new year. It is time for us to go from "Good to Great."



### LEBO's Historical Year Moving Forward

Richard Smith, PDG  
2009-10 Chairman, Lions Eye Bank of Oregon

*"He is no fool who gives away what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose."* - Jim Elliott

This has been an incredible year of events for your Lions Eye Bank of Oregon (LEBO) as we moved into a new facility designed specifically for eye banking services at Southeast 11<sup>th</sup> and Grant in Portland. With good planning and dedicated staff the move went smoothly without loss of service. The building was dedicated April 25, 2009 to the Lions of Oregon and our Donor Families who unselfishly contribute so others may see. The new facility has enabled LEBO to have a record year in numbers of corneas processed for transplant.

LEBO Visionary awards were presented to Harue Ninomiya who exceeded 300 courier runs; Salem Hospital medical records for being the first to allow LEBO access to medical records; and Janie Woodward, an Oregon funeral director, volunteer enucleator, and true champion of eye donation. In addition, the Eye Bank assumed supervisory and financial responsibility of the research lab. Dr Mark Terry and others continue their research and train surgeons from all over the world in the latest eye surgery techniques in our state-of-the-art laboratory.

The events of this year have truly been historical and enabled the Eye Bank to make significant steps forward in addressing our mission of the collection of eye tissue for sight restoring transplants, surgical training, and research. The lives of many Oregonians have been enhanced by the sight-restoring corneas provided by the Eye Bank, yet only when blindness has been eradicated will our mission be fulfilled. This remains the challenge in the upcoming year. A special thanks to Lions of MD-36, Executive Director Barbara Crow, LEBO staff, volunteer couriers, and donor families for all you do to help others see.



### Eye Bank Focuses on Curing Preventable Blindness

Barbara Crow, CEBT, Executive Director  
Lions Eye Bank of Oregon

Although our work of restoring sight is never finished, the Board and Staff of your Lions Eye Bank of Oregon are proud to share with you the pages of our Annual Report, the highlights of 2008-2009.

Ten million people around the world are blind with little or no hope of having their sight restored. Cornea damage is the 4th leading cause of blindness in the world. This is unnecessary and can be helped with the continued provision of sight restoring corneas for transplant and eye tissue for research. To this end your Eye Bank has refocused our efforts at staying mission-driven. We are a 34 year old "new" organization, in a new building and with an involved Board of Directors. We are guided by a Medical Advisory Team made up of the best of the best in cornea disease and sight restoration. Sixty percent of the tissue recovered by the Eye Bank resulted in sight restoration for 1,426 cornea transplant recipients, an 18.1% increase from last year. The remaining tissue was placed for vital ophthalmic study and surgical training. Together with our partners in these endeavors, the Lions of Oregon, our Medical Directors, our Funeral Directors and State Medical Examiners, and Donate Life Northwest, we will conquer the leading causes of blindness.

Our goals are lofty and will be accomplished only by harnessing vast resources of talent, money and organizational strength. This year we have implemented new budgeting systems for improved expense reporting and tracking, expanded our Quality Systems program to monitor quality in every aspect of our operations, and have added an Info Tech department to facilitate accurate electronic tracking and reporting. Aided by our Board of Directors and Medical Advisors, the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon is ready to serve the people of Oregon and SW Washington well into the future.

# Staff Rosters



OREGON LIONS  
Sight & Hearing Foundation

**OUR MISSION**

On behalf of the Lions of Oregon, our mission is to provide programs that positively impact quality of life in our communities, with an emphasis on sight and hearing.

**OUR VISION**

The vision of the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation is to ensure that everyone in need of the programs and services of the Foundation receives them.

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www.orlions.org

**OREGON LIONS SIGHT & HEARING FOUNDATION**

- Glen Gilbert, Executive Director
- Brenda Anderson, Director of Programs & Operations
- Eliza Boné, Public Relations & Community Outreach Director
- Karina Felix, Programs Coordinator & Finance
- Diane Freaney, Chief Financial Officer
- Doug Thompson, Resource Development Director
- Sherry Yarger, Programs Coordinator & Administrative Assistant

**Mobile Health Screening Unit Drivers & Event Managers**

- Warren Heathman      Richard "Dick" LeFrancis
- Wally Anderson      George Raney

**April 2009**

Combined Foundation and Eye Bank Board Executive Committees celebrate successful partnership meeting.



**From left to right:**

PDG Rod Bach, PDG Jake Jacobssen, PCC Gary Tate, PDG Bob Van Slyke, LEBO Executive Director Barbara Crow, CC Vince Bishop, OLSHF Executive Director Glen Gilbert, OLSHF Chairman Sharon Rollins, Brian Rangitsch, PDG Carol Tate, and PDG Richard Smith.

2009 Annual Report produced by Eliza Boné.



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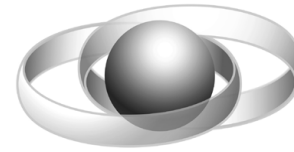
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LIONS EYE BANK  
of OREGON

**OUR MISSION**

The Lions Eye Bank of Oregon is an organization dedicated to the collection of eye tissue to restore sight, for surgical training and for research.

**OUR VISION**

The Lions Eye Bank of Oregon will contribute all of its resources to sight restoring surgeries and the eventual elimination of blinding eye diseases.

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**LIONS EYE BANK OF OREGON**

- Barbara L. Crow, CEBT, Executive Director
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- Jeff Holiman, CEBT, Technical Program Manager
- Ruth Phinney, CEBT, Distribution Coordinator-Research
- Kristin Mathes, Quality Assurance Director
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- Phil Dye, EK Circulator
- Roderick Carew, Eligibility Specialist
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- Cordelia Elsewhere, CEBT, Technical Trainer
- Seth Wolf, Information Systems Specialist
- Kevin Sealy, CEBT, Special Projects Manager/HR
- Susan Bowen, Finance Administrator
- Cindy Bishop, Administrative Assistant

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Per Diem: Wendy Petersen, Dorothy Heassler, Tawnya Wilson, Sandy Perkins, Steven Swarm, Shannon Evelove, Brad Gilman

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Jennifer Bennett, Ashley Chambers, Theresa Dougherty, Karin Stothart, Stephanie Bertrand, Juliet Chandler, Alex Bash, Julie Waters, Kristi Garman, Angie Lampe, Rebekah Smith, Natasha Rogall  
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Coos Bay: David Geist  
Central Coast: Open  
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Medford: Renee Stern, Brian Kiese, Cherie Grubbs  
Salem/Albany/Corvallis: Pamela Lewis, Kate Davis  
N.E. Oregon: Kristina Roshon

**Lions Vision Research Laboratory of Oregon**

David Davis-Boozer, Clinical Research Coordinator

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## Updates

("Lions Build Partnerships to Restore Sight," continued from page 1)

pre-qualified, low-income individuals were given free cataract surgeries. "The great thing about this is the opportunity for Beaverton Lions to work with a community provider and the Foundation where we all pool our resources together. Working in this partnership, we are much more successful in our endeavor in helping people in need," stated David. "Through the generous support of Dr. Balish, this project essentially allows us to double our money and thereby double the people we serve."

The total average cost for each surgery is between \$4,000 and \$5,000 – a cost prohibitive amount for the selected individuals whose income falls 150 percent below the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Like Dr. Weston, Dr. Balish is committed to making a difference in our community when cataracts are preventing the less fortunate from seeing clearly. "So many eye doctors are doing mission work in other countries... I feel more can be done at home. I hope to be able to bring the latest technological advance in eye surgery to those who are most in need and don't have the means to pay for it. My goal is to be a regular participant in this program."

If you would like to partner with a local Lions Club as a community provider in future Mission Cataract events, or wish to make a donation toward this effort, please contact the Foundation at (800) 635-4667.



Mission Cataract Team

Dr. Balish, anesthesiologist Dr. Tolan, and nurses donated their time and expertise; the Westside Surgery Center in Tigard provided the equipment and supplies; Bausch and Lomb generously gave lenses for each of the 12 recipients; the Beaverton Lions Club paid the program fees and initiated contact with Dr. Balish; the Foundation assisted with identifying and qualifying low-income individuals.

## Foundation Launches New Website

When you visit [www.orlions.org](http://www.orlions.org), you will see a very different site, indeed. *But, please... pardon our dust!* The site is still under construction and will be a "work in progress" for the next few months. You may wonder why we decided to launch a site that is not quite complete. We felt the new website, although not 100 percent ready, was more user friendly, facilitated regular updates by staff, and offered the capacity for growth. Plus, it will soon offer "members only" access to sensitive documents for our community partners, medical providers and Sight & Hearing Chairs. The new site is reflective of the Foundation's rebranding, yet is balanced by a streamlined, professional and current look which reinforces the Foundation's forward momentum.

Soon, photos and recipient stories will warm-up the pages, and links to *Oregon Lions E-News* and the *Oregon Lion* will be added. Get familiar with the staff and the Board of Trustees as bios are soon incorporated. In the near future, a blog will give you the latest Foundation news and fresh content daily, plus a MHSU calendar with statewide event information.

This website was developed to expand our audience base, encourage return visits, and to make the Foundation more accessible and user friendly to all. We welcome comments, ideas and suggestions on ways we can improve upon the site by completing the "Contact Me" section. We hope you will be a frequent visitor!

**NOTE:** If you have [www.orlions.org](http://www.orlions.org) bookmarked as a favorite, you will be directed to the old site. Please "refresh" the page or type in the site address and create a new bookmark from the updated site.

### Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

2009-10 Board of Trustees

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**EYE BANK BOARD CHAIRMAN**  
Richard Smith, PDG - Sutherlin

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2009-10 Board of Directors

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**VICE-CHAIR**  
Gary Tate, PCC - La Grande

**IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR**  
Carol Tate, PDG - La Grande

**TREASURER**  
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**SECRETARY**  
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Les Tyo - Beaverton

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Jack Stoops - Central

**District E**  
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**District G**  
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## Young Mother Receives the Gift of Sight

At the age of 15, Melissa Vargas' vision troubles began. An eye specialist gave her the grim news -- she would eventually need a corneal transplant. All the doctor could do at that point was prescribe eyeglasses, which didn't really help her deteriorating vision.

Year after year, her eye sight slowly worsened until this year, at the age of 27, the eye pain, constant irritation and blurry vision became too much to bear. Melissa shared how her eye condition affected her quality of life. "Everything was so difficult. I couldn't cook because the flames from the stove burned my eye; I couldn't read because I couldn't focus on the letters; I couldn't clean because the chemicals caused so much discomfort; I couldn't walk outside at night without assistance. The worst experience was the inability to care for my 4-year-old son properly. I felt so frustrated and helpless."

Her husband, Angel Vargas, works two part-time jobs and is the sole provider for their family of three. Neither job offers health insurance benefits. Without resources to pay for her corneal transplant, Melissa was referred to the Eugene Bethel Lions Club by the Peace Health Pediatric Clinic.

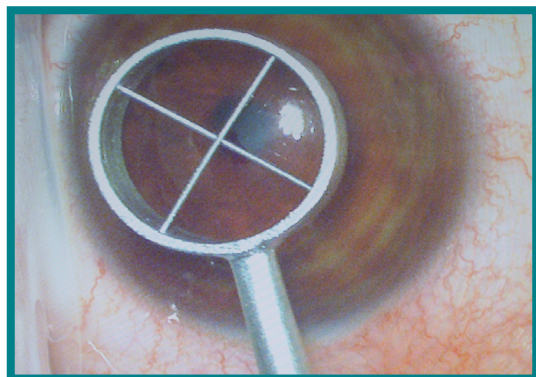
Through the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation's Patient Care Program and the generous donation of a cornea by the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon, Melissa's plea for assistance was answered.

On March 12, 2009, Melissa underwent a successful 90-minute corneal transplant surgery at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital Devers Eye Institute performed by Dr. Shaw and Dr. Shamie.

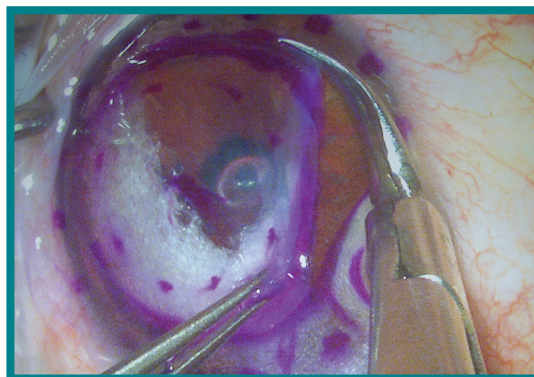
"In these times, nobody ever does anything for free... nobody is willing to help you without expecting something in return. But you have changed my perspective on that because everyone involved in making this possible has given us such a great gift motivated by goodness and kindness and the desire to help. We will forever be in your debt." - Angel Vargas, husband



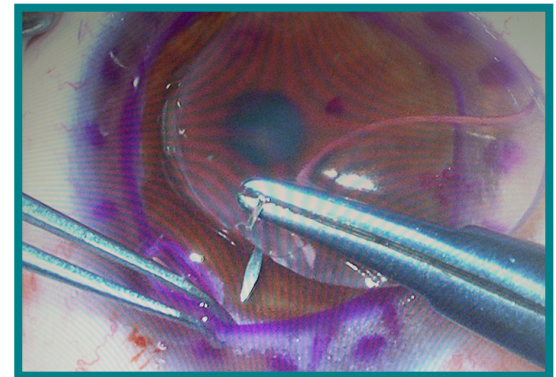
Dr. Shamie and Dr. Shaw prepare the donated cornea for transplant.



A. Melissa's cornea is measured, marked and cut.



B. Precision instruments are used to cut away the damaged cornea.



The donated cornea is sutured in place.



Melissa Vargas with Dr. Shamie during a follow-up appointment.

Once under general anesthesia, Melissa's eyelids were held open with a lid speculum. The eye surgeon then inspected and measured the affected corneal area in order to determine the size of the transplantation. Using a special instrument (photo A), a round, button-shaped section of tissue was removed from the diseased cornea. Surgical tweezers and scissors are used to completely separate the diseased cornea from the surrounding tissue (photo B). A nearly identical-shaped button is cut from the donor tissue and then sutured into place (photo C). Sutures are removed three to 17 months post-surgery, depending on the health of the eye and the rate of healing. Finally, the surgeon placed a plastic shield over the eye to protect it from being inadvertently rubbed or bumped. Melissa's vision will continue to improve up to one year following her surgery.

"To everyone at the Lions Foundation, the Eye Bank and the Lions Club, I would like to express my sincere, heartfelt gratitude to all of you for making this surgery possible. Because of your generous medical services, I have regained my sight and have resumed a normal life where I can finally take care of myself and my family. Thank you for also treating me and my family with patience and dignity. May God bless you all." - Melissa Vargas

According to Barbara Crow, Eye Bank Director, "Over 41,500 cornea transplants were performed in the United States in 2008. Melissa suffered from keratoconus, an inherited corneal dystrophy that is the leading indication for cornea transplant in the U.S. Fortunately, transplants performed for keratoconus enjoy a high rate of success and Melissa will be able to lead a normal life once again."

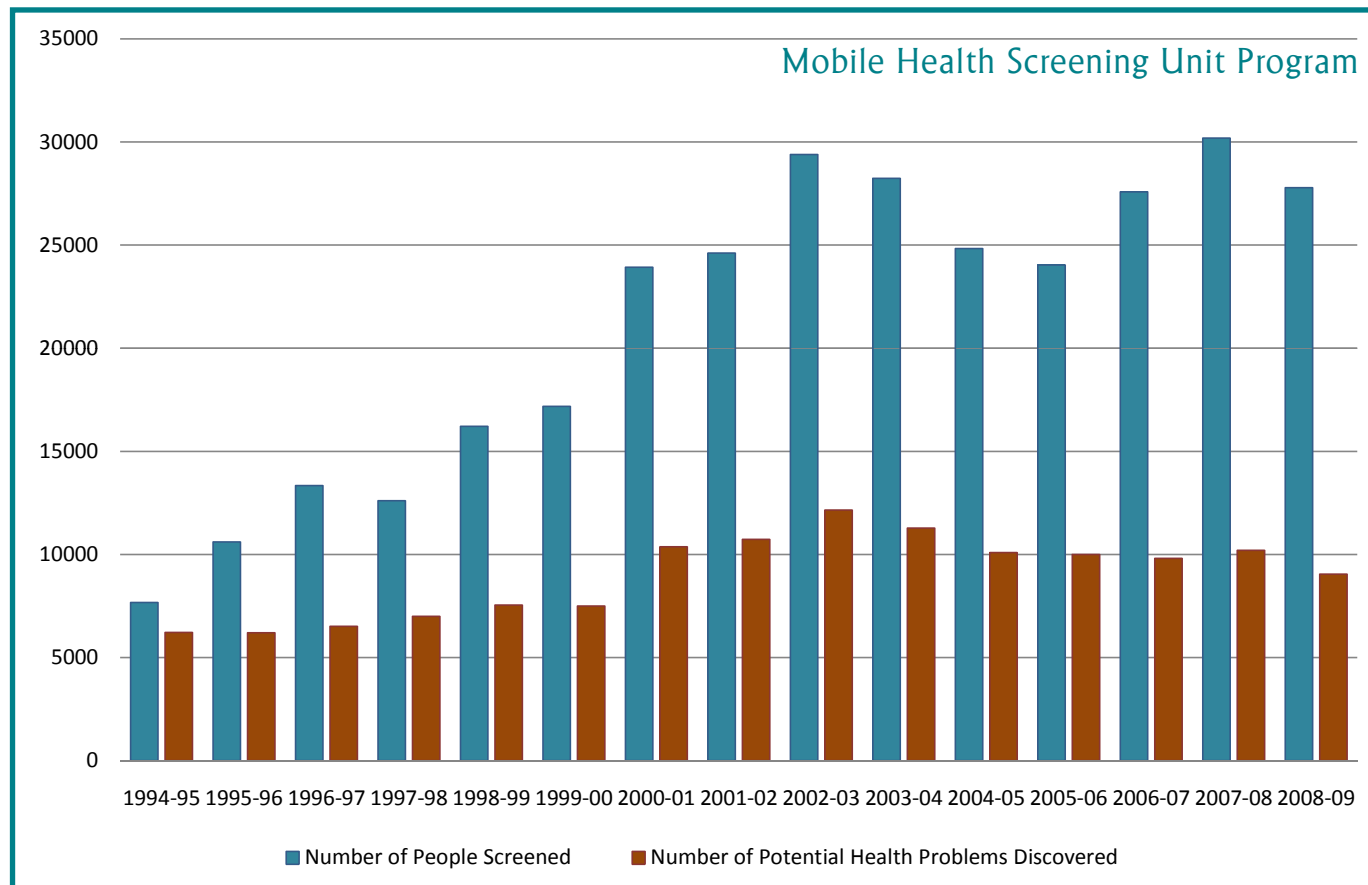
Reported and photographed by Eliza Boné, Public Relations & Community Outreach Director  
Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

## Program Highlights

### Mobile Health Screening Program

There were 289 screening events scheduled for 2008-09. Based on available data, 27,789 people have received vital health screenings, revealing 9,039 potential health issues, including:

- 1,205 Oregonians received diabetes screenings, 395 (33%) may potentially have diabetes
- 25,193 youth and adults received vision screenings, 3,007 (12%) may have potential vision problems
- 15,984 youth and adults received hearing screenings, 2,587 (16%) may have potential hearing issues
- 106 of the 188 (56%) of the Lions Multiple District 36 have hosted the Mobile Health Screening Units this year



### Community Partners Making a Difference

The Mobile Health Screening Unit program checked the vision and hearing of 550 children during the recent screenings that took place at James John Elementary and Grout Elementary Schools. This ongoing project was initiated by Essilor Vision Foundation in partnership with Portland Public Schools. Several Lions Clubs partnered to volunteer during the event, including Portland Oaks Bottom Lions Club who coordinated the volunteer efforts and raised the funds to cover the scheduling fees for the events. Over 100 students received comprehensive exams from volunteer optometrists, coordinated through Essilor Vision Foundation. If the doctor determined that eyeglasses were needed, Essilor Vision Foundation arranged to have the glasses created, covering the cost through their Foundation.



Grout Elementary student, Cheyenne, age 6, admires her newly fitted eyeglasses.

### Patient Care

To date, over \$126,952 has been authorized to provide 71 people with life altering vision surgeries including corneal transplants, diabetic retinopathy treatments, detached retina repairs and cataract surgeries. The Patient Care Committee has approved fewer people for more urgently needed treatments this year.

The total authorizations for this year for those 71 individuals was distributed as follows throughout Multiple District 36:

- District E = 34 (48%) people received \$69,852 (avg. \$2,054 per person)
  - District O = 23 (32%) people received \$32,740 (avg. \$1,423 per person)
  - District R = 13 (18%) people have \$21,148 (avg. \$1,627 per person)
  - District G = 1 (1%) person received \$3,212
- Our average cost per surgical patient this year was \$1,788. Last year, our average was \$1,358. This increased cost per person is based on the changing needs of those that apply for funding through the Patient Care Program.
  - Requests for funding through the Lions Patient Care Program have increased by 16% over last year and by 74% since 2006.

### Lions Low Vision Clinic

Dr. J.P. Lowery, Associate Professor of Optometry at Pacific University College of Optometry, has directed the Lions Low Vision Clinic since 1995. He also serves as the faculty advisor for the Amigos (Student VOSH) and has led many eye care missions to underserved populations all over the world. He continues to operate the Lions Low Vision Clinic, traveling around Oregon to perform comprehensive vision exams and developing strategies to improve students' vision. This past year, Dr. Lowery examined 145 students and distributed 33 low vision devices, including monoculars and magnifiers.

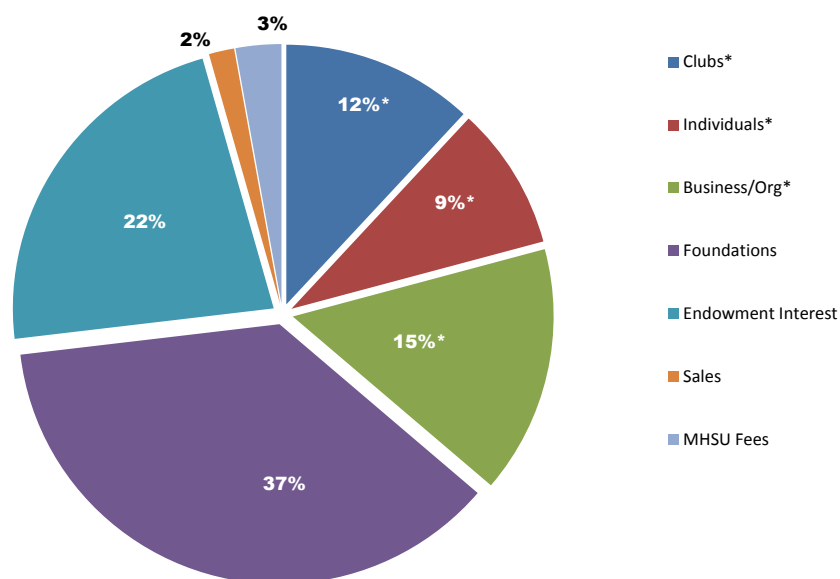
In partnership with the Columbia Regional Program, Dr. Lowery held a Low Vision Clinic at the Foundation office this past May where he examined eight children with low vision ranging between 3 - 13 years of age.



Dr. Lowery engages Cassedie, 3, with special picture cards to check her visual acuity.

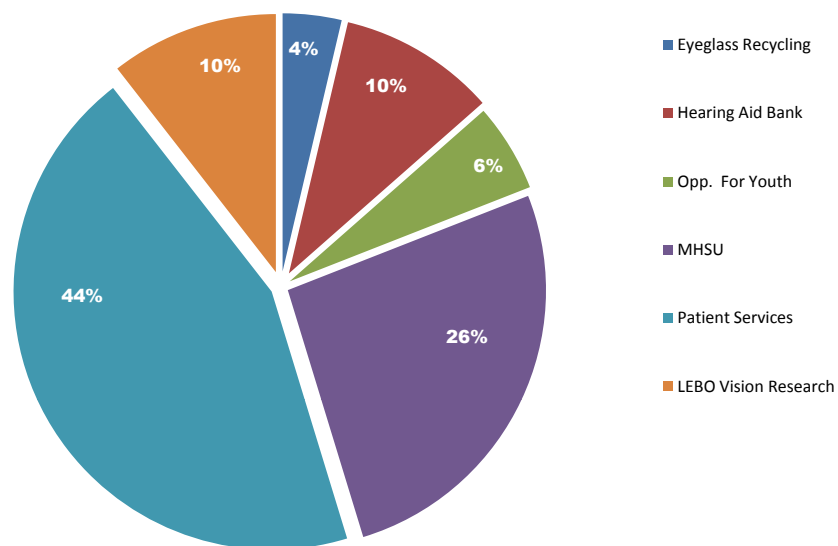
# Financial Impact & Resource Development Highlights

**Foundation Revenue  
FY 2008-09**



\* Includes Memorial Donations

**Foundation Program Expenditures  
FY 2008-09**



Foundation revenue and expenses for FY 2008-09 through May 31, 2009 unaudited.

### Funds Raised for Patient Care Programs and Services

The Patient Care Program provides uninsured and under insured Oregonians a last resort for sight and hearing related services. It remains the only program of its kind in the state to assist people in need who have no where else to turn.

- The "50 For 50 Campaign," which began in the spring and runs through July 1, has raised \$7,691 to date, including contributions and anniversary merchandise sales. Final totals will be announced at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on July 25.
- The Foundation's holiday appeal surpassed last year's total and raised \$19,250.
- The sold-out 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Gala Dinner is projected to raise \$20,000 for patient care programs and services.

### Resource Development Highlights

- The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Scramble For Sight raised \$21,200 last September. You can be a part of this life changing golf tournament scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup> (see page 12 for details).
- This year the Foundation received \$3,738.37 through charitable check-off from individuals statewide. Thank you for choosing to donate and remember to check-off #14 on your taxes next year!
- The Cow Creek Foundation donated \$7,500 in support of the free preventative health screenings offered through the MHSU in Southern Oregon.

**We invite you to make a sustaining investment in the Foundation's ability to respond to challenges and opportunities by joining our circle of donors.**

#### The Sustainer Circle

The Sustainer Circle is the Foundation's giving society which recognizes individuals who have made cumulative contributions of \$1,000.00 or more. We are very thankful to the many donors who have made it a point to make long-term investments in the Foundation either through repeat giving or special, significant gifts.

#### The Legacy Circle

You can sustain and strengthen the legacy of change created by the Foundation. Through a provision in your estate plans, participating in the Charitable Gift Annuity program or by signing a Memorial Directive ("in lieu of flowers"), our growing endowment is a legacy in perpetuity to all who envision a permanent solution for preventable blindness or hearing loss.

OLSHF would not have the same powerful impact without the generosity and loyalty of supporters like you. Your gifts make a tremendous difference in the lives of people everyday. We truly appreciate the commitment so many people make to the Foundation each year, ensuring our success in meeting sight and hearing needs.



#### Gifts by Mail, Phone or Web

Gifts may be made by check, credit card or appreciated assets (such as stocks or real estate). You may also make an unrestricted gift or designate your gift to support a specific program. If you are interested in current or estate giving opportunities, or making a gift of stock or real estate, planning an estate gift, or arranging a life income gift plan (such as a gift annuity or charitable remainder trust) please contact us at (800) 635-4667.

Please make checks payable to:

Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation  
1010 NW 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, #144 Portland, OR 97210

Credit card gifts may be made by calling the Foundation office at (800) 635-4667 or online at [www.orlions.org](http://www.orlions.org).

# Lions Eye Bank of Oregon



## Highlights of 2008-2009, Another Milestone Year

By Barbara Crow, CEFT  
Lions Eye Bank of Oregon Executive Director

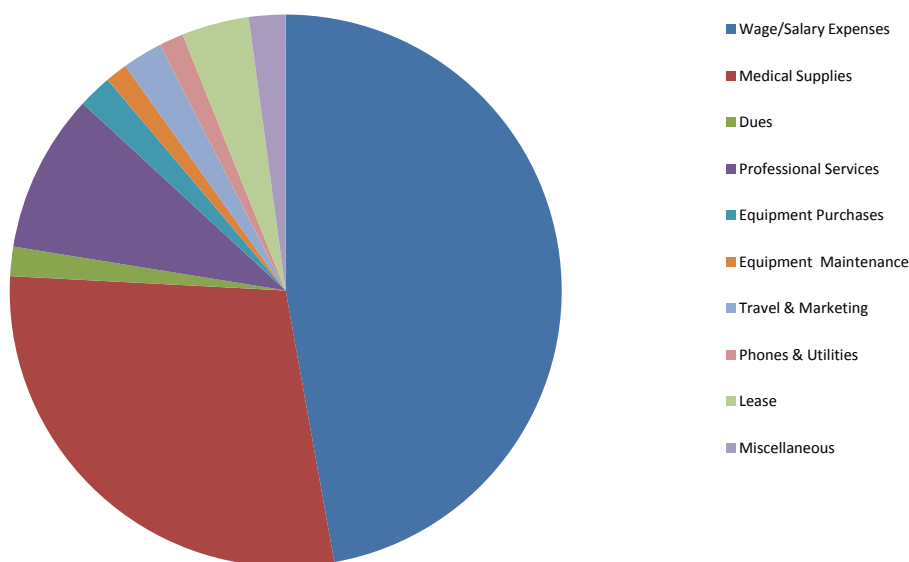
What an amazing year this has been, filled with milestones that would each mark a single year as outstanding. At this same time last year the Eye Bank staff was busy planning the move into the new building, an event that took place on July 31, 2008. Looking back, it all seems so easy and we can focus on the accomplishments.

The Eye Bank opened its doors to our Lions at two separate “open houses,” sharing with you the deftly planned space that would allow the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon to make its mark in eye banking. Then we proceeded to make that dream come true. 2008 saw us break every previous record in the provision of corneas for transplant, finishing the year in the top ten eye banks in the United States. We honored a person’s wish to become a donor by accepting donor designation as first person consent. Whether consequence or coincidence, the number of Oregonians on the Donor Registry swelled to over 2 million strong. Milestone after milestone followed:

- Throughout the year, volunteer Lions Couriers averaged between 80 and 100 trips per month transporting eye tissue to/from hospitals, surgeons, airports and the Eye Bank.
- January 1<sup>st</sup>, the Eye Bank reports a record setting number of transplants for 2008 – 1,213 eye donors resulting in 1,426 corneas provided for sight restoring transplants.
- April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Eye Bank begins to function as its own 501(c)(3) allowing greater Board/budgetary oversight and program planning.
- April 25<sup>th</sup>, the new building was dedicated to the Lions of Oregon and to the generous donors and their families who have chosen donation with the hope that others may see again.
- May 12<sup>th</sup>, after honing the technique in the LEBO Laboratory, Dr. Neda Shamie performs Oregon’s first Boston Keratoprosthesis transplant using a donor cornea “sandwiched” between thin plastic discs, restoring a man’s sight after 17 years of blindness.
- May 14<sup>th</sup>, the Trustees of MD-36 voted to transfer the title and obligation for the new building to the Eye Bank
- June 5<sup>th</sup>, the Eye Bank Board holds its first Retreat reviewing staff goals, establishing rewarding and durable Board collaboration that will lead the Eye Bank into the future.

The Lions Eye Bank of Oregon is now positioned to realize its potential to restore sight in Oregon, throughout the United States and the world.

2008-09 LEBO Budget



2008-09 LEBO Statistics



## How Donated Corneas Are Allocated

Eye tissue processing and distribution is labor-intensive. Whether for transplant, research and/or surgical training, the eye donor’s history is carefully scrutinized and the tissue itself undergoes rigorous testing to ensure a good outcome for the recipient. LEBO’s budget consequently reflects the man-hours that go into the provision of safe, effective tissue. Medical supplies which are “single use” for the most part make up the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest category of spending in the Eye Bank. Professional Services include the “first call” donor referral answering service for hospitals and environmental monitoring for the laboratory.

The Lions Eye Bank of Oregon strives to make donated eye tissue available where and when it is needed most, starting with emergency surgeries, patients and research projects right here at home.

1. Emergency surgeries
2. Patients and research in Oregon and SW Washington
3. Other U.S. eye banks
4. International surgery programs

Patients needing cornea transplants in Oregon work with their surgeons to schedule the transplant; the Eye Bank works to ensure tissue is available for their surgery on the day it is needed.



## Organization Highlights

### LEBO's Reach is Global

By Chris Stoeger, Director of Operations

Dr. Myoung Joon Kim from Asan Medical Center in Seoul, South Korea visited the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon in early May. Dr. Kim has been performing transplants with corneas provided by the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon for over six years, and this was his first visit to Oregon. The visit also provided Dr. Kim the opportunity to train with our world renowned Medical Director, Dr. Mark Terry, in a procedure Dr. Terry helped pioneer right here at the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon Vision Research Laboratory. Called Descemet's Stripping Automated Endothelial Keratoplasty or DSAEK, only the back half of the cornea is transplanted. Surgeons from all over the United States and beyond have come to learn this breakthrough transplant procedure from Dr. Terry.

The Eye Bank staff enjoyed meeting one of our international colleagues. It was helpful for the LEBO staff to meet the surgeon responsible for transplanting the priceless gift that we care so deeply about. LEBO provides corneas internationally after the local and national needs are met. Now if families want to know who will handle their gift, our staff can think of Dr. Kim as someone who might be transplanting the tissue rather than just a faceless name. When the Lions of Oregon help people through the Eye Bank, our reach is truly global!



Dr. Kim observes the preparation of tissue for the surgery he will view tomorrow with Dr. Terry.

### "You Cannot Hurt Me Any More Than I am Already Hurting"

Bradley Thomas Jordan had always wanted to scuba dive. That is one reason why his mother, Linda Jordan, feels such a strong connection with the man who received Bradley Thomas's liver; three years after his transplant, the liver recipient became certified in scuba diving.

Bradley Thomas died in 2003 at the age of 28 after a motor vehicle accident. He donated his corneas, liver, heart, and both kidneys. All of the recipients are doing very well. Linda never had a second of doubt that her son wanted to be a donor. As a young teenager, even before he had a driver's license, Bradley Thomas asked his mom for a state ID card so that he could get the "Donor" sticker on it. He recognized even then that donation was one way he could give others another chance at life.

When Bradley Thomas's family learned that he was not going to survive the accident, Linda was eager to hear that donation would be possible. The organ procurement coordinator and hospital staff, very appropriately, avoided talking with her about donation until after Bradley Thomas went on to brain death, thereby giving his family a chance to absorb that information. Since Bradley Thomas had been so adamant that he wanted to be a donor, his mother was comfortable and even relieved to talk about donation sooner than many families might be able to. Her message to donor coordinators and hospital requestors approaching families about donation is, "Don't hesitate to ask. I need something good to happen. You cannot hurt me anymore than I am already hurting."

Bradley Thomas left behind numerous friends and family members who loved him dearly. He acted as the nanny for his sister's nine children, ages 5 to 17. He knew all their schedules, knew their teachers, and knew just how to listen to and understand all of them, from the little ones to the high-school aged children. Bradley Thomas had friends who were homeless and friends who owned companies, and everything in between. In addition to the people who loved him in life, he now has gained the gratitude of his recipients and their friends and families, to whom he will forever be a hero.

Bradley Thomas believed in service to others. Because he lived, died and donated, two people can see again and four others have a second chance at life. Donation costs us nothing and helps so many. Register your intent to become a donor by coding your driver's license with a "D" or going online to [www.donatelifenw.org](http://www.donatelifenw.org).



Executive Director Barbara Crow and Chairman Richard Smith jointly dedicate the new Eye Bank building during the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Medical and Surgical Director Dr. Mark Terry, Past International President Lion Kay Fukushima, current EBAA Chairman Bruce Varnum, cornea recipient John Malkow, and donor mom, Leslie Coefield. The culmination of years of planning, the building is a state of the art facility, giving the Eye Bank the space it needs to fulfill its mission to provide corneas for sight-restoring transplants and eye tissue for research that can lead to the eventual elimination of preventable blindness in Oregon and beyond.

### Eye Bank Building Dedicated to Lions

At approximately 2:00 p.m. on April 25, 2009, the ribbon was cut formally dedicating the new Eye Bank building to the Lions of Oregon and to the Eye Donor Families whose humanitarian gift allows us to provide the Gift of Sight to so many. On this day we welcomed Lions from all over our service area, donor families and cornea recipients, eye bank professionals and corneal surgeons to share in this historical event. The building was completed in the late summer of 2008, under the guidance of Lion Steve Thompson, architect, and Robert Becker, interior designer.

The event provided an opportunity to showcase the history of the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon. Eye Bank Board Chairman Richard Smith was master of ceremonies, assisted by Executive Director Barbara Crow. Speakers included our first Director of Research Dr. Terry Burris,



LEBO Board Chairman Richard Smith welcomes Past International President, Lion Kay Fukushima, to the Eye Bank Dedication Ceremony.

# Thank You 2008-2009 Donors: July 1, 2008 - March 31, 2009

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Albany East Lions Club  
Ashland Early Birds Lions Club  
Ashland Host Lions Club  
Astoria Lions Club  
Baker City Lions Club  
Bandon Lions Club  
Banks Lions Club  
Beavercreek Lions Club  
Brookings Harbor Lions Club  
Butte Falls Lioness Club  
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Central Lions Club  
Columbia Gorge Lioness Club  
Coos Bay Lions Club  
Corvallis Mid-Valley Lions Club  
Cottage Grove Lions Club  
Crescent City Lions Club  
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Crooked River Ranch Lions Club  
Dallas Lions Club  
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Estacada Lions Club  
Keno Lions Club  
King City Lions Club  
LaGrande Breakfast Lions Club  
Lakeview Lions Club  
McMinnville Lions Club  
Mitchell Lions Club  
Mulino Lions Club  
North Lincoln County Lions Club  
Odell Lions Club  
Pendleton Lioness Club  
Portland Bentham Lions Club  
Portland Cascade Lions Club  
Rockaway Lions Club  
Salem Capitol Lions Club  
Silverton Lions Club  
Tillamook Lions Club  
Upper Valley Lions Club  
West Linn Lions Club  
West Linn Riverview Lions Club  
Wilsonville/Charbonneau Lions Club

### BEQUESTS

Cyril Louise and W.J. Murphy  
Deora Holm  
Dick Bontty  
Donald and Susan Rose  
Edna and John Grant  
Garfield Hubble

## Thank You to Our Sustainer Circle Clubs

The Sustainer Circle Club as a way to recognize the investment of Lions Clubs who support and sustain the work of the Foundation. Lions Clubs listed have given a cumulative amount of at least \$10,000 over the years.

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Alvadore-Franklin Lions Club  
Ashland Early Birds Lions Club  
Ashland Host Lions Club  
Astoria Lions Club  
Baker City Lions Club  
Bandon Lions Club  
Banks Lions Club  
Beavercreek Lions Club  
Bend/Sunrise Lions Club  
Blue McKenzie Lions Club  
Brookings Harbor Lions Club  
Butte Falls Lioness Club  
Canby Lions Club  
Canyonville Lions Club  
Carlton-Yamhill Lions Club  
Cave Junction Lions Club  
Central Lions Club  
Central Point Lions Club  
Coburg Lions Club  
Columbia Gorge Lioness Club  
Coquille Lions Club  
Coos Bay Lions Club

Corvallis Mid-Valley Lions Club  
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Creswell Lions Club  
Crooked River Ranch Lions Club  
Dallas Lions Club  
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The Legacy Circle will ensure the Foundation remains a strong provider of support for those in need. Whether through a simple Memorial Directive, an inclusion in your Will with a Bequest, or even a Charitable Gift Annuity, you can become a member.

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The work of the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation would not be possible without the Lions Clubs of MD-36, individual supporters and the incredible community partners we have. Thank you for helping us bring life changing assistance to communities throughout Oregon.

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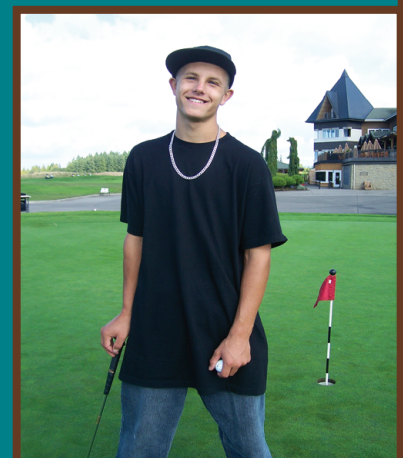
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## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Scramble For Sight & Junior Golf Clinic

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Scramble for Sight and Junior Golf Clinic, presented by the Lions Eye Bank of Oregon, will be held on **Monday, September 21** at the Reserve Vineyards and Golf Club in Aloha. Since its inception in 2003, the Scramble has generated more than \$100,000 for our life changing programs, due in large part to the generous support of our sponsors and Lion golfers.

A very special component of this annual event is the Junior Golf Clinic for visually impaired youth. This clinic, one of the largest in the country, brings students from the Oregon and Washington Schools for the Blind, as well as mainstream schools, together with local professionals. Students spend the morning working with local PGA professionals and teachers on chipping, driving and putting skills, introducing students to the joys—and the challenges—of the game of golf. For many of these kids, it is the first time they have ever played an organized sport.

Our goal this year is to raise \$25,000 net for vital Foundation services. Please consider becoming a sponsor of this event; sponsorships range from \$250 to \$10,000 with various recognition benefits at each level. For more information about becoming a sponsor or playing in the Scramble, please contact Eliza Boné, Public Relations and Community Outreach Director, at (503) 413-8661 or visit our website at [www.orldions.org](http://www.orldions.org).



Robby Cole, 18, became visually impaired as a baby after the removal of a brain tumor. He aspires to become a professional golfer and dreams big because he believes in this philosophy: "Keep your head up and do what you can do lead a 'normal' life."