

## Vision Statement

The Vision of the Lions of Illinois Foundation is to create a permanent vehicle for the delivery of programs and services to people with vision and hearing needs.

## Mission Statement

The Lions of Illinois Foundation exists to assist in the general improvement of the quality of life of those in Illinois having unmet needs. It is the specific mission of the Foundation to provide quality programs and services to the people of Illinois for the detection, treatment, and rehabilitation of visual and hearing impairments. The Foundation, solely, or in conjunction with the Lions/Lioness Clubs, Foundations, and other organizations, shall provide its assistance through grant processes or delivered through direct or indirect programs and services.

## Monetary Support

The Lions of Illinois Foundation is funded mainly by club contributions from Candy Day, Sight and Sound Sweepstakes, Tootsie Pop Day, Gift Card Campaign, Annual Gala, Car Show and BBQ.

The Foundation led the campaign to raise \$5 million to finance construction of the Lions of Illinois Eye Research Institute (L.I.E.R.I.) in Chicago, as well as the campaign to raise \$1.1 million to finance the Charles I. Young Professional Chair.



## Why the Lions Help

The Lions of Illinois Foundation is a nonprofit organization with members throughout the state of Illinois.

Since 1925, the Lions have taken the challenge given to them by Helen Keller. Addressing the Lions at their convention she urged them to become:

**“Knights of the Blind in the Crusade Against Blindness.”**



*Scan here to learn more about LIF.*

**Lions of Illinois Foundation**

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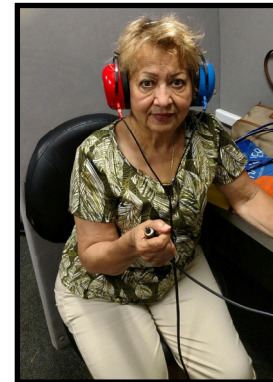
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**Lions of Illinois Foundation**

*Serving People with Vision and Hearing Needs Since 1974.*

## Programs and Services



**Learn how the Lions of Illinois Foundation can serve you, your loved ones, or your community.**

# Vision

**“Seeing is Believing”** - Low Vision students (K-12) receive a **free** vision screening, eyewear, vision tools, and training to enhance and preserve their visual abilities. **All students receive free services due to the sponsorship by your local Lions Club.**



**Adult Low Vision** - Adults who have recently lost their sight or are experiencing vision loss are able to access Orientation and Mobility Training through LIF’s partnerships with institutions such as the Center for Sight and Hearing and Lake County Center for Independent Living.

**Mobile Retinal Screening Unit** - The Mobile Unit is designed to provide **free** vision screenings to individuals throughout Illinois. The digital images of the retina are reviewed by professional staff at Illinois Retina Associates. Those found to exhibit symptoms of these retinal diseases are encouraged to seek further medical evaluation.

**Eyeglass Collection** - Donated eyewear are readied and shipped to third-world missions.

**Diabetes Awareness** - Diabetes is the #1 cause of blindness in people 20 and older in America. LIF holds a Diabetes Awareness Campaign every year from March 1 to May 31 to inform the public of the warning signs of diabetes.

# Hearing

**Mobile Hearing Units** - These two units travel to Illinois communities from March 1st through November 10th offering **free** screenings to those 10 years and older. **All screenings are sponsored by your local Lions Clubs and by public donations.**

**Hearing Aid Collection for the Hearing Aid Bank (HAB)** - Illinois Lions also collect used hearing aids that are then refurbished by major hearing aid manufacturers and sent to the **HAB** as our available supply of hearing aids ready to use. This program enhances lives by providing hearing aids for adults and seniors. Look for collection boxes in local businesses throughout Illinois.



**LIF welcomes requests for both the Vision and Hearing Units for community events . Requests for such use must be made through your local Lions or Lioness Club. Availability is based upon pre-arranged scheduling.**

# Camp and Social Services

**Camp Lions for Children** - Youth age 7-17 with hearing and visual impairments can enjoy this **free** 6-day camp each summer.

**Camp Lions Helen Keller Adult Program** - Adults age 18 and up with vision and hearing impairments can enjoy this **free** 6-day camp.

**All Camp Lions youth and adults attend for free due to the sponsorship by your local Lions Club.**



**Social Services** - This referral service helps connect those in need of vision and/or hearing services—including eyeglasses and reconditioned hearing aids—with their local Lions Clubs.



**Leader Dogs for the Blind and Pearle Vision are two of LIF’s partners.**