



Northwest Ohio Lions Eye Care Foundation, Inc.

1385 TR 216, Bellefontaine, OH 43311

Because We Care

Who is the Northwest Ohio Lions Eye Care Foundation? It is *the primary* service activity of District 13 OH1. Every Lion, in every club in District 13 OH1 is a member of the Foundation. The Foundation is an all-volunteer group with no paid staff and minimal expenses. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax deductible organization founded in 1988.

Why do we do this? Lions are renowned throughout the world for our focus on sight preservation and for assisting individuals who have sight impairments. The goal of the Northwest Ohio Lions Eye Care Foundation is to help those of limited means who would otherwise "fall through the cracks" of government safety net programs or who have no insurance coverage. We provide surgical care where local Lion and/or Lioness Clubs cannot afford the expense.

How do we do it? Although we accept referrals from vision professionals and social services, it is expected that most referrals will come to the Foundation through local Lions or Lioness club. Membership meetings are held 4 times each year to review and approve applications. Applications must be submitted no later than 14 days before quarterly meeting to allow sufficient time for surgeon consultation. Our medical director reviews and consults with the applicant's surgeon to determine the best treatment option before approval. If no alternative payment resource is found, we work hard to negotiate the lowest cost for the treatment. Applicant must apply for Medicaid or ACA Insurance. Contributions to the Foundation are received from several sources, but mainly are donated by Lions & Lioness Clubs. Applicants are also asked to help with the cost of the treatment, to the extent that they can. This is not a condition of acceptance, only a means to permit us to help more people.

What do we cover? **COVERED:** Cornea transplants; cataract surgery (limited to one eye); laser eye treatments for diabetes & diseases; other approved kinds of eye surgery including retina. Assist with purchase of special, expensive eyeglass equipment. We loan closed circuit television magnifiers for sight impaired people without charge as long as needed.

NOT COVERED: ordinary eyeglasses, contacts, exams & white canes are obtained from local Lions Clubs; we cannot pay for anything without prior approval; nor pay for the services of out of state doctors; take applications from anyone outside of the boundaries of District 13 OH1; pay for computers or other equipment that someone buys and finds they cannot make the payments; pay for vision therapy except for occlusion treatment of amblyopia (lazy-eye) and limited to brain trauma such as TBI (traumatic brain injury) within Foundation financial limits and may cover therapy for convergence disorders up to \$1,000 but, the Foundation will not pay for perceptual vision therapy for reading problems; or pay if you have insurance of any kind that would cover the service.

For more information, and download of **required forms** visit District 13 OH1's web site at <http://www.ohiolionsoh1.org/> and click "NWOLECF" in left column under Activities then click each form name to download.



Northwest Ohio Lions Eye Care Foundation

**Application Forms for Financial Assistance
available at this website**

<http://www.ohiolionsoh1.org/northwest-ohio-lions-eye-care-foundation>

**Download all 4 forms including Cover Letter
for instructions on completing & submission.
Or call 419-371-5515 or 419-308-1906**



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