

this issue

Brighter Visions Shines in Your
Community Every Day

Honoraiums and Memorials

Increasing Concerns with
Children's Eye Health

A Mission to Care, Support and Help Our North Carolina Citizens

North Carolina Lions, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization established in 1934. As the official charitable organization for the Lions of North Carolina and working closely with community based North Carolina Lions Clubs, we collectively enrich the lives of those blind and visually impaired, offer needed services for those less fortunate in each community and a hallmark of continuous support of research for health related issues concerning vision and overall wellness of all our citizens.



Brighter Visions Beams of Light Reach all of North Carolina Citizens in Need of Help

*PDG Paul Bledsoe,
NC Lions PI and Education Chair*

Why is the NC Lions Foundation Brighter Visions Fund Drive important to your club?

This seems to be a major question of members in many clubs throughout North Carolina, why this program is so important. Simply stated, **this is your foundation.**

Created in 1934, Lions members and their clubs throughout our state wanted to create bigger services for the blind and visually impaired in North Carolina. These programs and services have risen to new heights with the mission to care, support and help NC citizens.

In the early years of the NC Lions Foundation, the foundation raised funds with the "Annual White Cane Fund Drive." This program offered citizens in NC, anyone in need of a white cane would receive one. From local club requests to the disbursement of the canes were easily managed by the foundation.

Earlier in the foundation's younger years, eye donation was a key program where

clubs throughout NC would register individuals who agreed to donate their eye tissue for someone else to see.

Then in 1967, Camp Dogwood for the Blind & Visually Impaired came to life and it has been a beacon of service to citizens from all over North Carolina for many years. This summer destination provides a wonderful and therapeutic state-of-the-art vacation retreat for persons with blindness and visual impairment. The complex is located on the banks of Lake Norman, near Mooresville.

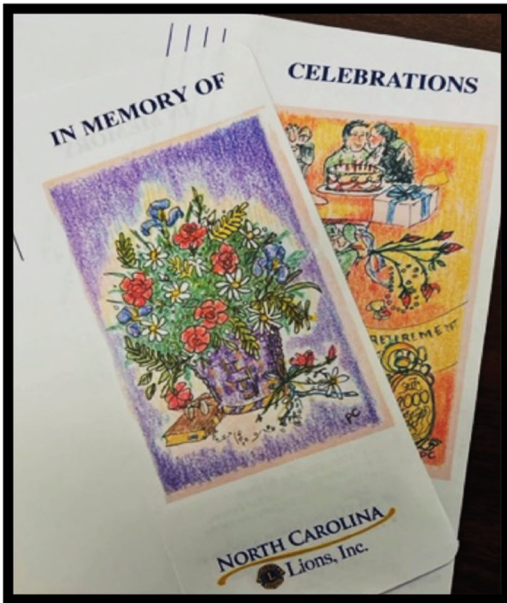
There have been many programs and services your foundation has added in recent years and some changes too, recently added the new statewide KidSight Vision Screening.

From recycling eyeglasses to matching grants for eye surgeries to educational grants for children of the visually impaired, Lions In NC continues its work joining together to do remarkable things for the care, support and help our North Carolina citizens.

You have a direct link to learn more about your NC Lions Foundation, visit: nclionsinc.org.

The Answer to "How to Enhance Your Lions Club's Brighter Visions Fund Drive"

Carlton Metts, NC Lions Inc. Executive Director



Yes, Memorials and Honorariums! At the passing of a loved one, a Memorial will establish a long-lasting memory of a loved one, friend, neighbor, co-worker or acquaintance on the Rolls of the North Carolina Lions, Incorporated. The family will receive a nice card from the office of the NC Lions indicating that you have placed a memorial in their name. The Memorial can be credited to your clubs Brighter Visions Fund Drive and will be used in the Programs and Services of the Foundation to support the Lions causes.

The other one is an award for the living known as an Honorarium. This is the feel-good award that can be used for a celebration of an anniversary, birthday and many special occasions and don't forget the speakers that come to your Lions club for a presentation. A great idea for your club to do when the Governor visits or one of the District Chairpersons that take the time to travel long distances to make a special presentation to your club. Tell them that your club will send in an Honorarium to the North Carolina Lions in their honor. I know that will make him or her feel good.

Now, to enhance the program ask a member of your club to be your Memorial and Honorarium Chairperson. Forms can be picked up at conventions from the NC Lions staff, downloaded from www.nclionsinc.org website, call or email the NC Lions office to have forms mailed to you. Another idea is to take a handful of forms to your local funeral home and place in a carrier for pickup. Stamp your club's name and address on the back of the forms to insure you get credit.

What a way to make someone feel good while helping others. Memorial and Honorariums should normally average 10% of the Brighter Vision goals. So, the next time you need to show your appreciation or condolence think of the North Carolina Lions, Incorporated Memorial and Honorarium's Program.

Thank you Lions for all you do, I just wanted to remind you of this great program and remember, the donations are tax deductible.



Your donation to NC Lions, Inc. enables us to assist and empower blind and visually impaired residents as well as continue our work in preventing vision loss in our North Carolina communities like our KidSight Mobile Screening Units. Please make a tax-deductible donation today.

Increasing Concerns with Children's Eye Health

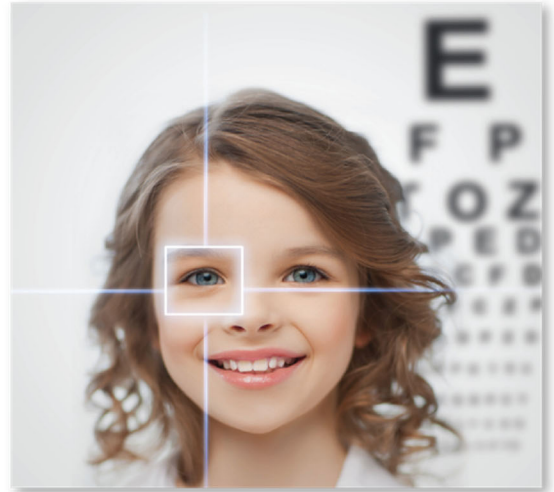
PDG Paul Bledsoe, NCLI Information & Education Chair

One of the biggest concerns with eye health in children today is the increasing prevalence of myopia, also known as nearsightedness.

Myopia is a condition in which a child can see objects clearly up close, but has difficulty seeing objects at a distance.

Studies have shown that the incidence of myopia is increasing globally, and it is becoming a significant public health concern. In fact, some estimates suggest that by 2050, nearly 50% of the world's population could be myopic.

The reason why myopia is a concern is that it increases the risk of developing other eye problems, such as cataracts, glaucoma, and retinal detachment, later in life. Children with myopia are also at a higher risk of developing serious eye conditions if their myopia progresses rapidly during childhood.



Fortunately, there are several ways to manage and prevent myopia in children. These include:

- 1 Encouraging children to spend more time outdoors.
- 2 Reducing screen time and encouraging children to take frequent breaks when using digital devices.
- 3 Making sure children have regular eye exams.
- 4 Providing children with appropriate eyeglasses or contact lenses.
- 5 Considering myopia control treatments, such as specialized contact lenses or eye drops.

It's important for parents to be aware of the risks of myopia and to take steps to protect their children's eye health.



Lions Clubs in North Carolina can make families aware of this increasing concerns with children's eye health by scheduling a KidSight Screening in a local school or an eye screening within their communities.

Please remember, *one (1) in 20 preschoolers and 1 in 4 school-age children* have vision problems, according to the American Academy of Ophthalmology. There are many type of visual impairments, and they can range in degree from mild to severe.

Together, We Do Remarkable Things in North Carolina

Update on our Annual Brighter Visions Fund Drive District Report as of April 19th. THANK YOU.

District	Memb ers	Club Contributions				Individual		Total BV	Governors Goal	Difference	% of Gov. Goal	\$ Per Member	Total BV Last Year
		Brighter Visions	Mem/Hon	Timberlake	Gregory /Myers Wedding	Contribution	Mem/Hon						
L	806	\$ 24,523	\$ 1,675	\$ 840	\$ 25	\$ 1,800	\$ 821	\$ 29,684	\$ 75,000	\$ 45,316	40%	\$ 36.83	\$ 45,614
I	921	\$ 86,200	\$ 2,250	\$ 105	\$ 3,005	\$ 3,020	\$ 2,650	\$ 97,229	\$ 125,000	\$ 27,771	78%	\$ 105.57	\$ 119,384
O	1,075	\$ 81,750	\$ 2,650	\$ 580	\$ 25	\$ 1,085	\$ 530	\$ 86,620	\$ 120,000	\$ 33,380	72%	\$ 80.58	\$ 98,984
N	977	\$ 47,934	\$ 450	\$ 397	\$ -	\$ 2,940	\$ 1,090	\$ 52,811	\$ 90,000	\$ 37,189	59%	\$ 54.05	\$ 78,757
S	904	\$ 60,824	\$ 100	\$ 135	\$ -	\$ 825	\$ 125	\$ 62,009	\$ 93,100	\$ 31,091	67%	\$ 68.59	\$ 78,245
	4,683	\$ 301,231	\$ 7,125	\$ 2,057	\$ 3,055	\$ 9,670	\$ 5,216	\$ 328,353	\$ 503,100	\$ 174,747	65%	\$ 70.12	\$ 420,984

2023 NC Lions Camp Dogwood and Dogwood on the Lake Event Calendar

May:

- 3: Catawbans
- 4: Lifeline screening
- 5-7: General Membership and Board Meeting
- 10-13: Pin Traders
- 14-31: Summer Camp**
- 18-21: Daughters of Zion United International

June:

- All Dates Summer Camp**
- 7: Catawbans
- 18-24: Carolina Cross Connection

July:

- All Dates Summer Camp**
- 7: Catawbans
- 16-22: Carolina Cross Connection

August:

- 1-5: Summer Camp**
- 2: Catawbans
- 11-13: Board and Council
- 16-20: Gwen Family Reunion
- 19: DoTerra
- 25-27: Heart of Compassion Ministries

September:

- 6: Catawbans
- 15-17: IAJ Ministries
- 22: Catawbans Pig Pickin
- 28-30: Scrapbook Studio

October:

- 1: Scrapbook Studio
- 4: Catawbans
- 4-8: Candle In The Window
- 13-15: Summerville Baptist
- 20-22: Weddington Methodist Church

November:

- 1: Catawbans
- 2-5: SCBWI
- 10-12: Board and Council
- 17-19: District L

December:

- 1-3: VDG/ Joni & Friends North Carolina
- 6: Catawbans
- 8: Catawbans Christmas Party
- 9: Trilogy United Christmas Party

**YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT
REASON FOR OUR FOUNDATION'S
CONTINUED SUCCESS.**

**YOU ARE
APPRECIATED.**