MISSION

The Ohio Optometric Foundation is committed to improving the vision and eye health of children and other Ohioans in visual need by providing access to necessary eye care.

Since 2008, the OOF's free iSee program (In-School Eye Exam) has provided Ohio children with over...
YEAR IN REVIEW

24 School Districts
27 Volunteer ODs
5,000 Volunteer Hours
3503 Exams
2681 Glasses

SUPPORT

Corporate Sponsors
Events
In-kind Contributions
Individual Contributions

2022 Total: $276,003.98
Since 2020, OOF has expanded the In-School Eye Exam (iSee) program to include the “Traditional” two-day events, the “Community-Based OD” events, and the mobile clinic through “iSee with Vision To Learn.” As a result, in 2022, iSee dramatically increased its impact on the lives of children throughout Ohio.

The growth is in response to a persistent need. About one in four kids need glasses, but in higher poverty areas, a lack of access to optometric care means 95% of kids do not receive necessary care. Families in under-resourced communities face multiple barriers to access with knowledge about the importance of vision care, time and transportation topping the list.

Health care inequities and lack of access to vision care are most pronounced in lower-income communities. According to the Campaign for Educational Equity, "Low-income minority youth appear to suffer from a disproportionately high prevalence of educationally relevant vision problems and are clearly at high risk for inadequate treatment of vision problems."

OOF and its partner organizations are working to overcome those barriers by delivering care to students where they are, at school.
ISEE WITH VISION TO LEARN

The OOF recently partnered with the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio and Vision To Learn to create a mobile vision clinic serving the 32 counties of Appalachian Ohio. The clinic provides screenings, comprehensive eye exams and glasses and is staffed by licensed ODs and opticians. The clinic began operations in the fall of 2021 and was private funded by numerous donors, including the OOF. The program applied for, and received, matching funding from the State of Ohio through the Results Ohio pay for performance program operated through the office of State Treasurer Robert Sprague.

The Ohio Treasurer's Office released data and key findings from the first year of the iSee with Vision to Learn project in Appalachian Ohio. You can find the press release here: TREASURER'S DATA AND KEY FINDINGS - ISEE WITH VISION TO LEARN

The full report from the independent evaluators at the University of Cincinnati’s Evaluation iSee Results OhioServices Center can be found here (DOWNLOAD PDF HERE).

In brief, the evaluators found that in the ten school districts the program visited last year 95% of students who failed a vision screening went on to receive a comprehensive eye exam as recommended by the Ohio Department of Health. According to the most recent vision screening survey published by the Ohio Department of Health (2018-2019) this is a significant increase over the completed referral rates ranging from 7-18% in those counties.

A Key finding of evaluators:

"Likely or Very likely".

Of the parents who responded to the question “HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH AN OPTOMETRIST FOR FOLLOW-UP VISION CARE FOR YOUR CHILD IN THE NEXT YEAR?” 97% responded
The iSee Community-Based OD program launched in December 2021 with an event in Fulton County. During that event Dr. Laura Emch provided exams to 31 children and adults as part of the Fulton County Christmas Cheer. Then in March 2022, Dr. Matt Hurst spent the first three Wednesdays providing exams to 57 students in New Philadelphia City Schools.

The iSee Community-Based OD Program expands on the original concept of running two-day events by partnering with local doctors throughout the state. ODs can set up in-school exams lanes based on their schedules and in coordination with schools. The ODs borrow portable equipment purchased by OOF to use for an amount of time to be determined based on need availability and timing of other events.

The iSee Community-Based OD program is positioned to experience significant growth in 2023. If you are interested in getting involved:

TO LEARN MORE - CLICK HERE (TO PDF LINK).

TO GET INVOLVED, click here iSEE SIGN UP FORM
OOF’s linchpin program, the two-day traditional iSee program, returned in 2022 in two school districts.

Lorain City Schools - March 2022

OOF thanks the following doctors for volunteering their time at Lorain City Schools:

Dr. Alex Andrich  Dr. Katya Bej  Dr. Haifa Latrouf
Dr. Angelina Cerny  Dr. Haifa Latrouf  Dr. Carol Novak
Dr. Francesco Maiorca  Dr. Taylor Wrubel  Dr. Beth Yoder
Dr. Jen Vincent

Columbus City School District - November 2022

64 students received exams
54 received glasses.

OOF thanks the following doctors for volunteering their time at CCSD:

Dr. Angela Beal  Dr. Simone Blake  Dr. Monica Braun
Dr. Adrienne Chatters  Dr. Kelly Cleveland  Dr. Jennifer Crowley
Dr. Shane Foster  Dr. Steven Manning  Dr. Ann Morrison
Dr. Natalie Nguyen  Dr. Greg Nixon  Dr. Lauren Schneider
Dr. Erica Shelton  Dr. Connor Smallwood  Dr. Rachel Watson
Dr. Katie Wulff  Dr. Phil Yuhas
RECORD-SETTING 2022 OOF GOLF OUTING!

The 2022 Richard Cornett Annual Charity Golf Outing proved to be one of the most successful in its fifteen-year history, with nearly 100 participating golfers and a record-setting fundraising effort!

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 SPONSORS!

The Ohio Optometric Foundation’s Richard Cornett Charity Golf Outing

Save the Date for the 2023 Golf Outing - Wednesday, August 2nd, 2023 at the Golf Club of Dublin.
The Ohio Optometric Foundation recognizes Dr. Brian Mathie for his lifelong commitment to community service and benevolent patient care. Friends and colleagues know him to be a man of action who is caring and driven to help others yet has the ability to lighten hard situations with encouragement and an unmistakable laugh. He has traveled throughout the world performing eye exams with charitable organizations such as Crosseyed Missions in Ukraine, Asia, Central and South America. His benevolence carries over to his local communities of Louisville, Canton, and Alliance as he delivers comprehensive eye care and glasses to the underprivileged.

In honor of his many benevolent contributions and years of service the Ohio Optometric Foundation and the Ohio Optometric Association are pleased to present the 2022 Archer Award for Humanitarian Service to Dr. Brian Mathie.

Dr. Mathie practices at the Roholt Vision Institute with locations in North Canton, Canfield, and Alliance OH.
THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS 2022 SPONSORS AND DONORS!

Individuals

- Dr. James Albright
- Dr. David Anderson
- Mr. Shane Anglin
- Dr. John Archer
- Dr. Taylor Babcock
- Dr. David Bejot
- Mr. Todd Benson
- Dr. Kenneth Boltz
- Mr. Austin Bower
- Dr. Rebecca Brown
- Mr. Scott Brown
- Dr. San-San Cooley
- Dr. Brian Dietz
- Dr. Robert Dittoe
- Dr. Michael Earley
- Ms. Tracy Earley
- Ms. Candice Everage
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- Dr. Leon Favede
- Dr. Lindsay Florkey
- Dr. Shane Foster
- Ms. Tammy Foster
- Dr. Timothy Fries
- Dr. Diana Gilbert
- Dr. Heath Gilbert
- Dr. Teresa Gossard
- Dr. Thomas Grischow
- Dr. Mark Hagee
- Dr. Matthew Ingram
- Dr. Braden Kail
- Mr. Keith Kerns
- Dr. Ann Kurzer
- Dr. William Lay
- Dr. Robert Layman
- Mr. Dan Leite
- Ms. Colleen Maloney
- Dr. Bruce Manning
- Dr. Brian Mathie
- Dr. Brooke Mathie
- Ms. Tonda Mathie
- Dr. Jason Miller
- Dr. Elizabeth Muckley
- Dr. Donald Murphy
- Dr. Jeffrey Myers
- Dr. Tracey Needham
- Dr. Robert Newcomb
- Dr. Greg Nixon
- Ms. Cimmeron O'Connor
- Dr. Thomas Quinn
- Dr. Karen Riccio
- Dr. Dennis Roark
- Dr. Jamie Rosenberg
- Dr. Neil Sika
- Mr. Tom Strouble
- Mr. Greg Tapocsi
- Dr. Jennifer Vincent
- Mr. Terry Walburn
THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS 2022 SPONSORS AND DONORS!

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E-Dr./New Era Optical
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Greene County Eye Care Inc.
Haag-Streit USA
Hilliard City Schools
Horizons Therapeutics
Interstate Optical
Kenmark Eyewear
Madison Eye Care Associates Inc.
MidWest Eye Center
MyEyeDr
Neurolens
Northeast Ohio Eye Surgeons
Northwest Optometry LLC
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Roholt Vision Institute
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The Granville Investment Group
The Ohio State University College of Optometry
Thomas Ritter & Mark Hagee O.D. Inc.
Vision Source Ohio Administrators
VSP Optics
Walman Optical
West Groupe
Younger Optics
In December 2022, OOF received a $125,000 donation from CareSource’s Community Investment Fund to allow continuation and expansion of vision services to children in need. OOF will utilize the donation to coordinate care through the iSee program in six counties: Butler, Greene, Montgomery, Preble, and Warren in the southwest, and Gallia in the southeast.
WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

The Ohio Optometric Foundation is a nonprofit organization that provides and facilitates access to eye exams and glasses free of charge for children and adults in under-resourced areas of Ohio.

DONATE
Your donation to OOF helps improve access to care by bringing it directly to students in under-resourced communities throughout Ohio.

VOLUNTEER
Volunteer to participate or organize an iSee event: ISEE SIGN UP FORM

NEW THIS YEAR is an option to GIVE FROM YOUR IRA. Are you looking for a tax-saving way to help children’s vision care throughout Ohio? If you currently hold a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and have reached age (72) when you must take a Required Minimal Distribution (RMD) you are eligible to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to a non-profit of your choice. You may also withdraw and make a donation at age 59 ½.

*Always consult with your financial planner or tax advisor prior to making any changes in your retirement savings.