

# Northwest Lions Foundation

Report by: Lion Bill Lundin - Board of Trustees - Chairman

Date Report Sent: February 5, 2016

It is with great pleasure, that I present some great news on the growth of SightLife and the Northwest Lions Foundation for 2015.

SightLife continues to not only serve the Pacific Northwest with outstanding service, but has reached incredible annual growth with over 12,000 corneal transplants in the US. In addition, we provided over 12,000 additional corneal transplants to needy people in our global program. Combined this 24,000 corneal surgeries is an 18% growth rate from last year.

SightLife and The Northeast Pennsylvania Lions Eye Bank (NEPA), one of the largest Lions eye banks on the East Coast, have officially joined together under the SightLife brand. This action was unanimously approved by the 36 member NEPA Lions Board of Directors. In addition, that Board will form a separate Lions Community Service Foundation to provide similar services as our Foundation.

This combination is aligned with the Lions' mission and creates the largest eye banking program in the world, which will allow us to accelerate the global work that SightLife is performing in the elimination of corneal blindness.

SightLife's growth has significantly helped our Northwest Lions Foundation. This year, SightLife's financial support exceeded \$400,000. These funds go directly to our Lions community service programs.

We are very pleased the Northwest Lions Foundation's community service programs included screening over 34,000 school children across the MD-19 service area. In addition, dozens of other low-income people and non-profit organizations benefit by various Northwest Lions Foundation grants valued at over \$100,000. All these latter grant recipients are sponsored by their local Lions Clubs.

This last year, we launched our revised hearing program in partnership with The Starkey Foundation. This joint program with local MD-19 Clubs, including Montana Lions, provided 388 hearing aids serving over 300 needy folks in a much more efficient and cost effective manner.

Our first "Mini Health Screening Unit" was placed in service under the supervision of The Pullman Lions Club. This project will supplement our health screening service in Eastern Washington. This project has been very successful screening over 2,000 students in 2015. The NLF Board is now having discussion with Group Health Cooperative to potentially expand this program to serve even more residents.

In closing, The Board of Trustees of the Northwest Lions Foundation would like to thank all the Lions and Lions Clubs in MD-19 for their continued support of White Cane Days. Our totals for the year exceeded \$118,000. Thank you for your support as we continue to review and improve our services to your clubs and communities.