



# THE OHIO LIONS FOUNDATION



(Established December 6, 1985)

P O. Box 21016, Upper Arlington, Ohio 43221-0016

[www.ohiolionsfoundation.org](http://www.ohiolionsfoundation.org)

## Celebrating 25 Years of Service

### Dear Fellow Lions of Multiple District 13:

The trustees of your Ohio Lions Foundation are asking for your support of the Foundation's **2011-2012** annual campaign. As a Lions Club member of Multiple District 13, you are automatically a member of the Ohio Lions Foundation. Your generous support over the last twenty-five years has enabled the Foundation to make significant grants totaling **in excess of \$1,414,500** in the following areas:

- **Disaster Relief Grants**: The Foundation is proud of its record of responding quickly with disaster relief grants for food, clothing, blankets, temporary shelter, home heating fuel, medical expenses, eyeglasses and sanitation supplies for victims of floods, tornados, ice storms, fires, and other disasters striking Ohio communities. Since the Foundation's founding more than **\$166,500** has been awarded in disaster relief grants throughout Ohio.
- **Ohio Lions Foundation - Helen Keller Scholarship Program**: Scholarships are awarded annually in the amount of **\$3,000 each**, on the basis of financial need and academic ability, to visually impaired Ohio students enrolled as full time students in undergraduate, graduate or professional degree programs at one of the seven participating state universities. The Foundation has approved a total of **eleven (11)** scholarships to be awarded for the 2011-2012 academic year as follows:

The Ohio State University	4 scholarships
Cleveland State University	1 scholarship
Wright State University),	2 scholarships
Ohio University	1 scholarship
Bowling Green State University	1 scholarship
Youngstown State University	1 scholarship
University of Cincinnati	1 scholarship

The *OLF Helen Keller Scholarship Program* is one of the very few scholarship programs available for visually impaired students pursuing post-graduate courses of study. The *OLF Helen Keller Scholarship Program* is one of the very few scholarship programs available for visually impaired students pursuing post-graduate courses of study. To date, **over \$481,800** in Helen Keller Scholarships have been to students in nearly every academic field of study, including nursing, education, rehabilitation, physical therapy, electrical engineering, finance, mathematics, computer / information science, music, law, and veterinary medicine.

- **Ohio Lions Foundation supports A.C.B. Family Seminar**: The Ohio Lions Foundation continued its support of the "*Building Blocks for Better Future Family Seminar*" presented by the American Council for the Blind, with a **\$1,000.00** annual program grant. The seminar focuses on assisting families in their efforts to overcome the challenges that come with being blind or visually impaired.

***SPONSOR OF THE OHIO LIONS FOUNDATION HELEN KELLER SCHOLARSHIP***

- **Matching Grant Program for Low-Vision Readers / Video Magnifier Devices for Public Libraries and Senior Centers:** The Ohio Lions Foundation is continuing its Low vision Reader Matching Grant program. The goal of the program which began in May, 2002, is to place low vision readers / video magnifier devices in public libraries and community-based senior centers throughout Ohio. Lions Clubs may apply for matching grants of up to \$1,200 each toward the cost of acquiring the qualified low-vision readers. A brass plaque is placed on each unit acknowledging that the unit was a gift of the local Lions Club and the Foundation. To date a total of **70** low vision reader matching grants have been awarded in the total amount of approximately **\$90,000**. The O.L.F. has budgeted **three (3)** additional grants for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. A copy of the Low Vision Reader Matching Grant application form is attached.
- **Capital Grants and Matching Grants:** In addition to the low vision reader matching grant program, over the last twenty four years, the O.L.F. has awarded capital and program grants in excess of **\$195,000** to various educational, sight-related organizations and other charitable organizations for various items of adaptive equipment and specific sight-related programs.
- **Advised Restricted Fund Grants:** The OLF also serves as trustee for numerous restricted funds, including, but not limited to, the *James and Betty Coffey Scholarship Restricted Fund*, the *Lions Sensory Garden Fund*, the *District 13-F Eye Care Fund*, the *District 13-B Speech and Hearing Fund*, and the *Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band Fund*. Grants from the Foundation's restricted funds have been awarded (in total in excess of **\$481,000**) for such projects as the Ohio State School For the Blind Marching Band's participation in the 2010 Tournament of Roses Parade (over \$75,000), individual eye exams and eyeglasses for needy individuals (in excess of \$132,000), maintenance of the Lions Sensory Garden at the Ohio State School for the Blind, individual sight and hearing cases, grants to schools for youth projects, and support of various other sight-related organizations.

**Your continued support is needed** so that your Foundation's programs can be maintained and expanded. The Ohio Lions Foundation is a Section 501(c)(3) charitable organization and therefore contributions, gifts and bequests from individual Lions members, friends of the Lions and community businesses, and other foundations are tax deductible. Transmittal forms with instructions are enclosed for making unrestricted individual and club contributions to the Annual Campaign and for making designated gifts such as memorial gifts and gifts to the *Ohio Lions Foundation Helen Keller Scholarship Fund*. For your convenience, a properly addressed return envelope is also enclosed.

Your trustees thank you in advance for your continued support of your Ohio Lions Foundation. For more information, please feel free to contact your district's trustee or any of the Foundation's officers, or visit us on the web at [www.ohiolionsfoundation.org](http://www.ohiolionsfoundation.org).

Yours in Lionism,