

Insight

FALL 2018

A newsletter from
PHILLIPS EYE INSTITUTE FOUNDATION
for friends of PHILLIPS EYE INSTITUTE.

Help us reach new heights

Dear friend of
Phillips Eye Institute Foundation:

This is a transition year for the Foundation. Instead of hosting the Urban Cocktail Party, the annual gala benefiting Phillips Eye Institute, we're focusing our energy on developing new approaches to sustain the mission of Phillips Eye Institute.

That's why instead of inviting you to a party, we are inviting you to make a donation. Your support is as important as ever.

Your gift helps people in the community – maybe your neighbor, your parent or even you – get to and from Phillips Eye Institute for eye surgery. It allows us to invest in technology and participate in research that advances vision care for those we serve. It helps us provide glasses and other vision services for school children in need.

**Our goal is to raise \$150,000
by November 30.**

Help us continue providing the services our community relies on. Please donate at allinahealth.org/donate-phillipseye or use the enclosed envelope.

With gratitude,



Laurie Hennen, executive director
Phillips Eye Institute Foundation

HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS

- \$5,000** provides rides for patients for a week through our Transportation Service.
- \$2,000** provides vision exams on the Kirby Puckett Eye Mobile for 15 people.
- \$1,000** provides 300 miles of patient rides through our Transportation Service.
- \$200** provides one vision exam and a pair of glasses for a student in need.
- \$100** for our Early Youth Eyecare Community Initiative provides vision screenings for one classroom.



Thank you for supporting Phillips Eye Institute Foundation.

Transportation Service spotlight

We rely on the generosity of donors to help provide the Transportation Service to our patients.

In the words of a patient

“The Transportation Service that is available to and from the Phillips Eye Institute is invaluable. I have used it on two different occasions and it made it possible for me to get the medical treatment I needed. The van was on time and the drivers were very helpful. It is a wonderful service that is available to patients who find getting to and from their appointments to be a problem.”

BY THE NUMBERS



We provide more than **5,000 rides** each year.

25% of our patients depend on this service.



We've provided rides for patients as young as **8** but most are over age **70.**

Most riders live within **15 to 18 miles** of Phillips Eye Institute.



Nina Watercott, OD: Meeting children where they are

During the E.Y.E. recent tenth anniversary celebration, Nina Watercott, OD, Kirby Puckett Eye Mobile optometrist, shared her thoughts about vision care for kids and what inspires her in her current role.

During my residency, I examined a 9-year-old boy who was receiving special education services because he was a slow reader, barely reading at a first grade level. He quietly told me that he had experienced double vision since he had begun to learn to read. I was shocked. Imagine having double vision for four years. A simple pair of glasses resolved his problem.

I heard countless stories like his. I joined the E.Y.E. team because I felt a responsibility to children like this boy.

With the E.Y.E. program and Kirby Puckett Eye Mobile, we are able to meet children where they are and provide glasses when needed, regardless of their insurance coverage or ability to pay.

When we leave children's visual problems untreated, it comes at a



cost to them, but it also comes at a cost to us. Children are our future researchers, teachers, composers, athletes, and even our future eye doctors. Responding to their needs is recognizing a shared responsibility to not only them, but to each other.

“We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond.”

– Fred Rogers

Celebrating 10 years of vision care for local students

In August, donors and supporters of the Early Youth Eyecare (E.Y.E.) Community Initiative gathered at Target Field to celebrate 10 years of this impactful program. Cheryle Atkin, E.Y.E. program coordinator, shared the history of E.Y.E. from its beginnings in Minneapolis, through the 2014 expansion into St. Paul and now an expansion of the program's scope. Beginning this fall, the E.Y.E. program is expanding its vision screenings to include preschool and eighth grade public school children in addition to the screenings that are already performed in kindergarten, first, third, fifth and sixth grades.



Retinal detachment study expected to help surgeons improve care

A retrospective study that was funded by the Phillips Eye Institute Foundation is providing important insights about the most effective treatments for retinal detachment.

Lead investigator for the study, Edwin Ryan Jr, MD, Vitreo Retinal Surgery, examined data on 2,618 cases of primary retinal detachment treated during 2015 at five major centers in the United States. The purpose of the study was to compare outcomes of three different surgical repair techniques.

Ryan explained that during the last 30 years, retinal detachment surgery has changed significantly. Prior to 30 years ago, surgeons typically placed a band (scleral buckle) around the eye to treat the condition. In complicated cases, they combined that procedure with an additional procedure called vitrectomy. Then surgeons began using both procedures more routinely. More recently, some cases of retinal detachment have been treated with vitrectomy only.

“Our preliminary findings show that patients who received the band only or the band plus vitrectomy did better than those who were treated with vitrectomy only. This is counter to the current trend in the United States,” said Ryan.

Ryan noted that the data requires further analysis, and that results will eventually be disseminated in scientific journals.

“The size of the data set and the reputation of the five centers should make this study of significant impact to surgeons worldwide. We hope these results will help guide surgeons to choosing the best approach to treat the various forms and clinical presentations of retinal detachment.”

Foundation funds new ultrasound technology

With funding from the Foundation, Phillips Eye Institute has purchased technology for ultrasound-guided intravenous (IV) line placement. Many Phillips Eye Institute patients have medical conditions that make IV placement a challenge. The ultrasound helps providers visualize the vein and needle placement. This reduces the number of needlesticks required to place an IV, as well as the need to postpone or cancel surgery when IV access cannot be established. The new ultrasound was funded by the Irving and Janet Shapiro Technology Fund.

**PHILLIPS EYE
INSTITUTE
FOUNDATION**

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allinahealth.org/peifoundation

PHILLIPS EYE INSTITUTE

Phillips Eye Institute, part of Allina Health, is the second largest eye specialty hospital (in patient volume) in the United States. Dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases and disorders, Phillips Eye Institute's 160 credentialed ophthalmologists offer an extensive array of specialty services from diagnostic tests and low vision evaluations to laser eye treatments and specialized eye surgery.

PHILLIPS EYE INSTITUTE FOUNDATION

Phillips Eye Institute Foundation helps fund essential hospital programs and services, including transportation to and from the hospital, vision correction for our military through the Sight for Soldiers program, and advanced technology through the Irving and Janet Shapiro Innovative Technology Fund. We also support vision care for children in Minneapolis and St. Paul Public Schools through the Early Youth Eyecare Community Initiative and the Kirby Puckett Eye Mobile.

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MISSION

To further Phillip Eye Institute's commitment to eye care excellence, education, research and community involvement while honoring the legacy of Mount Sinai Hospital.

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TO THE MAX
give **DAY** 

NOV. 15, 2018

Donate at:
allinahealth.org/PhillipsEyeMax