

# Insight

SPRING 2018

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

## PATIENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

### Included in the ride: kindness and the human connection

When Sandra Burton looks back on the summer of 2015, she recalls the grief of losing her husband, John. But she also recalls moments of grace, including some that inspired her to become a donor to Phillips Eye Institute Foundation.

During that summer, John was nearing the end of his life after being treated for cancer over many years. He was losing weight and becoming weaker, but he had a strong desire to make one more visit to Ohio to visit his family.

At the same time, Sandra needed cataract surgery. Since John was unable to drive her, the couple was thankful that Phillips Eye Institute has a Transportation Service for its surgery and Low Vision Center patients. Two surgeries were scheduled a few weeks apart in June. John rode along with Sandra for both. On one of the rides, John and the van driver discovered they both loved barbecue ribs, and they shared tips on their favorite restaurants. “The two of them really bonded,” recalled Sandra.

The couple was able to travel to Ohio during the Fourth of July holiday. John’s health deteriorated quickly afterward, and he died a few weeks later. His last outing before his death was to his favorite rib place.

Months later, Sandra had another eye procedure scheduled and again used the Transportation Service. The driver remembered her. “He told me how sorry he was for my loss – and that he himself made excellent ribs and would have been happy to have made some for John,” said Sandra.

“This was about so much more than getting a ride. It was the human connection,” said Sandra. The experience compelled her to make a donation and to include a note of gratitude with it: “I will never forget the kindness that was shown to both of us at this difficult time.”



*Appreciation for a van driver's kindness inspired Sandra Burton's donation to the Transportation Fund.*

## Give today

About 25 percent of our patients depend on our Transportation Service to receive timely vision care. Help us continue this vital service by donating today.

Visit [allinahealth.org/donate-PhillipsEye](http://allinahealth.org/donate-PhillipsEye) or use the envelope enclosed in this newsletter.

## New partnership helps provide lenses to students in need

A new partnership with the Essilor Vision Foundation will help Phillips Eye Institute Foundation provide lenses to students as part of its Early Youth Eyecare Community Initiative and the Kirby Puckett Eye Mobile. The in-kind donation of lenses and lab services is critical to this important outreach service, which provides vision screening, follow-up vision exams, and prescriptions for eye glasses to grade school students in the Minneapolis and St. Paul Public Schools. “Essilor Vision Foundation is committed to eliminating poor vision and its lifelong consequences and works with partners across the nation to provide better life through better sight,” said Andrea Haymore, director of Partnerships, Essilor Vision Foundation.



## Technology fund reaches \$1 million goal

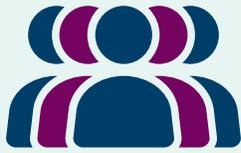
In 2017, the Phillips Eye Institute Foundation’s Technology Fund reached its \$1 million goal. This fund makes resources available to invest in state-of-the-art ophthalmology technology.

## Phillips Eye Institute nurse named 2017 Outstanding Nurse

Jean Ekholm, RN, assistant nurse manager at Phillips Eye Institute, was named Minneapolis St. Paul Magazine’s 2017 Outstanding Nurse in a Hospital Setting. In her more than 31 years of service at Allina Health, Ekholm has established a deep trust and admiration among her patients and colleagues. She is recognized as an experienced nurse, leader, colleague and caregiver who has impacted countless lives because of her skills and dedication to the field.



# PHILLIPS EYE INSTITUTE TODAY



**177**  
employees

Ranks among the nation's top **2** institutions for total eye surgery volume, and has the highest volume of retina cases in the country.



**10,935**  
surgeries



**2,423**  
diagnostic procedures

Known as a regional leader in providing ophthalmology education, hosting the annual **Fall CME Conference** and the annual **Ophthalmology Technician and Nurse Conference**.



**160**  
medical staff



**518**  
refractive procedures

*Thanks to our generous donors*

## DURING THE LAST YEAR, WE PROVIDED:



vision screening for more than **28,000** Minneapolis and St. Paul Public School students through the Early Youth Eyecare Community Initiative



more than **5,500** rides for patients who needed our services. About **25 percent** of our patients depend on our Transportation Program to receive timely vision care.

care coordination and glasses for about **1,360** students in need of vision care



**more than 100** school visits by the Kirby Puckett Eye Mobile



In addition, we reached our **\$1 million** goal in funds raised to purchase new technology.

**850** vision exams



[allinahealth.org/peifoundation](http://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

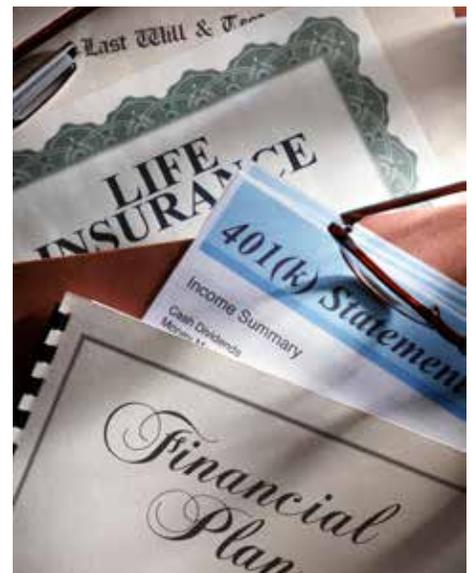
To further Phillip Eye Institute's commitment to eye care excellence, education, research and community involvement while honoring the legacy of Mount Sinai Hospital.

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## Leaving a legacy

Remembering Phillips Eye Institute Foundation in your estate plans is one way of leaving a legacy and providing the gift of better vision to people in our community. Here are some ways to do that.

- 1 Have you considered naming Phillips Eye Institute Foundation as a beneficiary of your will? You retain the right to change beneficiaries during your life.
- 2 Add Phillips Eye Institute Foundation to your revocable living trust. Any distributions we receive during your lifetime qualify for an income tax deduction.
- 3 Phillips Eye Institute Foundation can be named to receive amounts remaining in your savings, checking, brokerage or other financial accounts at death. If you name us as a beneficiary of your IRA or 401(k) account, the income tax that would be owed by family members is completely avoided.
- 4 If family members no longer need the security of a life insurance policy bought many years ago, Phillips Eye Institute Foundation can be named the beneficiary.



Contact Laurie Hennen, 612-775-8758 or [Laurie.Hennen@allina.com](mailto:Laurie.Hennen@allina.com) for more information.