



THE OHIO LIONS FOUNDATION



(Established December 6, 1985)

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

www.ohiolionsfoundation.org

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TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

AUGUST, 2006

Dear Fellow Lions of Multiple District 13:

This year your Ohio Lions Foundation will be celebrating the twentieth anniversary of its founding on December 6, 1985. 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 years has enabled the Foundation to make significant grants totaling **in excess of \$962,000** 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 **\$116,000** has been awarded in disaster relief grants throughout Ohio.
- ***Ohio Lions Foundation - Helen Keller Scholarship Program:*** Scholarships are awarded annually in the amount of \$2,750 each, on the basis of financial need and academic ability, to visually impaired Ohio students enrolled as full time students in either undergraduate, graduate or professional degree programs at any of the seven participating state supported universities: The Ohio State University, Ohio University, Bowling Green State University, Cleveland State University, Wright State University, Youngstown State University, and new this year the University of Cincinnati. 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. A total of eleven scholarships will be awarded for the 2006-2007 academic year. To date, **over \$316,000** in Helen Keller Scholarships have been awarded 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.
- ***Matching Grant Program for Low-Vision Readers / Video Magnifier Devices for Public Libraries and Senior Centers:*** In May, 2002, the Ohio Lions Foundation initiated a new matching grant program with the goal of placing low vision readers / video magnifier devices in public libraries throughout Ohio. Lions Clubs may apply for matching grants of up to \$1,200 each toward the cost of acquiring qualified low-vision readers to be placed in local public libraries and community-based public senior citizen centers. A 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 54 low vision reader matching grants have been awarded in the total amount of approximately **\$56,000**.

- **Capital Grants and Matching Grants:** In addition to the low vision reader matching grant program, over the last twenty years, the OLF 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 advised restricted funds. Grants from those funds have been awarded (in excess of **\$276,200**) for such projects as individual eye exams and eyeglasses for needy individuals, 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 (blue form) and for making designated gifts such as memorial gifts and gifts to the *Ohio Lions Foundation Helen Keller Scholarship Fund* (gold form). For your convenience, a properly addressed return envelope is also enclosed.

Commemorative Twentieth Anniversary Trading Pins. In recognition of the OLF's twentieth anniversary, the Foundation has commissioned a distinctive commemorative trading pin featuring the sponsorship of the *Ohio Lions Foundation Helen Keller Scholarship Program*. Pins may be purchased from your district trustee.

Your trustees thank you in advance for your continued support of your Ohio Lions Foundation. If you should have any questions regarding the OLF or if you would like to schedule a club or zone meeting program on the OLF, please feel free to contact your district's trustee or any of the Foundation's officers. For more information, you may also visit us on the web at www.ohiolionsfoundation.org.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees