# Center for VISION LOSS

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014**



# SUPPORT. ENCOURAGE. EMPOWER.

This Annual Report reflects customer service statistics and other important information as they were recorded from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. During this year, the Center for Vision Loss directly touched the lives of 14,984 people in Lehigh, Northampton and Monroe Counties.

# SUPPORT. ENCOURAGE. EMPOWER.

In 2013-2014, we celebrated 85 years of service to the community! Much has happened since the Allentown and Bethlehem Lions Clubs founded the original blind associations in Lehigh and Northampton Counties in 1928. Then their members were enthusiastically following Helen Keller's exhortation that all Lions Club members become "Knights of the Blind in the crusade against darkness." Now, as the Center for Vision Loss, we enthusiastically acknowledge all of the Lions, Lionesses and Leos in Districts 14-K (Lehigh and Northampton Counties) and 14-U (Monroe County) whose continued contributions have enabled us to support, encourage, and empower people dealing with severe vision loss.

Just how do we help our Vision Rehabilitation customers progress along the vision loss continuum to independence? For individuals newly-coping with low vision, especially if they have lost their sight later in life, we provide support through in-home visits with appropriate assistance, education, an introduction to our agency's services and programs and referrals to the PA Bureau of Blindness & Visual Services. Our Low Vision Program supports customers as they explore the many kinds of tools and assistive technology available to enhance their visual functioning. Our caseworkers encourage all of our customers to attend as many support group meetings, lifeskills education sessions and socialization activities as they find useful and to take advantage of our unique Escorted Transportation with a sighted guide to access medical and other essential appointments. Finally, we empower our customers by giving them the confidence to embrace their newly-learned blindness and low vision skills, adaptations and technologies to improve their quality of life and allow them to continue living independently.

Finally, our volunteers, board members, sponsors, donors and friends in the community also support, encourage and empower us with their gifts of time, materials and financial support. They, too, deserve our thanks for their continued commitment over the past 85 years.

Douglas A. Yingling, Executive Director

# VISION REHABILITATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

737 CUSTOMERS

97 Customers participated in 48 Lifeskills Education Sessions

52 Customers participated in 33 Socialization Activities

71 Customers participated in 29 Support Group Meetings

159 CUSTOMERS RECEIVED LOW VISION SERVICES

269 Customers accessed the Escorted Transportation Program

2,185 ROUND TRIP ESCORTED TRANSPORTATION RIDES PROVIDED

67,746 ESCORTED TRANSPORTATION MILES DRIVEN

4,266 Hours Spent providing Escorted Transportation

3,134 Hours Spent Providing Casework Services

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

5.714 CHILDREN AND 629 ADULTS SCREENED

386 Children and 59 Adults referred to Eye Care Professionals

7,488 Adults and Children educated
180 Customers served in the Eye Care Clinic
77 Individuals assisted by the Vision Help
Program



# OUR FRIENDS

OUR FRIENDS MAKE THE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS OF THE CENTER FOR VISION LOSS POSSIBLE. BECAUSE THEIR GENEROSITY BRINGS LIGHT INTO THE WORK OF OUR AGENCY. WE HONOR THEM WITH THE COLORS OF THE VISIBLE LIGHT SPECTRUM-THE LIGHT WE SEE WITH OUR EYES. THE CENTER FOR VISION LOSS HAS MADE EVERY EFFORT TO MAKE OUR FRIENDS LIST ACCURATE. IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT 610-433-6018, X. 241.

INDIGO \$10,000 AND OVER

Center for Vision Loss Endowment Foundation

ESSA Bank & Trust Foundation

Frank E. & Seba B. Payne Foundation

Harry C. Trexler Trust

LANTA

Lehigh Co. Area Agency on Aging

Monroe Co. Grant

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation,

Bureau of Blindness & Visual Services

through the Pennsylvania Association

for the Blind UW of Monroe Co.

UW of the Greater Lehigh Valley

VIOLET \$5,000-\$9,999

Will R. Beitel Children's Community Foundation

**Buehler Memorial Fund Emmaus Lions Club** 

The Charles Hoch Foundation

Luther J. Hottle Fund/Lehigh Valley Community

Foundation

Two Rivers Health & Wellness Foundation

Upper Lehigh Lions Club

GREEN \$2,500-\$4,999

Air Products Foundation

Easton Lions Club

Emmaus Lioness Lions Club

Fox Optical & Gallery, LLC

Thomas Hall

Lehigh Township Lions Club

Lions District 14-K Charitable Enterprises, Inc.

Lower Lehigh Lions Club

Sanofi Pasteur

Slatington Lions Club

BLUE \$1,000-\$2,499

Anonymous

Apollo Grill

**Donald Bowie** Tina T. Burley

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First Windish Fraternal Benefit Society

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Inova Technologies, LLC

Fred J. Jaindl Family Foundation

Just Born

Keystone Nazareth Charitable Foundation

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Nancy Parton

Rotary Club of the Smithfields/Pocono Medical Center

Saucon Valley Lions Club

John & Jill Sharkey

Slatedale-Emerald Area Lions Club Bill Sugra Memorial Foundation

Wells Fargo Foundation

YELLOW \$500-\$999

Alburtis Lions Club

Allentown Area Corvette Club

Alton Park Lions Club

Bangor Lions Club

Bath Lions Club

Bethlehem Lioness Club

Bethlehem Township Lions Club

Coplay Lions Club

Hanover Township Lions Club

Hecktown-Lower Nazareth Lions Club

The International Association of Lions Clubs District

Kuhnsville Lions Club

Marty & Sandy Lang

Lehigh Township Lioness Club

Lehigh Valley Center for Sight

Lehigh Valley Saturday AM Lions Club

Moore Township Lioness Club

Moore Township Lions Club

Mountainville Lions Club

Northwest Bethlehem Lions Club

Lester Shafer Charitable Trust Foundation

Janice & David Smith

Whitehall Lions Club

Wilson Borough Lions Club

**ORANGE \$100-\$499** 

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AD Computer

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Robert Bartholomew

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Cathy Breithoff

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Joyce Lewando Kathleen Lewis

John Lewis G. Arden Link Christopher F. Llovd David A. Long Jean Lory Sandra Lovett Dee Nola Lowrey Joelene Lutzko Elsie Magriso Francis Marte Carol Martin Mary Ellen Martin Isabel Maurey

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Gregory Serrano

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John Lawrence

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Rosalie Lawrence Jean Libricz

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Gloria Senavitis

Virginia & Frederick Shunk Sarah & Edward Sinko

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Lois Maurer Marilyn Filozof

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Aetna Volunteers

Air Products Volunteers

Allentown Art Museum

Alton Park Lions Club

Ameriprise Financial Volunteers

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Beer Nuts Beer Distributors & Tobacco Outlet

Siobhan "Sam" Bennett Bethlehem Boat Club Bethlehem NAACP

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Center for Vision Loss Nuvisions Activity Group

Center for Vision Loss Staff

Center for Vision Loss Visionaries Activity Group

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Joan Connelly Creative Closets Neil Curtis

Dan's Camera City

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Grandma's Country Corner Grapevine Antiques & Craft Mall

Great Wolf Lodge
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Mary Jane Kauffman

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Barbara Kmetz Linda Kresge Rita Lang Mary & Sandy Lang

Linda Latchic

Lehigh Co. Government Center Volunteers

Lehigh Valley Council of the Blind Lehigh Valley Saturday AM Lions Club

Lehigh Valley Steelhawks Lifestyles Over 50

Lisa Herzon Inc. Lucky Strokes Georgene Luksa Douglas MacCrindle Jim Matthews Sylvia Mayo

Kathleen McGovern

Minuteman Press of the Lehigh Valley

Mooretownship Lions Club

Delores Morgan

Mountain View Vineyard

Mudworks Frank D. Nacci

National Federation of the Blind

New York Pizza Girl Shirley Olenwine Brad Ott Philly Steaks Dr. Pizzano

Price Chopper Putt U

Resort Beverage Company

Royal Graphics Lisa Sabentino Salon Indigo Barry Santo Christine Scarince Elizabeth Schauer Marjorie Schneebel Joan Schoemig

Shawnee Inn & Golf Resort

Sigal Museum

Rose Sell

Dr. Anthony Silvetti, OD

Robert Smith

Sorrenti Cherry Valley Vineyards

Dr. Pollyanna Sparrow, OD

Sandy Spinner
Cindi Starner
Carol & Tony Swartz
Temple Lending Library
The Body Shop

The Flag Store

The Legendary Tannersville Inn

The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival

The Service Team-Lehighton

Total Family Care Ellie Trumbore Vincent's Deli & Catering

William Wagner, III Ed Weinhofer West End Yoga

Woman to Woman Gynecology

Doug Yingling Barry Young Zoellner Arts Center

The 2013-2014 audits and 990s for the Center for Vision Loss, Inc. and the Center for Vision Loss Endowment Foundation were prepared by Campbell, Rappold & Yurasits LLP, Certified Public Accountants. Anyone interested in examining them is invited to call the Development Department at 610-433-6018, x. 241. The official registration and financial information of the Center for Vision Loss may be obtained by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

List Revised March 2015













## **OUR PEOPLE**

## CENTER FOR VISION LOSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Joseph Chunko Jon Hammer
Todd Donnelly Martin Lang
Ihor N. Fedoriw, OD David Pike
John Filipos Leon Peters
Julia Gerancher Thomas Reilly
Victor Salicetti Edward Vogrins

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Todd Donnelly John Filipos
Leon Peters Thomas Reilly
John Sharkey Edward Vogrins

### CENTER FOR VISION LOSS STAFF

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Rita Lang, Manager of Innovative Programs/Volunteer Coordinator Cynthia Starner, Monroe County Office Manager

#### **LEHIGH AND NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES**

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Gretchen Evans, MSW, LSW, Social Services Coordinator

Melanie Huth, Caseworker

Shirley Moyer, Transportation Coordinator

Dawn Sellers, Community Outreach Specialist/Lehigh County

Robert Skinner, Driver

Lisa Vasquez, Low Vision Coordinator/Caseworker

Raquel Veloz, Receptionist

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#### **INTERNS**

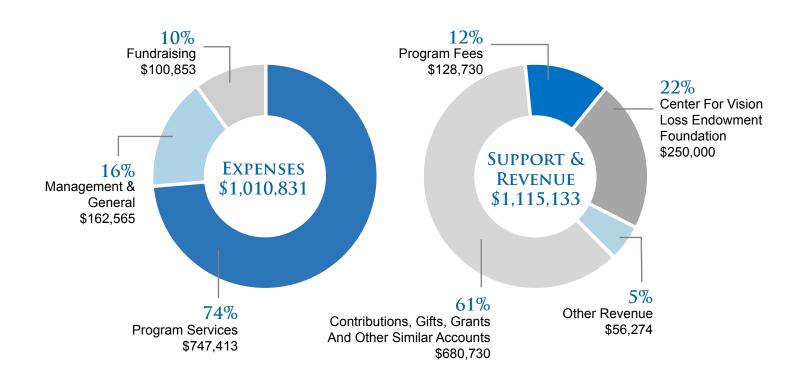
Kenneth Morse, Lafayette College Sarah Swartz, Mansfield University

#### **ASSOCIATES**

Kristen Roseman, OD Anthony J. Silvetti, OD

James Van Horn, Sr., MS, MA, NOMC

## **REPORT ON OPERATIONS 2013-2014**





# 845 West Wyoming Street Allentown, PA 18103

Non-Profit Organization US Postage **PAID** Lehigh Valley, PA Permit No. 221

## **OUR VOLUNTEERS**

The Center for Vision Loss relies on volunteers to help accomplish its work in the community. These untiring individuals support, encourage and empower our customers and staff. Our 86-member volunteer team shared their time and talents as Annie's Angels, vision screeners, office assistants, drivers and activity assistants and helped at special events. They also provided direction for programs and services as members of the Board of Directors, Endowment Foundation Board and various committees. On May 8, 2014, the following volunteers received awards for service: Bernie Wolensky, Helping Hands Community Outreach Award; Annette Gozzard, Louis Braille Communications Award; Carla Nemeroff, Anne Sullivan Spirit Award; Tim Fox, OD, Looking Beyond Vision Award and Barbara Dilliard, Helen Keller Award for Independence.







Center: Award Winners, from left to right, Annette Gozzard, Carla Nemeroff and Bernie Wolensky.

**OUR MISSION** To provide a comprehensive set of preventative, rehabilitative, support and social services enabling blind and visually impaired clients to achieve their personal goals and restore quality of life consistent with those goals. Programs will provide a balance of independent living skills and social services to meet individual needs across a diverse client base and also help reduce the incidence of vision loss in the community through prevention of blindness and remedial eye care services.

## SERVING LEHIGH, NORTHAMPTON AND MONROE COUNTIES





