



# Vision Is Our Focus

2021 Community Impact Report



pennsylvania  
vision foundation

A young child with curly hair, wearing a light-colored flat cap, large round glasses, a patterned bow tie, a light blue button-down shirt with small animal prints, and dark suspenders, is sitting on a light-colored tiled floor. The child has a wide-eyed, open-mouthed expression of surprise or excitement, with one hand raised near their face. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent pinkish-red filter.

# Vision

Positively impact the lives of Pennsylvanians through advancements in optometry and access to quality eye care

# Mission

Conduct and finance projects to foster and preserve human eyesight through the science of optometry in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

## Dear Friends and Supporters,



As we all learned to navigate the new normal world in 2021, many nonprofit organizations faced challenges striking a balance between the will to advance their mission and necessity for public safety.

Resilience is one of the most amazing of all human characteristics. Through our collective resiliency, we have been able to collaborate on new initiatives and develop existing programs, allowing us to meet our strategic goals.

Together with our new and existing partners, we continue to improve the lives of our neighbors through advancements in optometry and access to quality eye care. To ensure that future generations have access to eye care, 2021 was transformative for the Foundation. Through institutional partners, we developed the new VBA Ophthalmic Learning Laboratory and helped purchase equipment for a new mobile eye clinic. In our hometown

of Pittsburgh, we created a grant for an optical assistance program at a local children's hospital.

With an eye on our existing programs, we are grateful to our partners for a renewed focus on need-based eye care. The Vision Benefit Program saw a restored strength in the number of beneficiaries, and the Pre-School Vision Screening Program increased its impact.

Through VBA's generous contributions and its shared commitment to our mission, we are able to positively impact the lives of those who need us most in communities across Pennsylvania.

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."—Helen Keller

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Leitzel'.

**Andrew Leitzel, O.D.**

*Executive Director*

*Pennsylvania Vision Foundation*

# Serving Those in Need with **Coverage** and **Care**

## The Pennsylvania Vision Foundation

### **Benefit Program**

The benefit program ensures that adults and children who qualify for this need-based program have access to receive quality eye care through local VBA providers.

### **Who Qualifies for Our Benefit Program?**

Adults and children residing in Pennsylvania who are underprivileged, distressed and live at 250 percent of poverty level or below.

In 2021, the Foundation proudly assisted more than

**968** uninsured Pennsylvanians.

To date, the Foundation has served over

**7,020** uninsured Pennsylvanians.

## **PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS**

Our partner agencies are like-minded health and charitable organizations that are able to identify those in need of necessary vision care by performing basic eligibility screenings. We were pleased to add a new partner agency in 2021, ACT in Faith. ACT in Faith works to help connect those in need with existing support services and fill gaps in services.

- ACT in Faith GWC
- Ann Silverman Community Health Clinic
- Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh
- Centre Volunteers in Medicine
- Logos Academy
- Neighborhood Resilience Project
- New Hope Ministries
- North Side Christian Health Center
- Saint Patrick's Church, Health Screening Program
- Thrive Ministry, Inc.
- VBA
- VisionCorps
- Vision Resource Center of Berks County (VRCBerks)
- Vision Resources of Central Pennsylvania (VROCP)
- Volunteers in Medicine, Wilkes-Barre
- Washington Lions Club
- York County Youth Development Center

## Putting Our Partners in Focus

### 2021 PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

#### Volunteers in Medicine, Wilkes-Barre

Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) is a community-based full service, free medical and dental clinic. Established in 2008, it is dedicated to serving the uninsured and underinsured people of Luzerne County. VIM has an overwhelmingly positive impact on the health of city residents and surrounding communities.

VIM focuses on providing health services for low-income workers. These individuals and families are financially eligible but have no access to public or private health insurance. Since 2018, VIM has worked closely with the Pennsylvania Vision Foundation to offer its vision benefits program to those in need. Together, we have helped over 290 individuals receive high-quality eye care.

The Foundation values its partnership with VIM and is grateful for our shared commitment in serving Pennsylvanian communities.

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*The Foundation's benefit program is an incredible resource available to the low income, working uninsured population we serve. As a nonprofit clinic offering free, patient-centered, comprehensive care, it is challenging to ensure that every patient receives preventative care, diagnostic testing, medications and other specialty services. Eye care services would otherwise be unattainable to our clients without this unique collaboration.*

– Kelly Ranieli, VIM-WB  
Executive Director

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## Pre-School Vision Screening Program

2021 pre-school vision screenings and immediate referrals from our four partner agencies engaged with grants:

#### VisionCorps:

Total screenings

**1,967**

with 192 referrals  
throughout 5 counties

#### VROCP:

Total screenings

**2,167**

with 100 referrals  
throughout 4 counties

#### VRCBerks:

Total screenings

**1,739**

with 197 referrals  
1 county served

#### Looking Out for Kids:

Total screenings

**4,421**

with 307 referrals  
1 county served

## Student Scholarships

In an effort to advance Optometry and access to quality eye care, we created multiple student scholarships at educational institutions.

### Central Penn College

**\$10k**

Ophthalmic Technician Program student scholarship donation

### Community College of Philadelphia

**\$10k**

Ophthalmic Technician Program student scholarship donation

### Salus University

**\$20k**

The Vision Benefits of America Endowment Fund and Scholarship is a gift from the PA Vision Foundation in honor of former and current Chairs of the Board of Vision Benefits of America: Dr. Bruce May, Dr. Vincent Cascino, Dr. Claudia Wendel, Dr. Peter Theodoros, Dr. David Rule, Dr. Sam D'Onofrio and Dr. Karen Rule.

This is an endowed scholarship that will be awarded annually to an optometry student from Pennsylvania, with a preference for a student who intends to practice in Pennsylvania.



## Salus University Mobile Eye Care Unit

In 2021, the Pennsylvania Vision Foundation contributed \$50,000 to help Salus University purchase a new and improved bus to ensure the continuation of safe and accessible eye care services to students across Southeastern PA.

- Exam Chairs
- Handheld Autorefractor
- Handheld Slit Lamps
- Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopes
- Trial Lens Kits
- Pupilometer
- Phoropters with Stands
- Digital Visual Acuity System with iPad Controls
- iCare Tonometer

## Trucks for Maddox Optical Assistance Fund

A \$20,000 grant was awarded to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation at UPMC for exclusive use in the Trucks for Maddox Optical Fund.

This fund will help the UPMC Children's Eye Care Clinic ensure that all children have access to the eyeglasses they need.

With the help of the Foundation's grant, Trucks for Maddox Optical will help provide more children with the gift of vision for years to come.

# Financials (unaudited)

	2019	2020	2021
<b>Income</b>			
Contributions	\$297,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$100,000.00
Investment Income (Loss)	107,997.77	102,662.00	70,830.22
Total Income	404,997.77	602,662.00	170,830.22
<b>Expenses</b>			
Vision Benefits Program	\$134,538.96	\$79,077.00	\$94,396.42
Grants	22,485.00	72,000.00	100,826.00
Administrative Expenses	43,860.00	45,139.00	43,872.30
Total Expenses	200,883.96	196,216.00	239,042.72
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	<b>\$204,113.81</b>	<b>\$406,446.00</b>	<b>\$(68,212.50)</b>

The Foundation's most recent IRS Form 990-PF is available upon request.

## Meet the 2021 Board of Directors

### **Brian A. Black**

Director of Corporate Engagement,  
Pennsylvania State University

### **Lewis A. Carrarini, O.D.**

Owner, Optometrist, Latrobe Vision Center

### **Marcus Devlin, O.D.**

Partner/Owner, Optometrist,  
Spring House Eye Associates, LLC

### **Jeff A. Hollowood, Esq.**

President & Chief Executive Officer, VBA

### **Andrew L. Leitzel, O.D.**

Partner/Owner, Optometrist, Sans Pareil Eyecare LLP

### **Akos Nagy**

IT Manager, PPG Industries

### **Kristin O'Connor, CPA**

Audit Manager, Albanese Sinchar Smith & Co.

### **Susan M. Overton, Esq.**

SVP, General Counsel, Genesis HealthCare, Inc.

### **David Tintera**

Actuarial Analyst, Hawley Consulting Group



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