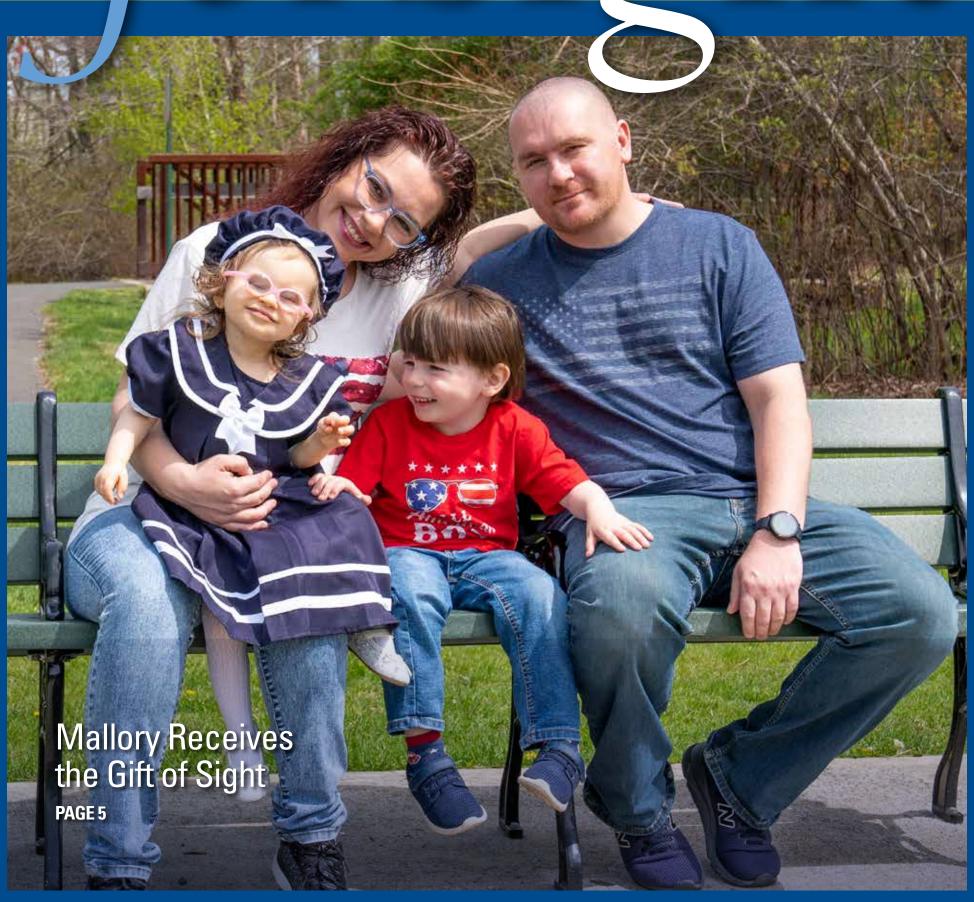


# for Sight



# INTHIS ISSUE

- Growing StrongBrighter Days AheadAnd Then Spring Will Come
- 3 Elliana Sees the World for the First Time
- 4 Where Are They Now?
  Generous Donors
  Help People Worldwide
- 5 Mallory Receives the Gift of Sight
- 6 Restoring Sight & Hope Around the World
- Remembrance Butterfly
  Get in Touch
- Give the Gift of Sight Today

- 10 26th Annual Gift of Sight Charity Golf Classic
- 11 LEBDV Board of Trustees
  You are the Difference
  By the Numbers
  LEBDV Medical Advisory Board
- 12 Upcoming Events



#### **GROWING STRONG**

I am pleased to share with you the latest in our efforts to provide the Gift of Sight through cornea transplantation in southeastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, Delaware, and around the world.

The novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has affected every aspect of our lives. We at Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley (LEBDV)

have instituted new protocols for donor screening, tissue recovery and preparation based on the latest recommendations of the United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA). I believe in our organization's ability to continue our mission of providing the Gift of Sight to those living in darkness in the Delaware Valley and around the world during the pandemic and as we return to normalcy.

Advances in technology, instrumentation, and surgical technique continue to increase options and improve outcomes for patients. Our partner surgeons benefit from the most advanced treatment modalities available in the field. Since 1957, LEBDV has coordinated more than 47,000 cornea transplants, and tens of thousands more benefitted from research and education. There is a need out there, and we at LEBDV are well positioned to meet that challenge!

LEBDV is one of the few eye banks in the country offering preloaded cornea tissue for Descemet's Membrane Endothelial Keratoplasty (DMEK), the latest technique of cornea transplantation. Preloading the graft at the eye bank allows surgeons to be efficient and give all their attention to their patients without having to worry about preparing corneas in the operating room, where time and resources are limited. In addition, LEBDV offers surgeons the option to request Amphotericin B additive to cornea storage media.

Over the last several years, we have strengthened our Gratis Tissue Program which makes cornea transplantation possible for patients in need. It has also made it possible for us to provide our partner surgeons with tissue on mission trips to Kenya, Rwanda, Haiti and Guatemala, where access to cornea transplantation remains rare at best. I am proud of our dedicated staff who work to make this program possible and our contributors whose philanthropic spirit ensures that we never allow financial barriers to impede a patient's ability to see.

LEBDV is committed to upholding its longstanding mandate of giving sight to those living in darkness. Thank you for your continued support of our mission. YOU know best the profound impact of the Gift of Sight.

Sadeer B. Hannush, MD **Medical Director** 



#### BRIGHTER DAYS **AHEAD**

It is my pleasure to present our 2020-2021 hybrid issue of for Sight.

I hope that you and those you care for are staying safe and well. I know this pandemic has touched us all in unimaginable ways. On behalf of Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley (LEBDV), our thoughts and prayers are very much with you.

As your partner in eye donation, we are steadfast in our commitment to restoring the gift of sight. Throughout the pandemic, LEBDV never stopped working to serve our community. Faced with challenges and operational restrictions, our dedicated and resilient team ensured that every request for cornea tissue was fulfilled for patients in need of a transplant.

We are grateful for the heroic donors and their families, who despite their loss during this global crisis, have chosen to help others through donation. Their generosity is unmatched.

The stories of courage, resiliency, and inspiration shared by your neighbors inside the pages of this newsletter demonstrate the magnitude of your support and serve as a reminder that we are all truly in this together.

I encourage you read the article below about Mary Ellen. She was a cornea donor from Pennsylvania who made the gift of sight a reality for someone she had never even met. There is no greater act of kindness.

Mary Ellen's donation story is a reminder that even during the darkest of times "spring will come" and brighter days are ahead. We've held onto Mary Ellen's last words through the year's most challenging moments. I am proud that during a time of hardship we have maintained our commitments to each other, to donor families, and to those in need of a sight-saving transplant.

This past year has been a humbling experience and a reminder of what is truly important in this life. Thank you for helping Mallory, as seen on the cover, and Simeon, as seen on page 4, who were both living in darkness and now have hope for a brighter tomorrow.

Because of you, we are already seeing Brighter Days Ahead! With warmest regards,

Jim Quirk President and CEO







"My favorite memories aren't of the big trips or the special holidays. They were the moments that seem totally random and inconsequential. It was the silly, everyday things that made us laugh, often uncontrollably, that I miss most," recalls Trish. "We had a very special bond."

Mary Ellen raised her only daughter, Trish, to be brave, kind, and to always find humor even when times were hard. "My mom liked to say, 'a good laugh can fix your troubles, heal your wounds and take your worries away.' She had this ability to look on the bright side and to shift my perspective." This insight was helpful for Trish during youth and adolescence and then into adulthood. Mary Ellen loved Trish unconditionally and always offered advice and direction at pivotal moments, like getting married and eventually having three adorable children, Payton, Paul Jr. and Penelope, of her own. "They called her Mimi. Having grandchildren made my mom very happy."

Living in Havertown, PA, Mary Ellen worked in medical administration while Trish was growing up. Outside of her career and raising Trish, Mary Ellen treasured her close friendships with her high school friends. "We call them 'The Holy Child Girls.' That was the name of the high school they attended and the name stuck," recalls Trish. As tradition, The Holy Child Girls would travel together twice a year to get away and experience new adventures. They sure knew how to have fun.

Mary Ellen's well-known qualities of being brave, kind, and finding humor were exemplified during her illness. Mary Ellen was diagnosed with cancer on June 6, 2016. Trish began to grasp the severity of her mother's illness as she learned the end was near. Mary Ellen was a constant presence in her life and she quickly realized her world would be changed forever. "My mom told me that I'd know what to do and that she was already in my head. That I would be okay without her, despite my protest. She continued, 'And then spring will come,' which meant no matter how long the 'winter,' brighter days are ahead, blue skies would return." Sadly, Mary Ellen passed away three months after her diagnosis.

"A few days before she passed the nurse asked me if there was anything my mom might be holding on to. She asked if my mom wanted to be an eye, organ and tissue donor. I knew that was my mom's wish but wasn't sure if she could donate based on her disease and treatment. It was after 11:00 pm the night before, when we agreed to donate and the next morning she let go. My uncle and I believe that is what she was holding onto and that we were able to fulfill her wish and make that happen," recalls Trish.

Trish and her family feel a sense of pride, gratitude, and even peace knowing that Mary Ellen provided the gift of sight for another person and that part of her still lives on. "Saying 'yes' to eye donation was handled from start to finish with dignity for both my mom and I. It truly is a part of her that lives on and I know that is what she wanted. It helps us find meaning, healing and purpose in her passing."



Four-year-old Elliana is a sweet, curious girl who loves dancing and listening to music (particularly The Beatles), playing hide and seek, and exploring with flashlights. She is growing up in Rochester, NY, with her parents Stephanie and Dominic and little sister Gabriella.

Born two months early, Elliana spent 32 days in the neonatal intensive care unit. During this time, doctors noticed that her eyes appeared clouded,

and were unsure if she would ever be able to see.

At just 3 days old, Elliana was diagnosed with a rare eye disease called Peters anomaly. "We had never heard about Peters anomaly before," Stephanie said. The new parents were left feeling devastated and with more questions than answers.

The first few months were a whirlwind. "We started researching everything we could," Stephanie recalled. "Dom spent hours reading scholarly articles, searching social media and reaching out to doctors across the country to gather opinions. We wanted to be as knowledgeable as possible if we were going to be making decisions for our daughter."

Thanks to the power of social media, Dom and Stephanie were able to connect with a support group of parents of children with Peters anomaly. From that group, they learned of many different procedures, outcomes and specialists. One family in particular reached out to Dom regarding their experience, and through that referral he connected with Alex Levin, MD, Chief of the Wills Eye Pediatric Ophthalmology and Ocular Genetics Service.

In August of 2017, the family traveled more than six hours from Rochester, NY, to Philadelphia, PA, to meet with Dr. Levin and Christopher Rapuano, MD, Chief of the Wills Eye Cornea Service. "Our doctors were amazing," said Stephanie. "They answered all of our questions and were open and honest with us about the benefits and risks associated with bilateral cornea transplants. However, we left that day still feeling very overwhelmed and worried for Elliana's future." Peters anomaly is rare and each case is unique, but both doctors felt the best chance for vision was cornea transplants. Ultimately, Dom and Stephanie agreed.

"Eye and vision issues at an early age can lead to delays in childhood development," explained Dr. Rapuano. "It is imperative to correct problems early on to ensure babies develop the visual abilities they need to learn and grow."

On December 13, 2017, just shy of 7 months old, Elliana had a cornea transplant on her left eye, and on April 4, 2018, Elliana underwent cornea transplant surgery for her right eye.

Thankfully, both of Elliana's transplants were successful.

She has had many visits to Wills Eye Hospital and subsequent surgeries since. Although her vision continues to change, her parents feel validated every day by their decision. "She can look at her parents and call us 'Mom' and 'Dad,'" gushed Stephanie. "When she was born, we didn't think that would be possible."

"We wish we could go back in time and tell ourselves that it's all going to be okay," Stephanie said of the progress they've made. "It's so comforting knowing we made the rig

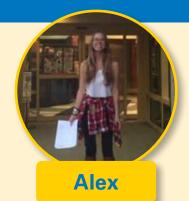
it's all going to be okay," Stephanie said of the progress they've made. "It's so comforting knowing we made the right decision. Elliana can pick up a book and tell you which one it is. She can identify her colors, shapes and some letters. She can even pick up a family picture and tell you who's in it!"

The family has since made countless trips back and forth to Philadelphia, and even though it's logistically very challenging, they are reminded daily of the incredible gift Elliana has been given.

Stephanie and Dom are beyond grateful for their talented Wills Eye specialists, Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley (LEBDV) and especially Elliana's two cornea donors, whose

selfless gift allowed her to see the world for the very first time. "The gravity of what had to happen for our daughter to be able to see is not lost on us," Stephanie said. "We say a prayer with Elliana every night and thank her donors. Without them and their families, none of this would be possible—through the tragedy of a life lost, a little girl can now see. Elliana has the gift of sight, and words will never adequately express the amount of gratitude we have for her donors, her doctors and LEBDV for all they've done."

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Alex at a post-op checkup after her cornea transplant in September of 2015.



Alex today at one of her favorite Eye Bank events, Sight Night. She still can't believe she gets to do this for work now!

"It is impossible to ever say thank you enough to my selfless donor and their family, and I will never again take my eyesight for granted. I am now lucky enough to work for LEBDV and give back to an organization that has helped me so much."

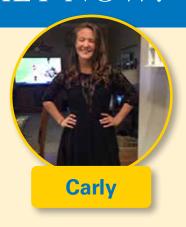


Svea smiling after her cornea transplant in April 2015.

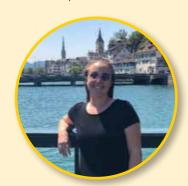


Svea and her dad enjoying a day out with the family.

"Svea is a spunky, smiley 5-year-old that loves gymnastics and dancing and hates to sleep! She is loving preschool, and her family is so proud of her accomplishments and can't wait to see what the future brings."



Despite being out of school for more than six weeks due to an eye infection, Carly attended her high school homecoming dance. She had her cornea transplant in March of 2017.



Carly, post-transplant in Switzerland, on her way home from a five-week trip to South Africa to study journalism.

"Since having my transplant I've been able to do anything that I set my mind to. From doing the Broad **Street Run to traveling to South** Africa, I've had a monumentally better quality of life, and have been able to see every amazing thing along the way."



Cameron at his 8th grade dinner dance prior to his cornea transplant.



Cameron is currently finishing up his senior year at Goldey-Beacom College. He is majoring in Sports and Business Management, and hopes to start his own clothing line after graduation.

"All of the blessings in my life are thanks to the amazing gift I received from my donor. My life would be on a very different path without my transplant. All donors are heroes."





#### GENEROUS DONORS HELP PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

Simeon Edwards, from Kingston, Jamaica, was only 19 years old when he lost vision in his right eye during a construction accident. For more than 10 years he lived in darkness and pain, knowing he needed a cornea transplant, without access to treatment.

Simeon turned to the internet to research his options, which led him to the Facebook page of Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley (LEBDV). He reached out with pictures of his right eye, and pleaded for help.

When Alex, our Community Relations Coordinator, saw Simeon's messages, she felt compelled to help. As a cornea recipient herself, she could not imagine waiting for more than a decade without access to care.

Alex found Ophthalmic Suites, an eye care facility in Kingston and arranged an appointment for Simeon. His doctor's visit confirmed that a cornea transplant would save Simeon's vision.

LEBDV President and CEO Jim Quirk, was moved by Simeon's story as well. "It is

difficult to believe that a routine surgery in the United States that helps restore vision is not available in many countries around the world. Not only is there a startling shortage of ophthalmologists to perform surgery, there's also a shortage of tissue," Jim explained. "When the need is met locally, we do what we can to help people living and waiting in blindness overseas."

"This is a dream come true for me," Simeon explained before his surgery. "This transplant will change my whole life—I'll be able to live the life I've always wanted. I'm so excited!"

Following his surgery, Simeon wrote to LEBDV and his donor family expressing his gratitude. "I am a total stranger yet you extended your kindness to me, thank you!"

There are more than 12 million people worldwide who are living in blindness and in need of a cornea transplant to restore their vision. LEBDV's Gratis Tissue Program supports patients who do not have the resources to pay for their transplant both locally and abroad.

If you would like to make a donation to LEBDV's Gratis Tissue Program, please visit our website at www.lebdv.org



# Mallory Receives the Gift of Sight

Preparing for the arrival of their newborn baby, parents Tara and Anthony, from Hazlet, NJ, had a textbook pregnancy.

On March 21, 2018, Tara gave birth to their beautiful baby girl, Mallory, and their son Caden became a big brother. Right away however, Mallory's parents and doctors could tell something was not quite right.

"The cataracts in Mallory's eyes were so bad that we couldn't even tell what color her eyes were; they were just white," Tara recalled. The doctors at the hospital informed Tara and Anthony that their daughter was born completely blind, with no chance of recovering any vision.

Devastated and at a loss, Tara and Anthony turned to Wills Eye Hospital for a second opinion. Christopher Rapuano, MD, Chief of the Wills Eye Cornea Service and Alex Levin, MD, Chief of the Wills Eye Pediatric Ophthalmology and Ocular Genetics Service, diagnosed Mallory with a rare eye disease called Peters anomaly when she was just a few weeks old.

"Dr. Rapuano and Dr. Levin let us know that although Mallory only had light perception in her right eye, she did in fact have some sort of vision in her left, which was such a huge relief to us," Tara explained. "We were presented with the option of preserving and enhancing her vision with a cornea transplant in her right eye. It was a difficult decision because the chance of rejection was high, but we trusted her doctors and had faith."

Because Peters anomaly is so rare, Tara and Anthony struggled to find resources and guidance. Their research led them to a Peters anomaly support group on Facebook where they heard stories from other parents with similar experiences. "It felt nice knowing we weren't alone," Tara said. "I've met so many amazing people from that group, some who have become lifelong friends and confidants."

In October of 2018, at seven months old, Mallory received a cornea transplant in her right eye, and over two and a half years later, it is still going strong. "We know Mallory has vision, we are just not sure how much yet," Tara explained. "She can identify all of her family members and can tell us the shapes and colors of many different things. We are so grateful to her incredible doctors. They deserve all the recognition and praise in the world."

After Mallory's cornea transplant surgery, and talking to many other parents in similar situations, Tara and Anthony began to realize the gravity and importance of donation and transplantation. "Right after Mallory's transplant, I went right to the DMV to register as a donor," Tara said. "I think every single person should be registered if they aren't already."

"How do you find the words to thank someone for giving your daughter the Gift of Sight?" Tara questions. "There are not enough thank yous in the world to express our gratitude. We will never be able to take away the immense loss they suffered, but we will thank them every day for the rest of our lives for bringing light to such a dark time."

While there is still a lot of work to be done, Tara, Anthony and Caden are just happy to enjoy their smiley, spunky, talented little girl. "Mallory is always either smiling, laughing or singing; you can play her a song once and she'll remember the lyrics forever," Tara lovingly recalled. "We will be forever grateful to Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley, Mallory's selfless donor and their family and her team of doctors. They have given our daughter the most precious gift in the world. Thank you will never be enough."

"There are not enough thank yous in the world to express our gratitude. We will never be able to take away the immense loss they suffered, but we will thank them every day for the rest of our lives for bringing light to such a dark time."

— Tara

Mallory's mom

# RESTORING SIGHT & HOPE AROUND THE WORLD

#### **Partner Eye Banks**

We are proud to partner with Eye Banks around the country to help make these trips possible. Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley, Pennsylvania

Gift of Life Donor Program, Pennsylvania Miracles in Sight, North Carolina Saving Sight, Missouri

Kentucky Lions Eye Bank

Georgia Eye Bank



#### **International Mission Work**

When the local need is met, Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley (LEBDV) supports our partner surgeons who volunteer their time and talents to help impoverished populations suffering from high rates of blindness and visual disability. LEBDV supports these trips by providing cornea tissue made possible by our Gratis Tissue Program.

In countries like Rwanda and Haiti, for example, there is often only one surgical ophthalmologist per one million people. In these instances, vision can be the difference between survival and death, and countless patients who need a cornea transplant are forced to spend their entire lives in darkness. "We know that when you can't see, your life expectancy shortens dramatically, with studies reporting up to 60% mortality for children within one year of becoming blind in the developing world," says Brad H. Feldman, MD.

### Sight-saving Impact

300+ corneas coordinated by LEBDV have supported people in desperate need of a transplant beyond our country's borders.

# Financial Impact

\$1,000,000 is the financial impact to restore the Gift of Sight overseas since this program was launched in 2014.









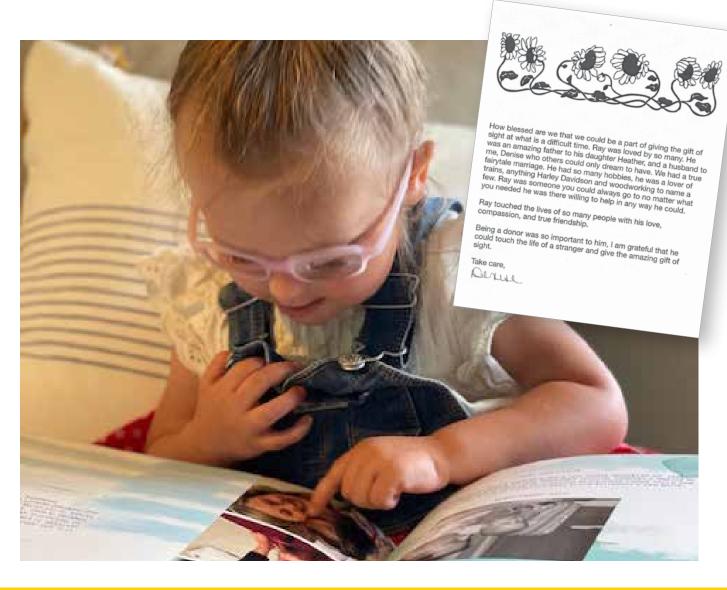


Join us at **The Clay Studio** in Philadelphia where we meet the **last Friday of every month** to handcraft Remembrance Butterflies for Donor Families.

Recipients, donor families, volunteers, friends: all are welcome to join, no artistic background required! If you are a donor family, we would love to host a butterfly workshop in memory of your loved one.

When a loved one passes away, they take with them a piece of those who loved them. The Remembrance Butterfly is a symbol of love and a reminder of the ongoing connection we have with those we've lost. It is our hope that these butterflies will bring donor families comfort in remembering there will always be an unbroken connection between them and their loved one.

For more information and to sign up for a session, please send an email to info@lebdv.org or call 215-563-1679.



### GET IN TOUCH

LEBDV encourages correspondence between cornea transplant recipients and donor families. Consider getting in touch with your donor's family or the recipient of your loved one's cornea with a personal letter.

For more information, visit www.lebdv.org or call 215-563-1679

Mila, cornea transplant recipient, reading LEBDV's Collection of Heartfelt Letters.



### GIVE THE GIFT OF SIGHT TODAY

#### **GRATIS TISSUE PROGRAM**

#### Who benefits from the Gratis Tissue Program?

When a local doctor calls Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley (LEBDV) because his or her patient needs a cornea transplant but is underinsured, LEBDV waives the associated processing fees. LEBDV believes the ability to pay should not be a barrier to a person's ability to see. Requests for gratis tissue continue to increase and LEBDV needs financial support to continue providing quality tissue for those in need. Your support will help give people a second chance at sight—and at life. Please help us help others by making a donation today.



After providing for your loved ones, consider making a lasting difference by making a gift to LEBDV in your will. Simply name LEBDV as a beneficiary when writing your will or, if you already have a will, add a codicil amending it to include us.

#### **Matching Gift Program**

Many employers offer matching gift programs that can often double your donation to LEBDV. Learn more by contacting us today.

#### **Donate Stock**

Support LEBDV and save on capital gains taxes. The gift of an asset (often common stock or mutual fund shares) is a valuable way to make a donation and receive tax benefits based on the value of the asset(s).

#### Peer-to-Peer Fundraising

Help LEBDV raise \$3,200, which will cover the cost of the tissue processing expenses for someone in need of a cornea transplant surgery. Contact us to learn how to start a fundraiser today.

### HELP US HELP OTHERS BY MAKING A GIFT TODAY



Born blind, Peyton from Margate, NJ, is one of more than 300 local recipients who have benefited from the Gratis Tissue Program.



You may use the following language in your estate plan:

I give, devise and bequeath to Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization located at 401 North 3rd Street, Suite 305, Philadelphia, PA 19123, EIN 23-1513699, [insert here the sum or percentage] for its unrestricted general use and purposes.

Please consult your attorney, tax advisor or financial advisor before making a bequest. Please let us know about your decision, so we can recognize your gift today!



Donate Online

www.lebdv.org

Click on "Give now"



Mail a Check
401 North 3rd Street
Suite 305
Philadelphia, PA 19123

Make payable to Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley



Phone
1-215-563-1679

Donate with a credit card.

#### **27TH ANNUAL**

# GIFT OF SIGHT CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC

Join us!

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021** 

## Golfing Event — Tee Off

10:30 a.m. Registration & Lunch

12 p.m. Tee Off

Awards & Auction

Cost: \$149 per Golfer

of proceeds benefit Lions Eye Bank's **Gratis Tissue Program** 

Woodcrest Country Club 300 East Evesham Road • Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

#### **SEEKING 2021 SPONSORS!**

Please contact LEBDV at lebdv.org | (215) 563-1679 to make a tax-deductible donation. Sponsorship levels:



Mission—\$5,000



Visionary—\$3,000



Food & Beverage — \$1,500



Flag — \$1,000



Luncheon—\$1,000



Giveaway Bag — \$750

Putting Contest — \$500



**1** Hole-in-One — \$500



Club — \$250





#### MANY THANKS TO OUR 2020 GOLF SPONSORS & CONTRIBUTORS.

Because of you, LEBDV raised more than \$45,000 for our Gratis Tissue Program.

This means your Eye Bank gave 15 local people — who would otherwise live in darkness — a second chance at sight!

Dickson Furniture Manufacturers Gift of Life Donor Program

#### Flag Sponsors Connell, Carey & Associates

**Mission Sponsor** 

Merrill Lynch G & M Sales In Memory of John H. Krawczyk-

Krawczyk, Haley, McGowan & Giardina Families In Memory of Max and Stan

Harvey—Don Manser In Memory of PDG George Bonadio—Lion Nancy Bonadio Jim & Michelle Quirk Milwaukee Tool

#### **Naming & Contest Sponsors**

Wills Eye Hospital

Choctaw-Kaul Distribution Company — Hole-In-One Contest Delaware Eye Surgeons-Dr. S. Gregory Smith & Associates — On Course Food & Beverages Dickson Furniture Manufacturers—Inside Front

Friedman, LLP.—Putting Contest Gift of Life — Outside Back Cover In Memory of T.J. Eckardt-Lion

Away Bag Lion Norman & Sandy Imaoka — **Putting Contest** Ophthalmic Partners — Inside **Back Cover** PDG James & Lion Patricia Davis — Hole-In-One Contest PDG Mary Lee Phillips & 1VDG

Norman & Sandy Imaoka — Give-

Sponsor T.J. Eckardt Associates, Inc. HVAC—Putting Contest Your Part-Time Controller — **Putting Contest** 

David Mitchell — Luncheon

#### **Club Sponsors**

Beringer Associates, Inc. KB Sales Agency—Joe Glancy Lion Norman & Sandy Imaoka Pottstown-Stowe Lions Club **Quick Courier Service** Rayles Sales, LLC. Southland Medical, LLC. Tara Quinn Tozour Trane HVAC

#### **Hole Sponsors**

Al and Vicki Piccotti Atco Lions Club Bob and Carmen Perez **Buckingham Manufacturing** Carl Alan Floral Designs, LTD. Clearwater Pool Services-PDG Phil & Lion Candice Shober Custom Travel Services, Inc. — Georgiann Jaworskyi Delaware City Lions Club Dewey Beach Lions Club Dr. Sadeer B. Hannush Faulkner Buick GMC West Chester Francis and Elizabeth DuVernois Honey Brook Lions Club In Honor of Lucy Marie -Luke & Megan Stier In Honor of Mila Alessandra-Luke & Megan Stier In Memory of Dianne Terry—Jim & Michelle Quirk In Memory of James Fogle &

Tiffany Fogle—Lion Althea Fogle In Memory of John A. Terry, Jr. — Jim & Michelle Quirk In Memory of PDG David L. Smith — Paoli-Berwyn-Malvern Lions Club

In Memory of PDG David L. Smith—PDG David & Lion Sandy In Memory of Richard Colomy-

Dawn Ortiz & Family

In Memory of Tyler Goldberg— PCS Marion Goldberg Intellitec Solutions — Richard Sommer John D. Young Lions Blind Center KB Sales Agency ---Tom Sebastian Lion Nelson & Betty Moeller Max Rice and Family Mount Holly Lions Club Ora L. Wooster Funeral Home, Inc. PDG Charlie & Lion Anita Morton PDG Dick & Peggy Wilson PDG Fred & Blanche Frisch PDG James & Lion Patricia Davis PDG Jim Minnich PDG John & Mary Allen PDG Ted & PCS Ann Reiver PID Bob & PCC Elspeth Moore PID Melvyn & Lion Ginny Bray PJ Martini & Associates, Inc. Pottstown Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Proactive Tax Strategies, Inc.— Joanne Natale, CPA, CFP PZC Christopher Smith & PCC Mary Devon O'Brien

Stauffer Glove & Safety

Robert Cummings and Mary Brady Spring Garden Wash & Lube

**Tipton Communications** Ventnor-Margate Lions Club West Berlin Lions Club William and Sharron Carpenter Wright Choice Shed Builders, LLC.

#### **Gift Card Donators &** Auction Sponsors

Battleship New Jersey DG Art & Lion Evelyn Pecht Icona Avalon Jack's Firehouse Restaurant Jim & Michelle Quirk Klein Tools Lion Mark & Nancy Green Milwaukee Tool PDG Ted & PCS Ann Reiver PDG Walt & Lion Alfreda Labs Stone Harbor Golf Course Woodcrest Country Club

#### **Additional Donations**

Aaron Kahen Al and Vicki Piccotti Alex Cummings Alexandra Ainatchi Anna Basler Bob and Carmen Perez **Brad Bauguss** 

**Brent Bartholomew** Carolyn Nevins Colette Khalil Courtney Nachlas Ed and Dolores Springer Emma Vito Geraldine Melone Hubble, Inc.—E. Scott Berry Jim and Michelle Quirk John Tyrrell Kathleen and Paul Wangenstein Kay Robinson Lauren Ellman Lee Schwartz Lion John DeNapoli Megan Pierce Michael and Melissa Williams Michael Cummings Mitchell Kirshner Nick and Jerilyn Giardina PDG Barry & Lion Brenda Hinkle PID Melvyn & Lion Ginny Bray Rachel Kriet Sara Shteyman Shannon Hendrickson Victoria Friedmann William LeRoy

#### 2020-2021 **LEBDV Board of Trustees**

#### **Executive Officers**

PDG Earl Groendyke Chair of the Board of Trustees

PCT Ann E. Reiver Immediate Past Chairman

PID Melvyn K. Bray Vice Chairman

PDG Philip E. Shober Secretary/Treasurer

PDG Charles J. Morton Chaplain

#### **Trustee Legal Advisor** PCC Albert Olizi, Esq.

**LFBDV** 

#### **Board of Trustees**

PDG John F. Allen Lion Joseph F. Cutolo, Jr. PDG Fred Frisch PCS Marion S. Goldberg Lion Mark M. Green PDG David E. Jones PDG James J. Minnich

Lion Nelson Moeller PCC Mary Devon O'Brien DG Arthur Pecht Mr. Angel Perez PDG William J. Sauser, Jr. PZC Christopher Smith PDG Keith L. Thompson PDG Richard W. Zimmermann, Jr.

#### **Privileged Board Members**

PDG Herbert T. Gerhart PDG Barry L. Hinkle PDG Walter L. Labs PID Robert W. Moore Lion Bruce D. Pollock PDG Richard H. Wilson

#### **Honorary Board Members**

PCC Joseph T. Bocklage PDG James Davis Lion Herbert E. McMahon, retired Lion Robert Perry Lion John J. Reese



"On behalf of the **Board of Trustees,** we are proud of our team of first responders who guarantee that cornea tissue is available for each person in need of a transplant."

#### **YOU ARE** THE DIFFERENCE

Although my first term as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley (LEBDV) has been anything but normal, I am humbled by the strides we have made this past year to keep hope in sight for your community throughout the pandemic.

During unprecedented times, your Eye Bank persevered and remains committed each and every day to serve our surgeons and ensure our mission and impact for those in need. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we are proud of our team of first responders who guarantee that cornea tissue is available for each person in need of a transplant.

As a Lion, it has been a difficult year to perform service activities and support our community initiatives from afar. I want to take this opportunity to thank every Club who continued to support LEBDV despite their own challenges. I hope you feel good knowing that 100% of your contributions benefit the Gratis Tissue Program. You have made a profound impact during the most difficult times for your local community members.

While we were fortunate to stay connected with you virtually throughout the pandemic, we are excited to be back in person with you! I encourage you to get involved in whatever way you can. As Helen Keller said best, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

In closing, I'd like to recognize our committed Board of Trustees and passionate staff for their dedication to our mission. It's been an honor serving with you.

PDG Earl Groendyke Chair of the Board of Trustees

#### **Your Eye Bank Support at Work**

Since 1957, Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley has coordinated more than 47,000 cornea transplant surgeries

at the request of donor families and their loved ones.

July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020:

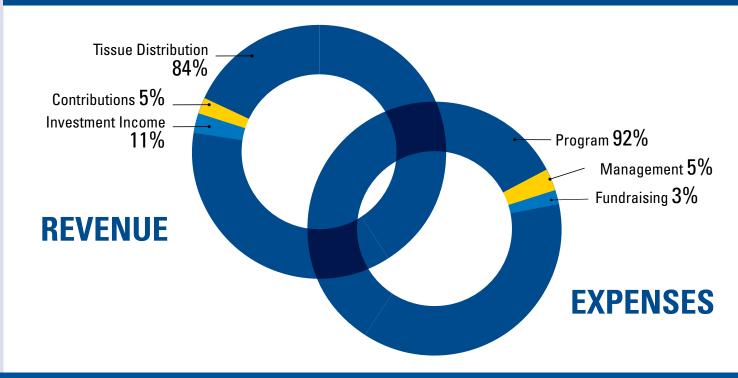
Cornea Tissue

Cornea Tissue Gifted for Transplant Surgery

Cornea Tissue Gifted for Education, Training & Research

#### By the Numbers

Here's a look at Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley's financials for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.



#### **LEBDV Medical Advisory Board**

Behind every life-changing procedure Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley helps coordinate stands an unparalleled team of cornea surgeons who serve as members of the Eye Bank's Medical Advisory Board.



Sadeer B. Hannush, MD **Medical Director** 



Brandon D. Ayres, MD



Stephen E. Orlin, MD



Christopher Rapuano, MD



Robert Abel, MD



Kristin Hammersmith, MD



Irving M. Raber, MD



Nonprofit Org U.S. Postage PAID Southeastern, PA Permit No. 38

### GET INVOLVED

Thank you to everyone who stayed connected with
Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley throughout the
pandemic. We are thrilled to announce that
in-person events are on the horizon. Follow us on
social media and join our email distribution list
to receive updates on all events.



**Cornhole for Corneas: August 12**Old City Beer Garden, Philadelphia, PA

**64th Annual Business Meeting: September 11**Forsgate Country Club in Monroe Township, NJ

#### 27th Annual Gift of Sight Charity Golf Classic: September 13

Woodcrest Country Club, Cherry Hill, NJ

**November is National Eye Donation Month:** Follow us on social media to get involved!

7th Annual Cornea Transplant Recipient Luncheon: March 26, 2022

Remembrance Butterflies at The Clay Studio:

The last Friday of every month! (See page 8)

#### **LEBDV Meetings & Tours:**

Available virtually all year long!













Join the Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley community!

Visit us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or the LEBDV website:



www.facebook.com/lebdv



www.lebdv.org





@lionseyebankdelawarevalley



Lions Eye Bank of Delaware Valley 401 North 3rd Street, Suite 305 Philadelphia, PA 19123

(215) 563-1679