



Special Report:

Children's Eye Foundation of AAPOS Selects Indiana Lions as Partner

The Children's Eye Foundation of the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (CEF of AAPOS) and Indiana Lions Vision Services have agreed to partner and provide expanded vision care opportunities for Hoosier children.

This is the first statewide Lions partnership for CEF of AAPOS. Under the terms of the agreement, CEF of AAPOS' <u>All Children See</u> program will start accepting qualified referrals for pediatric ophthalmic care from the Indiana Lions' vision screening programs.

Children under eighteen years of age and either uninsured or underinsured would qualify for no cost or reduced cost care. This includes ocular surgery and other treatments for pediatric eye conditions.

Megan Pfefferle, Executive Director of CEF of AAPOS said, "The Lions of Indiana are simply amazing. They provide tens of thousands of free vision screenings per year to schools and preschools already. This screening makes early detection possible, so our two programs are a natural fit. They find kids that may need help, our doctors can diagnose them, CEF of AAPOS helps eliminate the cost barriers to care, and the kids get into treatment."

Charlie Short and Henry Rodriguez of the Indiana Lions both expressed how important the new partnership is. "Indiana Lions have worked to help the blind and visually impaired for over a hundred years. Now we have a national professional association's foundation as a partner. It's just terrific." said Rodriguez.

"Indiana is the first statewide Lions partnership for CEF of AAPOS and we couldn't be more pleased." said Short. "Bringing two large-scale organizations together to accomplish more is always a good thing, but when it's such a natural alliance, it's just like meeting a great new friend. We're all excited to get going."

For more information, contact:

CEF of AAPOS at https://www.childrenseyefoundation.org or email ACS@aapos.org Indiana Lions at https://e-district.org/sites/md25/