

May 29, 2020

Greetings, District 11-B1 Lions!

With the rise of COVID-19, elective surgeries were cancelled. Corneal transplants are considered an elective surgery; therefore, these past few months have been very hard months for Eversight. President/CEO of Eversight, Lion David Bosch, says, “The impact on Eversight has been severe. Providing corneal tissue for transplant provides for more than 94% of our operating revenue. We are now operating indefinitely at less than 5% of normal income.

We are doing everything we can to keep our people safe and employed, and remain financially viable so we can provide for surgeons and patients when this crisis ends. We have frozen hiring and spending, implemented reduced work weeks for all staff, and are fully pursuing grants, loans and federal support.” Lion Dave’s words were taken from an email appealing to all of the Lions Club of Michigan, to please donate any funds possible to Eversight. If your club hasn’t yet donated, I really do encourage you to send whatever donation is feasible for your club. Please see the attached document of District 11-B1 Lions Clubs donations.

Tuesday, May 5, was designated as #GivingTuesdayNow, a new global day of giving and unity responding to the unprecedented need by COVID-19. Eversight participated in that event and reached out to its base with a goal of \$50,000. #GivingTuesdayNow was a part of Eversight’s “Keep Hope in Sight” Spring Appeal Campaign.

Eversight’s 2019 Impact Report is on its website and ready for viewing. If you wish to see the report, please go to [info@eversightvision.org](mailto:info@eversightvision.org) and click on the orange box that says “view our impact report.” Some facts from this report are as follows:

- Eversight worked with 5,594 donors and families who gave the gift of sight.
- Eversight provided 8,176 tissues for sight-restoring transplants for people in need.
- Eversight provided 2,978 tissues critically needed for clinical knowledge and research to improve patient outcomes and one day prevent blindness.

It’s time for Eversight’s annual Gift of Sight Golf Classic, a partnered event with the Ann Arbor Host Lions, originally scheduled for June 20, 2020; however, due to COVID-19, this date is cancelled. Instead, a tentative date range of August 18—September 8 is being considered. Eversight is reformatting the event to a “golf where you are” event. This will be an opportunity for Lions to participate who normally wouldn’t be able to make the drive down to the golf course in Ann Arbor. Please watch for more details from Eversight as the chosen date approaches and join in the fun.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lion Carol Downton, chair of District 11-B1 Eversight Committee