

OHIO LIONS FOUNDATION
[CELEBRATING OVER THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE 1985-2020]

August 7, 2020

Governor Jason Gray

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Last year your Ohio Lions Foundation celebrated its **thirty fifth** year of service. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded grants in the total amount of **\$1,832,638**, while its administrative expenses have averaged less than five percent (5%) of revenues (all figures based on unaudited data).

SUPPORT YOUR OHIO LIONS FOUNDATION

- ***Ohio Lions Foundation Helen Keller Scholarship Program*** (now in its 34th year, a total of **12** scholarships are awarded annually to undergraduate, graduate and professional school students at seven state supported universities. The *OLF Helen Keller Scholarship Program* is one of the very few scholarship programs available for visually impaired students pursuing post-graduate courses of study. To date, **over \$598,500** in Helen Keller Scholarships have been awarded to students in nearly every academic field of study, including nursing, education, rehabilitation, physical therapy, electrical engineering, finance, mathematics, computer / information science, music, law, and veterinary medicine.
- ***Disaster Relief Grants*** (The OLF is proud of its record of being the first organization on the scene with disaster relief funds). To date, **over \$189,749** in direct assistance has been given to victims of floods, tornados, fires and other natural disasters in Ohio. This Spring we have, fortunately, only had one disaster requiring assistance. It was a house fire in Bradford where a family of six lost everything including one son.
- ***Low Vision Reader Matching Grant Program*** (over 70 low-vision readers have been placed to-date in public libraries throughout Ohio). The program has now been expanded to include matching grants for the acquisition of ***iPads*** (which come with voice-over technology built-in) for public libraries and senior centers to be made available to visually impaired individuals. OLF has given **\$87,965** in matching grants to this area.
- ***Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band***. Let's get behind our nationally recognized **Ohio State School For The Blind Marching Band**. The *Ohio Lions*

Foundation maintains a Restricted Fund specifically for the support of the OSSB Marching Band. Donations may be made payable to the “*Ohio Lions Foundation*” with the designation in the memo line “*Ohio State School For The Blind Marching Band Fund*”, and mailed to the Ohio Lions Foundation, P. O. Box 21016, Columbus, Ohio 43221.

- ***Lions Sensory Garden at the Ohio State School For The Blind.***
- ***Matching grants for sight-related programs and equipment.***

Direct grants to qualified blind individuals for acquisition of assistive technology. With the creation of the new Charles E. Cody Fund for Aid to the Blind (Through a generous bequest from the Estate of Charles E. Cody), grants are now available directly to qualified blind individuals for the acquisition of Apple iPads (which come off the shelf with voice over technology built in) and Victor Trek GPS / Reader devices and “bone conducting headphones” (which allow the visually impaired individual to still hear street sounds while using headphones).

The Foundation has sponsored a series of classes through the “*One-Touch Project*” which teaches self-defense techniques to blind individuals.

Other restricted funds: The OLF also serves as the trustee for various restricted funds such as the *James and Betty Coffey Scholarship Restricted Fund*, the *District 13-OH5 Eye Care Restricted Fund*, and the *Lions Sensory Garden Fund* (a District 13-OH5 project).

Please support your Ohio Lions Foundation by contributing to the Foundation’s Annual Campaign. **Contributions should be made payable to *The Ohio Lions Foundation and mailed to the Ohio Lions Foundation, P.O. Box 21016, Columbus, Ohio 43221-0016.*** Contributions of \$1,000.00 (which may be paid over a four-year period) qualify for the Ohio Lions Foundation *Founder’s Award*.

The Ohio Lions Foundation is a Section 501(c) (3) charitable foundation and contributions are tax deductible as provided by law.

For further information, please contact John B. Cosgray, Executive Secretary, Tele: 614-595-6216, Email: jcosgray@ohiolionsfoundation.org
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The following charts are based on data from July 1, 2019 through April 27, 2020. They show contributions by restricted fund, expenses by restricted fund, unrestricted fund donations by district and restricted fund donations by district.

NOTE: Data used in this report is unaudited.

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