It was an incredible May here at OLSHF. We started the month with the very moving and successful Patient Care Breakfast which raised over $50,000 for that program, including a $20,000 matching grant from Lion Joe Weston. A few weeks later, a few days later, Dr. Martin Balish performed Mission Cataract surgeries for nine Oregonians, which combined with Eye-Health Northwest, brought our total to 26 free surgeries for people in a month’s time.

We also learned that the Beaverton School District wants OLSHF to coordinate sight and hearing screenings at all of their elementary schools next fall. This will add upwards of 18,000 more children to be screened. We will need hundreds of volunteers—if you can help, please let us know!

At the MD-36 convention, clubs and individuals contributed over $37,000 to OLSHF programs. This total included a $10,000 donation from the Mid-Columbia Lions Follies. We want to thank and recognize the incredible group of people who put on the Follies.

We also learned that Lori Flexer, our endowment and investment manager, was named one of Portland’s Five Star Wealth Managers by Portland Monthly magazine for the 2nd year in a row. Congratulations Lori!

Next, Brenda Anderson and I flew to Oak Brook, IL for a two-day Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (LERC) meeting organized by Lions Clubs International. The meeting included LERCs from 12 states and six countries, as well as LCI executive Peter Lynch, 2nd VP Barry Palmer, and the representatives from LCIF. We will have some exciting news to announce soon about new and used glasses.

After four denials in just three days, the month ended with a $117,000 grant from the MJ Murdock Trust to our 2020 Vision capital campaign. It is the largest gift so far to the campaign. With this gift, our 2020 Vision is “in sight,” and we now turn to a major Lions Clubs effort to finish the campaign.
How Will You Be Remembered?

He wasn’t a rich man. And he was never a Lion. But Francis “Bob” Adams of Springfield did have vision health problems late in life and he wanted to do something to help others in similar circumstances that didn’t have the benefit of health insurance. So he named the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation as a beneficiary in his estate plan.

Bob passed away in March. In a few months the Foundation will receive over $80,000 from Bob’s estate, strengthening the value of the OLSHF endowment and guaranteeing that Bob will give the gift of sight in perpetuity.

Have you thought about how you will be remembered?

To receive a free Estate Planning Guide, please contact Doug Thompson at (503) 413-7399 or email doug.thompson@orlions.org.
EyeHealth Northwest Team Changes 19 Lives
In late April Drs. Bock, Hauptmann, Kim, McKinney, and Stromberg from EyeHealth Northwest (EHNW) performed 17 free cataract surgeries and two YAG lasers for EHNW’s third Mission Cataract event. Their team included Candy Chapman and Anne Mehalessas from Emerald Anesthesia; Karen Myland, Lasik Coordinator; the team of EHNW nurses, led by Cherie Shevlin, who served every patient with kindness and compassion: Kathleen Bong, Lynn Clapp, Kimber Grady, Athea Harris, Audrey Houchin, Mellie Larios, Norma Peterson, Nikki Sam, Oksana Savelo (assisted by her daughter Rada for Take Your Daughter to Work Day), Mary Sorteberg, Tyler Worthen, and Carrie Young. They all worked together to help very grateful recipients.

“I was so impressed with the compassion, service and state-of-the-art facilities. Thank you for providing me with such excellent care!” – Leann

“Thank you for fixing my grandma!” – Kim’s 5-year-old grandson, Spencer

“My mother had severe cataracts and died due to complications from a fall. I feared the same would happen to me. Thanks to your organization, I got the cataract surgery I could never afford.” – Engracia

2020 Vision Campaign Receives $117,000 Grant!
The MJ Murdock Trust awarded OLSHF $117,000 in May for the 2020 Vision capital campaign. This grant will provide funding for our new statewide mobile health screening system of portable sight and hearing screening kits and fuel efficient vehicles. Thanks to Murdock, our goal of screening 50,000 children per year is now “in sight”. This is the largest gift to the campaign thus far bringing us to 78% of our $615,000 goal ($478,966 to date, see campaign thermometer on left). The final phase of the campaign will focus on Lions Clubs and individual gifts.

LCI Representatives Visit OLSHF

Left Photo: Past International Director and future LCI President Joe Preston, guest speaker at the Portland Downtown 90th Anniversary Dinner in April, was picked up at the airport in the MHSP vehicle and received a tour of the Foundation. (Left to right: Warren Heathman, PID Joe Preston, ID Sunny Pulley, Dr. Richard Chenoweth, PID Bill and Nita Rollins)

Right Photo: International Director Yamandu Acosta and his wife, Sylvia, toured the Foundation in February. He was so impressed with the stereovision testing kit we use to screen for amblyopia, he purchased one for his club! (Glen Gilbert testing the stereovision of ID Acosta)
3rd Annual Patient Care Breakfast a Success!
Thank you to the nearly 200 supporters who joined us on May 3rd at the Oregon Zoo. We are excited to announce that we have met Lion Joe Weston’s $20,000 match challenge and raised over $50,000 total, with additional gifts still coming in. Attendees heard the moving stories shared by our recipients Jeremiah Wolter and Kim Tate, and their families. Brittany Bigley, Kim’s daughter, read her poem “Coming Full Circle,” which moved many in the audience to tears. You can read it on the Patient Care Breakfast Event web page.

A special thank you to our event co-chairs, Sharon Elder and Mary Lee Turner, plus all the table captains that ensured we had a successful event. If you were unable to attend and would like to make a gift toward the Patient Care Program and provide the gift of sight or hearing, please visit our website at www.olshf.org.