



Lions Eye Health Program

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Empowering communities to save sight

What is LEHP?

The Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP, pronounced “leap”) is a community-based education program that allows Lions clubs, community organizations and individuals to promote healthy vision and raise awareness of the causes of preventable vision loss.

LEHP Mission

The mission of the LEHP is to empower communities to save sight through early detection and timely treatment of diabetic eye disease, glaucoma and age related macular degeneration (AMD), and to encourage the appropriate treatment of low vision.

The Need

The rapid increase in life expectancy and the growing prevalence and incidence of vision threatening diseases put millions at risk. According to the World Health Organization, about 284 million people are visually impaired worldwide: 39 million are blind and 245 million have low vision. 80% of all visual impairment can be avoided or cured.

LEHP Objectives

- To encourage the early detection and timely treatment of diabetic eye disease, glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration (AMD), and the appropriate treatment for low vision.
- Help educate people at risk for eye disease and encourage them to seek appropriate treatment.
- To establish community activities that promote awareness of eye health. These include distribution of eye health materials at appropriate locations (doctor’s offices, senior citizens centers, schools, youth groups, health fairs and other venues), vision screenings and eye health presentations.
- To increase awareness of the network of eye health organizations concerned with diabetic eye disease, glaucoma, AMD and low vision. Local collaboration with these organizations may provide useful resources for Lions interested in promoting awareness of eye health and the causes of preventable vision loss.

LEHP Resources

Lions Clubs International is collaborating with the National Eye Institute's National Eye Health Education Program from the United States to develop co-branded Lions eye health resources that will be introduced fiscal year 2011-2012. While these materials could be used outside of the United States, we recommend that it is done in partnership with the guiding eye care professional groups in your countries. Lions clubs often partner with other community organizations and eye care professionals to expand their efforts. We recommend that you visit www.lionsclubs.org to download and print materials locally. If needed, resources can be ordered with an associated cost via e-mail at programs@lionsclubs.org, or complete the form online at www.lionsclubs.org to order LEHP materials and resources.



Additional eye health information can be found at the following Web sites:

AMD Alliance International
www.AMDalliance.org

American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO)
www.aao.org

American Optometric Association (AOA)
www.aoa.org

International Centre for Eyecare Education (ICEE)
www.icee.org

International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO)
www.icoph.org

International Diabetes Federation (IDF)
www.idf.org

Lions Eye Health Program Australia
www.lehp.org.au

National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP)
www.ndep.nih.gov

National Eye Health Education Program (NEHEP)
www.nei.nih.gov/nehep

National Eye Institute (NEI)
www.nei.nih.gov

The Canadian Association of Optometrists (CAO)
www.opto.ca

World Council of Optometry (WCO)
www.worldoptometry.org

World Health Organization (WHO)
www.who.int/en