

Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation of MD21

Reorganizing to improve service to the public

As the Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation reorganizes operations, its board of directors wants to assure Lions in MD21, as well as clients seeking assistance, that all necessary steps are being taken to keep the Foundation solvent and operational.

Improving service to Foundation customers is a key element of the reorganization efforts. Drastic cuts have been made to operational spending to protect the Foundation from insolvency. The 2010-2011 budget is lean, but necessary to be able to keep the Foundation operating in a fiscally responsible manner.

Jobs (executive director, optician and office clerk) were eliminated because of the lack of funding. Additional changes to operations will be taken as necessary and as reorganization efforts continue.

These have been very difficult decisions. There is still a lot of work to be done. In the meantime, the board wants to assure Lions of MD21 that decisions are being made in the best interest of Lions and the public.

The Foundation will be relying on Lion volunteers to answer phones and keep the office operational. If you need to contact the Foundation please call its phone number 602-954-1723. If you get the answering machine, leave a message and someone will call you back. If for some reason, you are unable to reach someone at the Foundation, permission has been given for Lions to leave a message with staff at the Lions Foundation of Arizona, 602-244-9758. The toll free number is 1-800-246-9771. A board member from the Foundation will call you back to assist you.

Also, in response to a special request from the Sight and Hearing Foundation Board, children and adults who need glasses can be referred to the Arizona Lions Vision Center. The number there is 602-267-7573. The toll free number is 877-275-5778.

If you have eyeglasses to donate, please call the Foundation first to determine when the office will be open to accept your donations. You also can drop off your eyeglass donations at the Lions Foundation of Arizona building, 1016 N. 32nd Street, Phoenix.

The decisions made have been difficult, but necessary. Hopefully all Lions in MD21 will be able to understand that the actions taken were unavoidable. Now, we all must work together to rebuild the Sight and Hearing Foundation so it is once again a thriving, successful Arizona Lions Project.