



Lions Eye Health Program

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Empowering communities to save sight

## What is LEHP?

The Lions Eye Health Program (LEHP) 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 285 million people are visually impaired worldwide: 39 million are blind and 246 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.
- To educate people at risk for eye disease and encourage them to seek appropriate treatment.
- To establish community activities that promote awareness of eye health and safety. 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 collaborated with the National Eye Institute's National Eye Health Education Program to develop co-branded Lions eye health resources. While these materials can be universally used, we also encourage Lions to partner with the guiding eye care professional groups in their countries. Clubs often partner with other community organizations and eye care professionals to expand their efforts.

Please visit [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) to download and print materials locally. If needed, resources can be ordered with an associated cost to your club or district. Use the corresponding Materials Order Form for the LEHP program of interest to you.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Health and Children's Services Department at [programs@lionsclubs.org](mailto:programs@lionsclubs.org).



Additional eye health information can be found at the following websites:

**AMD Alliance International**  
[www.AMDalliance.org](http://www.AMDalliance.org)

**American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO)**  
[www.aao.org](http://www.aao.org)

**American Optometric Association (AOA)**  
[www.aoa.org](http://www.aoa.org)

**Public Health Division, Brien Holden Vision Institute (formerly known as International Centre for Eyecare Education (ICEE))**  
[www.brienholdenvision.org](http://www.brienholdenvision.org)

**International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO)**  
[www.icoph.org](http://www.icoph.org)

**International Diabetes Federation (IDF)**  
[www.idf.org](http://www.idf.org)

**Lions Eye Health Program Australia**  
[www.lehp.org.au](http://www.lehp.org.au)

**National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP)**  
[www.ndep.nih.gov](http://www.ndep.nih.gov)

**National Eye Health Education Program (NEHEP)**  
[www.nei.nih.gov/nehep](http://www.nei.nih.gov/nehep)

**National Eye Institute (NEI)**  
[www.nei.nih.gov](http://www.nei.nih.gov)

**The Canadian Association of Optometrists (CAO)**  
[www.opto.ca](http://www.opto.ca)

**World Council of Optometry (WCO)**  
[www.worldoptometry.org](http://www.worldoptometry.org)

**World Health Organization (WHO)**  
[www.who.int/en](http://www.who.int/en)