Greetings,

As we bring the year to a close, I am honored to present the Dakota Lions Sight & Health FYE2023 Annual Report. This year has been a testament to our commitment to our Mission of “Helping to Enable the Restoration of the Gifts of Sight & Health” throughout our community.

In 2023 we were able to help restore sight to nearly 1,000 individuals through cornea donation and we helped to restore health to countless others through tissue donation. These incredible transplants could not have been possible were it not for the selfless gifts from over 800 eye and tissue donors.

This year also brought tremendous expansion of our living donor birth tissue donation program. This first-of-its-kind program in our region provides opportunities to mothers who are having a scheduled caesarian section delivery to donate the amnion and umbilical cord. These tissues are typically discarded after delivery yet upon donation, can help others heal from severe burns, diabetic wounds, and corneal injuries, just to name a few. In 2023, over 500 mothers made the noble decision to donate – just one donor can help up to 75 people! What a better way to bring new life into the world by being born a hero to someone in need.

We also started two initiatives to invest back into the community we serve. First, our expanded vision program works with other local nonprofits to assist individuals in costs associated with vision-restoring surgeries. Second, we launched The Restoration of Sight & Health Scholarship to award four scholarships to students in South Dakota and North Dakota. In the first year of the Scholarship, we had nearly 75 applications and awarded four $1,000 scholarships to students pursuing education in a field related to our Mission.

Last, but certainly not least, we completed the physical expansion of our Eye Laboratory. By converting underutilized storage space, we expanded the space by 70% which allowed us to add another processing cleanroom. This doubles our ocular processing capacity and has allowed us to establish better workflows and increase productivity.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff, healthcare partners, Board of Directors, lions club members, sponsors, and most importantly our donors and their families for their trust and support. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Sincerely,
Marcy Dimond, CEBT, CTBS
Chief Executive Officer.
Financial Summary

Support and revenue
- Operations $5,210,926 94%
- Other Revenue $250,993 5%
- Contributions/Fundraising $55,604 1%
Total Support and Revenue: $5,517,523

Expenses
- Lab/Program Expenses $4,601,074 88%
- Administrative Expenses $598,447 12%
- Other Expenses $1,403 <1%
Total Expenses: $5,200,924

Increase to Net Assets $316,599

Revenue
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Increase to Net Assets $316,599
Our Mission
To help enable the restoration of the gifts of sight and health.

1422 TOTAL DONORS
733 EYE DONORS
961 SIGHT-RESTORING TRANSPLANTS
BIRTH 540 TISSUE DONORS
UP TO 75 PEOPLE ARE HELPED WITH EACH BIRTH TISSUE DONATION
+10,000 LIVES TOUCHED BY OTHER TRANSPLANTS

General Contributions
Linda Anderson
Bob Audette
Automatic Building Controls
Virginia Blom
Robert Borgmann
Don Bradley
Gary Brendtro
Randy Briggs
Allen and Gloria Brown
Mark Buehner
Rhonda Caton
Carol Chapman
Deloris Christy
Louise Claeps
Edward Corvi
Bill Davis
Roger and Nancy Day
Jeff Delay
Marcy Dimond
Darwin Dirks
Tom and Connie Earley
Douglas Emerson
Alice Engverson
Katherine Entzel
Calvin Fercho
Delbert and Janelle Fortin
Janice Friedrichsen
Myron Fuerst
Orleen Gilchrist
Gordon Goens
Frank Gruber
Walter Gubelman
Robert Guetter
Steve Haines
Carol Hanson
Clayton and Peg Hedman
David and Mary Hepper
Karen Hespe
Gary Hittle
Norma Holm
Jerry Houlton
Donna Houtsma
Michael Huffman
Jim and Cheryl Iverson
Keith and Candy Joy
Vernon and JoDean Joy
Colin Keeler
Marilyn Kessler
Richard Kiliichowski
Sharon Kirmis
Corrine Klabunde
Monte and Delorus Krizan
Dave and Mavis Kruger
Donna Kusinerek
Fay Loftness
DiAnn Loll
Robert Madsen
Ron and Sandy Mannz
Joan Marlette
Sari Merriman
Alayne Meyer
Susan Mitzner
Steven Mohwinkel
Sidney Nelson
Mike Nieman
Gloria Pack
Sharon Pearson
Sheila Pecha
Robert Petersen
Magdalene Peterson
Cindy Pharris
Dennis Purvis
Gerald and Deborah Raabe
Patricia Rogers
Patricia Roti
Scheels

Parade of Green Contributions
Bismarck Capital City Lions Club
Bismarck North Star Lions Club
Bismarck Prairie Rose Lions Club
Bowman Lions Club
Carrington Lions Club
Emerald-Arvilla Lions Club
Fargo Lions Club
Grand Forks Lions Club
Grand Forks South Forks Lions Club
Hazen Lions Club
Jamestown Lions Club
Lake Metigoshe Lions Club
Mandan Dacotah Lions Club
Minot Magic City Lions Club
New Rockford Lions Club
Scranton Lions Club
South Heart Lions Club
Valley City Lions Club
Williston Karoner Lions Club
Williston Lions Club

Lions Club Contributions
Alexander Lions Club
Beresford Lions Club
Chaffee Lions Club

Scott and Glenda Schempp
Everine Schipper
Garry and Gloria Scott
David Smith
Travis Spier
Doris Spichal
Lyle Wagner
Tracy Wicken
Custer Lions Club
Dell Rapids Lions Club
Elgin Lions Club
Glenburn Lions Club
Gregory Lions Club
Horace Lions Club
Huron Noon Lions Club
Ipswich Lions Club
Lehr Lions Club
Lennox Lions Club
Newell Lions Club
Noonan Lions Club
Onida Wheatland Lions Club
Parkston Lions Club
Rapid City Downtown Lions Club
Redfield Lions Club
Sioux Falls Siouxrise Lions Club
Stanley Lions Club
Street Lions Club
Taylor Lions Club
Tuttle Lions Club
Wahpeton Headwaters Lions Club
Washburn Lions Club
White River Lions Club
Wishek Lions Club
Yankton Lions Club

In Honor Contributions
T.C. White by Angela Chiarenza
Dr. Paul Wright by Nancy Rausch Walz

In Memory Contributions
John L. Bergeron by Alan and Elizabeth Bergeron
Daniel Besonen by Ethel Besonen
Joanne Bieber by Vance and Shirley Masteller
Don and Irene Birnie – Barbara, Maureen, Diane by Jerilyn Birnie
Matt and Gretchen Bisson (son Liam) by Nordstrom’s Automatic, Inc.
Lonny Boese by Todd and Renee Augustad
Rod Bowar by Presho Medicine Creek Lions Club
Kenneth Carlson by Jeanne Nelson
Henry Carlson by Roger Braaten; Kim Fox; Trish Nelson; Mary Potter; Kyle Scholten
Ronald Dunkelberger by Elaine Dunkelberger
Delmar Fawcett by Miller Lions Club
David Gibson by Joyce Gibson
Marvin Gustafson by Colton Lions Club; John Gustafson
Lloyd Hansen by Roberta Hansen
Janice Hume by Constance Allram; Randy Hume; Bruce Lee; Sonja Lindsay; Luella Narum; Luann Olson; Leola Peshaw; Donna Skalland; Myra Wold
Norman Iverson by Bill Iverson
Josephine Kolecka by Monica Waldner
Jean L. Koopman by Jean M. Koopman
John B. Larson by Cathryn Larson
Gregory Oeder by Kyle Krein; Leo Locker; Kris McLean; Doris Oeder; Iris Oeder; Joe and Linda Wallevand; Linda Young
James E. and Annamelia L. Oglesby by Michael Oglesby
Agnes Pape by Barbara Husk
Diane Price by David Price
Harry Settles by Ann Settles
Lawrence Small by Mary Ingram
Eunice Sprung by Jne VanAsch
Paul Stach by Shirley Stach
Donald Turgeon by Kent and Carolyn Cutler; Kareen Dougherty; Rick Entwistle; John and Molly Heisler; Tearle and Dot List; Steven and Nancy Mclaughlin; The Phalen Family; Paule and Jane Phalen; Shelly Sweer; Danie and Sandra Turgeon; Kristen and Joe Zueger
Unnamed Memorial by Jennifer Kessner

Medical Directors
Medical Director for Ocular Tissue
John Berdahl, MD
Medical Director for Ocular Tissue
Michael Eide, MD
Medical Director of Non-Ocular Tissue & Research
Michael Bauer, MD
Medical Director for Ocular Tissue
Michael Greenwood, MD
Medical Director
Brent Kramer, MD

Current Board of Directors
President: Lion Mel Olson
Vice-President: Lion Arlen Fetch
Secretary: Lion Carolyn Lean
Treasurer: Kendall Kliwer
Lion Ron Brandt
Lion Ron Bunnell
Lion Jody Bymers
Lion Dave Jackson
Lion Karl Koball
Lion Rick Swenson
Lion Linda Vollmer
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Lion Linda Vollmer
Lion Tracey Wicken
"Dan was a fabulous man. He was a Vietnam vet."

Ann Larson’s husband, Daniel Larson, was a cornea donor who died in June 2022 from complications after a car accident.

She explained that Dan suffered from multiple health conditions as a result of his military service. “He had a heart condition and diabetes. And one day his kidneys shut down, so he was on dialysis for about 18 months before he died.” She said that blood thinners contributed to his heart attack following the car accident at the age of 72.

Despite being retired and on full disability, Dan Larson helped others through his work with Job Service and Veteran’s Programs. Ann and Dan, married for 26 years, brought three children to their marriage and now have three grandchildren.

“Dan loved to work with wood and he was a collector, especially anything car-related.” Ann said his garage was his pride and joy, filled with old license plates, gas cans, posters and more. She still has his favorite red truck, but she gave Dan’s son and daughter his two vintage cars.

Ann said that because of Dan’s health conditions, he didn’t think he could be a donor. “We talked about donation at one point. He said that his body was such a wreck that there wouldn’t be anything to donate. But then Dakota Lions Sight and Health contacted me and explained that, yes, his corneas could be donated.”

“He would have been thrilled to know that he was able to donate.”

Ann praised Dakota Lions’ bereavement support services. “Dakota Lions’ grief support services helped me. They were always there to talk. I encourage family members to consider donation. It seems like a small gesture, but it’s so big in the way that it impacts another person’s life.

Ann Larson, Donor Family Member
Clean Room Expansion

The addition of a second processing suite was completed in 2023. These modular processing suites allow our team to process corneal tissue in the safest environment possible. By expanding the lab, our team can now process corneal tissue for transplant in a more efficient manner. DLSH prides itself on offering physicians multiple processing options that decrease surgical time for patients, but also improve visual acuity and increased safety.
Looking Forward

As we look toward our future, DLSH is focused on continued growth and process improvement. Over the next several months the DLSH Board of Directors and DLSH Leadership will work together to craft a strategic plan that will lead the organization for the next three to five years. We are excited to build on our past experiences and have begun to focus on the continued expansion of our birth tissue donation program. Together with your continued support, we are excited to find new ways to support and enhance the lives of those we serve.