

Selfless Giving. Renewed Hope.

20 | ANNUAL
25 | REPORT



Dakota Lions Sight & Health
Eye and Tissue Donation



Marcy Dimond, CEBT, CTBS
Chief Executive Officer

OVER
5,148
TRANSPLANTS
HAVE BEEN
FACILITATED
THIS YEAR.

Greetings.

As we look back on FY2025 at Dakota Lions Sight & Health, I am filled with immense gratitude and pride for the progress we've made together in fulfilling our Mission of *Helping to Enable the Restoration of the Gifts of Sight & Health*. This past year has been one of growth, innovation, and deepened community impact — achievements that would not have been possible without your continued partnership and support.

Building on the foundation of previous years, we have expanded programs that invest directly in our communities and strengthen our shared Mission. Our **Restoration of Sight & Health Scholarship Program** continues to grow, supporting students in South Dakota and North Dakota who are pursuing careers in a healthcare related field.

Our **Expanded Vision Program** also reached new milestones this year. Working alongside local foundations and partners, we provided direct financial assistance to seven individuals receiving sight and health-restoring surgeries. These stories of renewed hope and restored ability remind us of the life-changing impact that comes from collaboration and compassion.

One of our most significant growth areas continues to be the **Birth Tissue Donation Program** — a pioneering effort that remains unique in our region. This year, we expanded our partnerships with hospitals and healthcare providers, increasing awareness among new mothers about the opportunity to donate this invaluable, health-restoring tissue.

Since the program's inception, we are proud to have facilitated more than **4,000 transplants** in our service area — a milestone that stands as a testament to the generosity of donors and the dedication of our team.

As we look ahead to the coming year, we are excited to continue this momentum. Our focus for FY2026 is on strengthening our education and outreach efforts, enhancing donation processes, and further refining our Tissue Donation Program so that it becomes the standard of care across the region. None of this is possible without you — our supporters, partners, and advocates — who help make our Mission a reality every day.

I invite you to take pride in the lives you've helped transform through your involvement with Dakota Lions Sight & Health. Every contribution, every act of kindness, and every word of advocacy plays a vital role in restoring the gifts of sight and health for those who need them most.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to our Mission and for helping us illuminate a brighter, healthier future for our communities.

Sincerely,

Marcy Dimond

2025 by the Numbers

Financial Summary

Support and Revenue

Operations	\$9,298,546
Contributions/Fundraising	\$60,460
Other Revenue	\$493,572

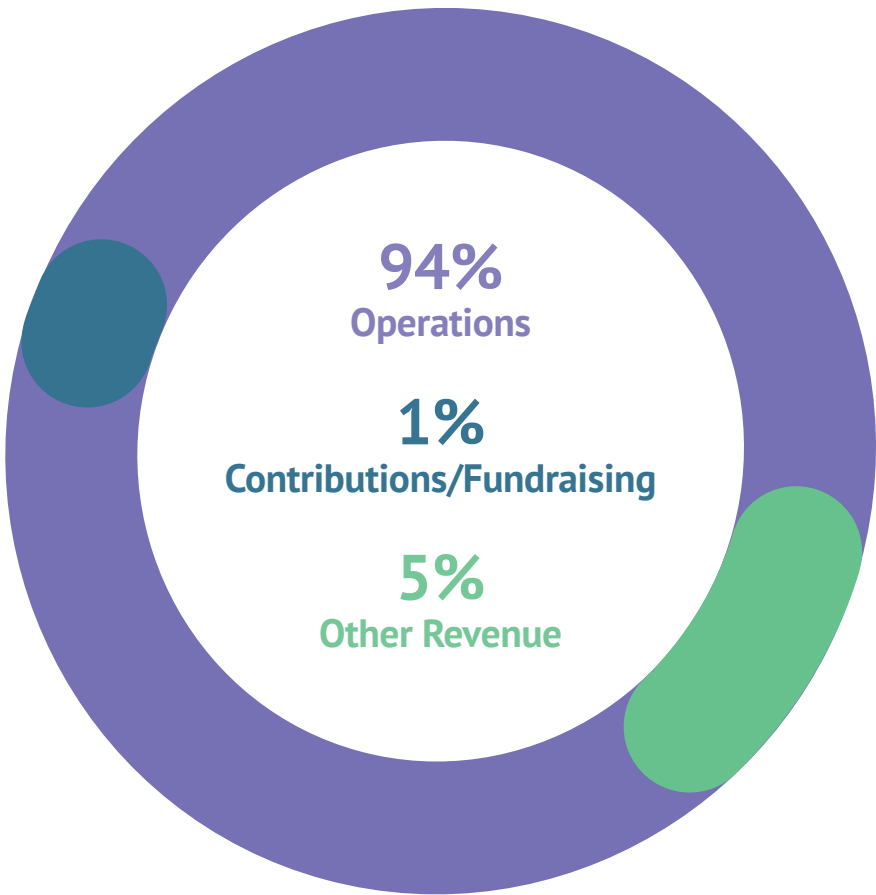
Total Support and Revenue: \$9,852,578

Expenses

Lab/Program Expenses	\$6,009,298
Administrative Expenses	\$919,720
Other Expenses	\$26,324

Total Expenses: \$6,955,342

Increase to Net Assets: \$2,897,237



525+

EYE AND TISSUE DONORS



4,028+

BIRTH TISSUE DONORS



595+

CORNEA TRANSPLANTS



10,000+
LIVES TOUCHED
BY OTHER
TRANSPLANTS.

Vickie: It has taken me about a year to write this to you as I am not very good at articulating my feelings. I want you to know how grateful I am for the gift of your loved one's cornea. It pains me deeply to know you had to suffer the loss of this person for me to benefit from this gift. Thank you so very much for this gift as it has helped me to lead a normal life. Again... I am so so very sorry for your loss!!

P.S. Being able to see all the beauty around us so clearly is such a great blessing! Again, I am so sorry it comes as a devastating loss to you.

Vickie
Donor's Recipient

Focused Stories



Kirk: Hello Vickie, I am very grateful for your appreciation of Mary's gift, and I understand very much how time can pass so quickly. I am living that myself. The past year in some ways has seemed to drag on, but before I knew it the first year was behind us.

I have taken great comfort, especially in the first couple of weeks of her passing, that Mary decided to become a donor. She added it to her license the renewal before it happened. We had discussed why I am a donor, but she never mentioned that she was going to declare. That act of kindness and compassion was important for my dealing with her absence. It still provides comfort to me as I miss her.

Please know you are a welcome addition to her legacy. I have gained strength knowing she continues to help several individuals. Mary was a very kind, loving person and helped youth, our church, and our community. We spent so much of our time together helping others, educating, and care giving. I have been able to continue with some of these groups to keep close to her memory.

If you would like to know more about Mary, I am happy to share. I am interested in learning more about you as well. But please do not feel obligated. I am satisfied knowing that the donation was well received and appreciated.

I wish you well and hope you enjoy the beauty around us for many years. I am getting ready to plant flowers in a couple of weeks. A continued fundraiser for one of Mary's special organizations, Destination Imagination. Flowers for our home and flowers for our church. But no marigolds this year. For some reason, Mary didn't really like the color orange or marigolds. So, no marigolds. At least not this year. Cheers,

Kirk
Donor's Spouse

4,028+
BIRTH TISSUE
DONATIONS
THIS YEAR.

A MOTHER'S GIFT A Birth Tissue Donation Story

Before Emily Paris was pregnant with her first child, she'd never heard of donating birth tissue, also called placenta tissue. In a conversation with a neighbor who worked for Dakota Lions Sight & Health, she learned that donating her placenta could help dozens of people — at no risk to her or her baby. She was immediately interested in hearing more.

One Donation Helps up to 75 People.

The more Emily learned about donating her birth tissue, the fact that stuck out to her most was that one placenta can help up to 75 people. When transferred, birth tissue becomes the support structure for new cell growth anywhere in or on the body. Its adaptability enables it to be used in a wide range of patient treatments such as healing traumatic burns or skin infections, protecting nerves during surgery, treating dry eye, and more.

After learning how many people she could help, the decision to donate was simple. Emily's baby girl was breech, so as she planned for a C-Section delivery, she told her husband she wanted to donate her placenta as part of her birth plan.

"Donating your birth tissue helps so many people at no risk to you or your baby," Emily said. "It's really an amazing thing to do if you aren't planning to keep your placenta. Knowing how many individual people one donation helps is really motivating. If we have a second child, I would plan to donate again."

A photograph of a smiling couple sitting on a couch. The woman, Emily Paris, is holding a newborn baby wrapped in a patterned blanket. The man is sitting next to her, also smiling. The photo is framed by a large blue circular graphic element.

**Emily
Paris**

How the Donation Process Works.

While Emily knew she wanted to donate ahead of time, many expecting mothers aren't aware of the ability to donate. Most of our partner hospitals have on-site coordinators who meet with mothers when they arrive at the hospital to give birth to present the option of participating in our Birth Tissue Donation Program. The paperwork and medical questionnaire take no more than 20 minutes.

"The Dakota Lions Sight & Health team was kind and speedy during the process," Emily said. "They made it so easy to donate, which I appreciated."

Birth tissue is collected without disruption to birthing or post-birth and brings no risk to the mother or baby. Keeping the full focus of birth on the mom and baby will always be the priority.



Read More Donor Stories.

To read more stories from donors, recipients and loved ones of donors, **scan the QR code.**

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Together, with your
support, we will
keep illuminating
the path to hope
and healing.

continued on next page

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Our Mission

*Helping to Enable the Restoration
of the Gifts of Sight & Health.*



Dakota Lions Sight & Health

Eye and Tissue Donation