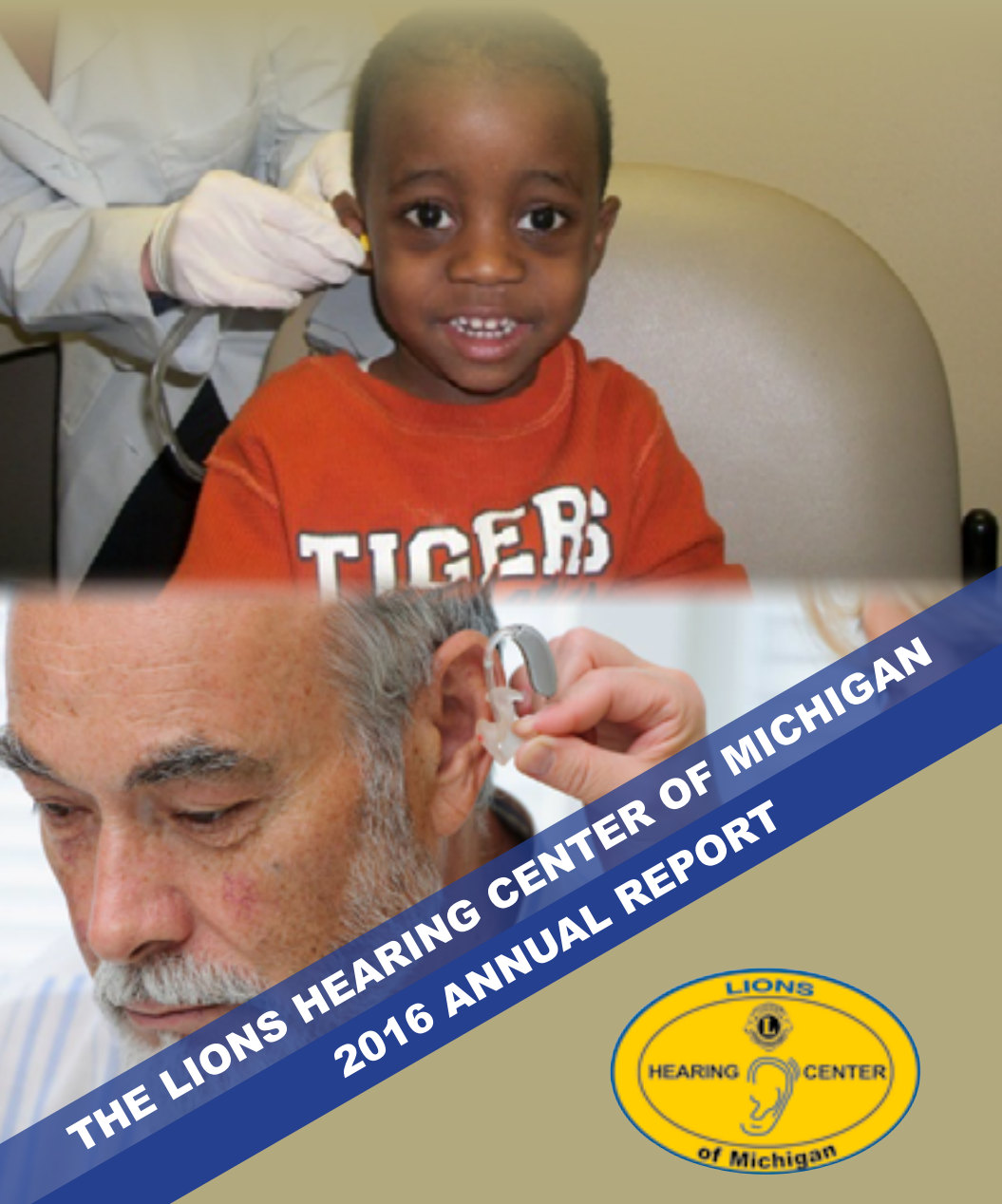


Bridging a World That Can't Hear With One That Can



**THE LIONS HEARING CENTER OF MICHIGAN
2016 ANNUAL REPORT**



**“Blindness separates people from things.
Deafness separates people from people.”**



– Helen Keller –

These words from Helen Keller are at the heart of the Lions Hearing Center. *Connecting people with people; connecting a world that can't hear with one that can.* For many, our work is to help them hear better. For others, our work is helping those affected by hearing loss find the resources they need. And we do this with individuals of all ages, all backgrounds, and regardless of an ability to pay.

To those who have supported our work this past year through donations, volunteering, or helping us reach thousands of people each year, we thank you. And the children, adults and elderly we have helped thank you as well. Here are some of their stories...



- Marielle -

"I was blessed with the birth of my first child, Marielle. Of course I think she's the most beautiful baby in the world. Soon after she was born, I learned that she has profound hearing loss – and was unable to hear my voice or sounds around her", explains Cheryl Boudewyns. "I was terrified." The Hearing Center diagnosed the problem and gave her two hearing aids which she will wear for now. "She looks at me and smiles when I speak to her or sing to her. Part of the joy of being a mother is singing that special lullaby to your small child."

As she grows older, more hearing aids or even surgery may be required to correct her problem. The Lions Hearing Center will be there for Marielle when and if that time comes.



Over 150 children are born deaf or hard of hearing each year in Michigan.

**"Can you imagine how far
behind in school
Alejandro would have been
without being able to hear?"
said his teacher.**



- Alejandro -

It was Alejandro's first day of pre-school at a local Head Start Program. His parents, who like their son did not speak English, brought him to school that day to make sure his hearing and vision were tested as part of the requirements for his enrollment. They had no idea that there might be a problem. Thirty minutes later they were shocked to learn there might be some issues as Alejandro did not pass the hearing tests. Within a few weeks he was fitted with two hearing aids and now wears them proudly. Two years later, Alejandro is enrolled in kindergarten and doing well in school.

**“Hearing people learn their language
by being submerged in it.
I didn’t have that option.”**



– Graham –

Graham Forsey was born deaf. With the help of the Hearing Center, Graham is pursuing his Master’s Degree in Business Administration while serving as a business systems analyst for Whirlpool Corporation, the world’s leading company in home appliances.

Forsey’s parents first suspected there was something wrong when Graham was about 1 year old. He was soon diagnosed with profound hearing loss and early on had problems in school. “I was struggling with English growing up and falling behind,” Forsey said. He then was enrolled in a deaf school and with the support of his parents, began to excel.

At Whirlpool, Graham works at merging the business and technical ends of operations. In between those two divisions, he works as the middle man – much like an interpreter for the deaf does. He uses various technologies to communicate throughout the corporation, and lectures to different groups within Whirlpool.

Graham is typical of students the Lions Hearing Center has helped and volunteers much of his free time advocating on behalf of deaf people across the country.

Toni and MJ



– MJ –

Toni Cannon-Mitchell and her son MJ have been on a journey together. Two years ago Toni brought her deaf son MJ to the Lions Hearing Center program for deaf children and parents. She and her husband had little knowledge of where to turn for help in raising their deaf child. The first training session they attended included other parents of deaf children. From that moment on, their lives have changed dramatically.

Toni now works as a Hearing Technician for the Lions Hearing Center – screening thousands of children and adults each year. MJ has seen remarkable progress in school and at home. “When MJ first got his hearing aids, he couldn’t sign, talk, or really communicate. Now he signs with me and his sisters, is much more verbal, and his anxiety level has gone way down.”

And Toni is just getting started. Having been trained on being a mentor and helping parents develop their Individual Educational Plans (IEP’s) for their child, Toni is now pursuing a degree in social work. She wants to help others that have faced the same challenges she has faced.



– Toni Cannon-Mitchell –

Board of Directors



"We are enormously grateful to those who have partnered with us in helping thousands of people affected by hearing loss."

- Robert Hong M.D., Chairman of the Board

Lions Hearing Center Of Michigan

Officers and Directors (2015-2016)

Officers

Robert Hong, M.D.* Chairman and President

Kim Hooper*, Treasurer

Matthew Barrells, Secretary

Phil A. Wells, MSW* Executive Director

Ex-Officio Members

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Martha Brown*, 1st Vice-Governor, Lions International District 11A-1

Jim Leach, Jr.*, Governor, Lions International District 11A-2

Patti Barr*, 1st-Vice Governor, Lions International District 11A-2

Jinsheng Zhang Ph. D.*, Associate Professor, Wayne State University

Ho-Sheng Lin, M.D., Chair, Department of Otolaryngology, Wayne State University

At Large Directors

Evelyn Cooper*, PDG, Lions District 11A-1

Bill Dennis, Retired, Chrysler Corporation

Fran Eldis, Retired, Chief of Pediatric Otolaryngology Children's Hospital

Sid Frank, Attorney

Diane Henderson, Corporate & Non-Profit Consultant

Ron Holler*, PDG Lions District 11A-2

Clifton Mace*, Retired, Principal, Trenton Schools

Mrs. Deena Mathog, Community Leader

Robert Jenkins*, Retired Nurse, Chrysler Corporation

Deborah Love-Peel*, Business Owner

Jim Rice, Risk Management Consultant

*Lions Club Member

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Over 2,700 children and youth were provided hearing screening services which identified 250 children who were referred for follow up care and evaluation...

Over 300 hearing aids were provided at affordable prices for children, adults and seniors throughout southeastern Michigan...

The Hearing Center was helped by the **generosity of 35 volunteers** who helped with screenings and our fundraising events...

15 different communities in our region were offered free hearing screening services in community centers, churches, senior centers, schools and health fairs...

Scholarships were provided to **Monique Barney, Diane Bass, Graham Forsey, Rosa Padilla, and Jocelyn Porter** who are all currently attending college...

Our involvement saved thousands of federal, state and county funds through our work in the Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility and in Head Start programs throughout the region...



Michigan Ear Institute helped dispense over 300 hearing aids

OUR SPONSORS, DONORS & FRIENDS

(July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

Platinum (\$5,000)

KLS Martin
Maddox, Dave & Renee
MDHearing Aid
ReSound
Schwartz, Mark & Sally

Gold (\$2,000)

Bedford Lions Club
Karmanos
Mathog, Deena
Shelby Lions Club
Trenton Lions Club

Silver (\$1,000)

Advanced Bionics
Canton Lions Club
Clinton Valley Lions Club
Dearborn Heights Lions Club
Detroit Mid-City Lions Club
Detroit Renaissance Club
Grosse Pointe Lions Club
Livonia High Nooners Lions Club
Phonak
Henry Ford Health System
Plymouth Lions Club
Starkey
Sterling Heights Lions Club
Wells, Phil & Chris

Bronze (\$500)

Clawson Lions Club
Garden City Lions Club
Henderson, Stanley & Diane
Lake Orion Lions Club
Mace, Cliff and Ann
Operative Solutions
Royal Oak Lions Club
Westland Lions Club
Seiggreen, Dwight & Mary
Stephens, Harold

FRIENDS

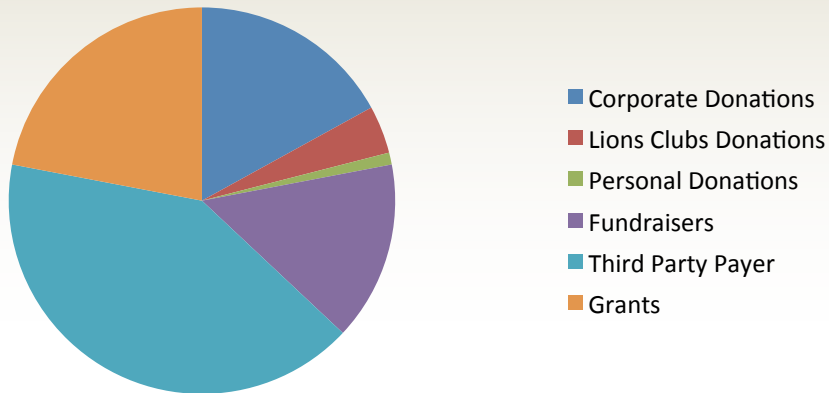
Armada Lions Club
Barrells, Matt
Bezanson, Matt & Jen
Blair, Rex & Gwen
Brown, Martha
Carver, Bill & Julie
Centerline Lions Club
Chesterfield Lions Club
Cooper, Evelyn
Cornwell, Judy
Clarkston Area Lions Club
Crowley, Al & Sharon
DeOro, Mary
Dennis, Bill
Detroit Hispanic Lions Club
Detroit North-Central Lions Club
Detroit Northeast Lions Club
Detroit Westtown-Hartford Lions Club
Eastpointe Lions Club
Eldis, Fran
Eney, Jaine
Frank, Sid & Alice
Fraser Lions Club
Garrity, Dan & Heidi
Garrity, John & Helen
Gates, Gary & Theresa
Gonik, Nathan
Greater Metro Detroit Lions Club
Harper Woods Lions Club
Hazel Park Lions Club
Heck, Cory & Stephanie
Highland Park Lions Club
Hoberman, Ruth
Holler, Ron & Bonnie
Hong, Robert & Anna
Holt, D.F.
Jacob, Constance
Jenkins, Robert & Iva
Jones, Bruce & Mary Jo
Langa, Jane
Lake Orion Lioness Club
Love-Peel, Deborah
Madonna University Lions Club

Malone Memorial Fund
Marino, Larry & Sue
Marunik, Mark
Mason, Bill & Beth
Mason, Mark & Krista
McLatcher, Dan & Linda
McKeever, Mike
Milford Huron Valley Lions Club
Moseley, Lynn
Moseley, Tom & Anita
Osaer, Michael & Sandy
O'Sullivan, Mike & Margaret
Ott, Philip
Pemberton, Gary & Molly
New Haven Lioness Club
Northville Lions Club
Novi Lions Club
Oxford Lions Club
Pontiac Lions Club
Rice, Jim & Alecia
Richman, Harriet
Rochester Lions Club
Rochester Hills Lions Club
Roths, Albert & Loreen
Selfridge North Macomb Lions Club
Siegel, Bianca
Simmons, Robert
Southgate Lions Club
Steiner, Mark & Adrienne
Sterling Heights Lioness Club
Trammel, John
Treadwell, Corey
Troy Lions Club
U.S. Ice Corporation
VanHall, Brian & Holly
Waterford Township Lions Club
Wells, John & Mary Cay
Wells, Hugh
Wolcott, Henry
Wyandotte Lions Club
Zhang, Jinsheng
Zuliani, Giancarlo

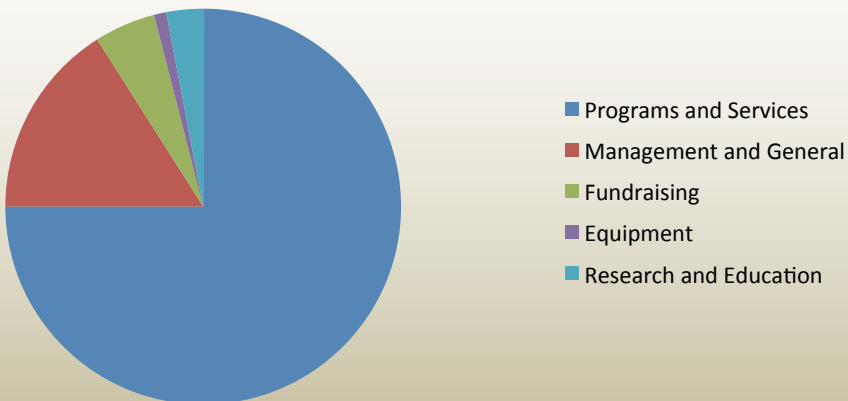
LIONS HEARING CENTER OF MICHIGAN

2015-2016 REVENUE AND USES OF FUNDS

2015 – 2016 Revenue



2015 – 2016 Expenses



“You can’t get very far until you start doing something for somebody else.”



These words of Melvin Jones, founder of the Lions Service Organization in June of 1917, were the start of something special. He began by asking business colleagues to help those in their communities and his vision transformed that humble beginning into the largest service organization in the world – now with 1.4 million members worldwide.

Since that historic day, Lions clubs have supported many different charities and needs, yet their work to aid those afflicted with problems in vision, hearing and diabetes have the longest history of any.

This rich history is the cornerstone of the Lions Hearing Center of Michigan, founded in 1999 by the late Dr. Robert Mathog. Dr. Mathog saw a natural partnership between Lions clubs and a health care organization that treated those with hearing loss. He spent countless hours finding funds, nurturing partners, giving of his time and resources, and ultimately left a wonderful legacy of helping thousands of people needing affordable hearing care. Lions and all of our partners have been and will be an important part of our future.



“Lions are the salt of the earth.”

-Dr. Robert H. Mathog (1939 – 2014)

LET'S HEAR IT CAMPAIGN



The Need for Your Support

Hearing loss is an extremely common and complex debilitation. Most Americans will experience problems with hearing at some point in their lives, and it can strike from infancy through adult life. National and local statistics support that:

- 5 out of every 1000 infants born will have hearing loss or deafness.
- 15% of children between 12 and 18 have hearing loss.
- At the age of 65 and older, as many as 70% will experience significant hearing loss.
- 50% of children ages 3 to 10 in our region do not have their hearing checked annually.
- Hearing loss leads to social isolation, depression, straining relationships, fewer job opportunities and is linked to Alzheimer's and dementia.
- The average cost of one hearing aid is over \$2,000.

Let's Hear It! Campaign

The Let's Hear It! Campaign is a 3-year campaign to raise awareness throughout south-eastern Michigan of hearing loss issues and to raise funds to address the problems. The Lions Hearing Center is seeking support from individuals and corporations to address a multi-million dollar problem. With your help, the Lions Hearing Center will be able to:

- *Provide hearing screenings to thousands of children and adults in south-eastern Michigan;
- *Provide hundreds of low-cost hearing aids annually throughout the region.
- *Assist parents and families of deaf children in finding answers and solutions in raising their children;
- *Support research towards the prevention and treatment of hearing loss.
- *Provide scholarships to deaf or hard of hearing students pursuing higher education.

*Our mission is to serve those
affected by hearing loss
through treatment, research and education,
regardless of ability to pay.*

WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY

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