



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

REFERENCE LETTER **YMCA of Catawba Valley**

To Whom It May Concern,

I am delighted to express our strong endorsement of the new partnership called the KidSight Program provided by the Unifour Lions Club. This collaboration holds great promise for the well-being of our families and community.

The Lions KidSight USA program's commitment to providing early eye screenings and follow-up care for children aged 6 months through 6 years aligns perfectly with our mission to ensure the best possible start for our young learners. Research shows that 80% of learning is visual, making optimal eyesight crucial for overall development and educational success.

This partnership presents an incredible opportunity to offer accessible vision care to our community's youngest members, enabling early detection and intervention for any potential issues. By joining forces with the Unifour Lions Club KidSight Program, we are taking a significant step towards securing a brighter future for our children.

We are excited about the positive impact this collaboration will have on the children and families we serve, and we look forward to the fruitful outcomes it will undoubtedly bring.

Nat Auten
President & CEO

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The Y: We're for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.



May 20, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

We are pleased to have completed vision screening events with Unifour Children's Sight for our Early Head Start childcare centers and for our home-based programs. As vision needs seem to be increasing in our Early Head Start population, we feel that these screenings are vital to our Early Head Start families. Wayne Houser and his team of Lion's Club volunteers were thoroughly professional, organized and worked well with our children ranging in age from 7 months to 4 years old. Several adults and children were identified as having a need for further screening. As children are not routinely screened until age 3 and a large percentage of our adults have never had a vision screening, we feel that these screenings can provide early detection of eye issues that may go undetected for years.

We appreciate the Lion's Club initiative to provide vision screenings for our communities and support their ongoing efforts to continue and expand community screening opportunities.

We would highly recommend the Lion's Club Vision Screenings for your community or organization.

Sincerely,

Lisa Dean
Early Head Start, Health Coordinator
Burke, Caldwell, and Alexander Counties

March, 2024

Hi Wayne, after Ian's initial eye exam through the Lions Club at Mt. Sinai, I was given a referral. The next day I contacted Connie who was very helpful in letting me know what my next steps should be and also what ophthalmologist I could get a follow-up exam with in the vsp network. I was so fortunate to get Ian in that same day with Graystone eye and they confirmed the Lions club findings. As it turns out Ian is farsighted.

If it wasn't for Mt. Sinai Baptist Church and the Lions Club it may have been months or even years before I knew about the eye problems Ian has. He has taken eye exams with the eye chart before, but he has never had an exam with the eye machine. Untreated, his eye sight could have gotten progressively worse. He may have even started to develop problems in school with his learning and school work because of problems with his vision. I am so thankful for the Lions club and their eye exam program because without them, my sons future could have been greatly affected. I could never say thank you enough. After Ian's visit with Graystone Eye, I reached out to Pastor Gray and also Connie to let them know how much I appreciate them and everything that was done for Ian. Have a blessed day.

Alysia Wilson