



**REPORT TO
NM LIONS EYE FOUNDATION**

**FROM
NM LIONS OPERATION KIDSIGHT
STANDING COMMITTEE**

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TOPICS

- * Why Do Operation KidSight
- *NMLOKS Update
- * New Activities
- * Developing Needs
- * Action Items

WHY DO OPERATION KIDSIGHT?

- ❑ More than 60% of the children in the United States have not been examined by an optometrist or ophthalmologist by the age of 6!
- ❑ Past NM screening results show 5-7% (15% at Mescalero) of NM children (2-6 years) have a vision disorder which if left undetected and treated, may lead to a lifetime of vision problems or blindness.
- ❑ Amblyopia or "lazy eye," which is the most common cause of visual impairment in childhood, can be caused by any condition that affects normal vision development or use of the eyes such as:
 - * Strabismus (esotropia where eyes turn in)
 - * Strabismus (exotropia where eyes turn out)
 - * Myopia (nearsightedness)
 - * Hyperopia (farsightedness)
 - * Cataracts
 - * Astigmatism (eye is not perfectly round causing focusing problems)
 - * Anisometropia (refractive errors differ in each eye)
 - * Anisocoria (pupil sizes are different)
 - * Coloboma (a gap in part of the structures of the eye)
 - * Ptosis (drooping eye lid)
- ❑ The eye, muscles that control the eye, optic nerve, and the area of the brain that gives us vision are completely developed, no matter how perfectly or imperfectly, by the age of six.
- ❑ Vision deficiencies that may have occurred during development will be very difficult or impossible to treat after the age of 6 when vision development is completed. Many of these problems when caught early enough can be completely corrected, and the earlier they are diagnosed, the better the chance of correction and the easier and less expensive the treatment.
- ❑ Photo screening is not a diagnostic tool as parents are advised to have the child seen by an eye doctor to get a proper diagnosis and treatment as may be indicated by the screening results.

NMLOKS UPDATE

- ❑ New Participating Regions
 - * Portales/Clovis/Floyd/Melrose
 - ~ Portales has ordered/purchased iScreen equipment
 - ~ Clovis/Floyd/Melrose will provide personnel & financial support.
 - * Santa Fe Head Start screenings underway supported by Ruidoso & Taos. Santa Fe Lions Clubs been briefed on NMLOKS and participated in Head Start screenings.
- ❑ Extension of Existing Regions
 - * Taos exceeded 1000 kids screened on 25 April.
 - * Taos is considering inquiries from adjacent communities and service clubs for KidSight.
- ❑ Presentations/Demos to NM Lions Clubs
 - * Artesia & Carlsbad Clubs briefed in Jan 2008. Considering going in together to purchase camera.
 - * Silver City conducted screenings using Alamogordo Breakfast camera.
 - * Farmington - Briefed on 11 Feb 2008 & considering NMLOKS.
 - * Albuquerque Lions Clubs - Head Start screening 21 Feb 2008.
 - * Gallup - To be briefed on 15 May 2008

NEW ACTIVITIES

❑ Grant Applications

- * Grant submitted to Daniels Foundation. Grant application declined but NMLOKS invited to re-apply when "glasses on kids" can be quantified.

- * Con Alma grant application due 6 May 2008.

❑ Establishment of NMLOKS Bank Accounts

- * Grants will be applied for at state, region and club levels.

- * Bank accounts will have to be available at those levels for deposit and disbursement of grant funds.

- * Rigid and consistent accounting procedures will be required for all grant funds to ensure NMLOKS credibility.

DEVELOPING NEEDS

❑ Common/Consistent NMLOKS Record Keeping

- * Needed to automate process of consolidating data from club to region to state levels.
- * Data needed for grant applications, quarterly reports to NMLEF, and annual audit reports.
- * Types of Data
 - ~ Quarterly & FYE Income/Expenses/Balance Sheet reports
 - ~ FYE Budget Reports
 - ~ Screening Results Data
 - # children screened
 - # referrals (by type of perceived vision problem)
 - results of eye exams & subsequent treatment
 - % false positives
 - # children needing financial assistance

ACTION ITEMS

- ❑ Financial
 - * Establish state-level NMLOKS bank account
 - * Transfer NMLOKS earmarked funds to bank account
 - * Access NMLEF FYE financial reports as required for use in NMLOKS grant applications.
- ❑ Procedural
 - * Development & approval of NMLOKS By-Laws
 - * Development of NMLOKS Screening Handbook
- ❑ Proposed Near-Term Program Expansion Regions
 - * Santa Fe/Espanola/Los Alamos Region
 - * Silver City/Deming/Lordsburg Region
 - * Carlsbad/Artesia Region
 - * Albuquerque Region
 - * Dona Ana County Region
- ❑ Program Expansion Requirements
 - * Assist new Regions in acquiring cameras
 - * Train clubs in new regions on screening procedures (i.e., planning/coordinating screening sessions, conduct screening sessions, follow-up process for referred children, and compiling required financial and outcome data reports)
- ❑ Long Range Goals
 - * Once NMLOKS is operational across NM, apply for LCIF grant which will provide funding assistance for a state level organization that will pull everything together. Structure will be similar to that in Tennessee and Iowa.