



Community Foundation

FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A grant from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan will provide equipment to detect and treat diabetic retinopathy and other diabetic eye diseases in southeast Michigan.

Lansing, Michigan – January 2026 – Nearly a third of Americans are either diabetic or prediabetic, and over half of them will eventually develop diabetic retinopathy or other sight threatening diabetic eye diseases. Accordingly, diabetic retinopathy is the leading cause of new cases of blindness among working-age Americans. In Michigan, 2000 people progress to severe diabetic retinopathy each year with many more at risk.

The Lions of Michigan Foundation has received a \$71,280 grant from the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan to screen and detect diabetic retinopathy and other diabetic eye diseases in underserved populations throughout southeast Michigan.

“Lions are well known throughout the world for the services we provide to help people with vision loss and diabetes. The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan understands that organizations such as the Lions of Michigan Foundation and our more than 400 Michigan Lions Clubs are essential to building stronger communities. Like us, they are committed to improving the quality of life in Michigan and making southeast Michigan a better place to work, live and play,” said Chad McCann.

Southeast Michigan is a place where everyone thrives. The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan builds the resources, relationships and expertise required to expand equitable access to opportunities. Their mission is to make southeast Michigan a desirable place to live, work and play, for all residents, today and tomorrow.

The Lions of Michigan Foundation is a public charity that works in partnership with its member Michigan Lions Clubs and other organizations to help Michigan residents in need. The Lions of Michigan Foundation operates a statewide Affordable Hearing Aid Program, an Eye Care Assistance Program, A Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Program, Project KIDSight (children’s vision screening program), and other programs designed to improve the quality of life in Michigan communities.