



### **What is KidSight?**

KidSight is a **free** vision-screening program where Lions Club volunteers throughout Colorado conduct vision-screening sessions at preschools and other early childhood centers. The program is designed for children ages three through six.

### **How Much Does This Cost?**

The screening is **free**, thanks to the support and volunteer efforts of the Lions of Colorado.

### **How is Vision Screening Done?**

It is as simple as having your child's picture taken. Local Lions Club use a PlusOptix S12, a vision screening device which are 85-90% accurate in detecting vision problems. It takes only moments per child, requires no preparation or medication, and is totally painless. Parents must complete a consent form prior to the screening.

### **The KidSight screening program detects these vision problems in children:**

- Anisometropia - compares refraction of both eyes
- Astigmatism - checks corneal irregularities
- Hyperopia - checks farsightedness
- Myopia - checks nearsightedness
- Corneal reflexes - checks symmetric eye alignment
- Anisocoria - compares pupil sizes of both eyes

### **Why Vision Screening?**

The first few years of a child's life are critical in the development of good vision. Preschoolers should have their vision checked for issues such as misaligned eyes, and problems that need correction with eyeglasses. These problems are not always evident by simply looking at a child. Young children often compensate for vision problems so well that parents, teachers, and pediatricians are unaware of a problem. By the time a child is old enough to be in primary grades, many of these common vision-robbing conditions can no longer be effectively treated. Amblyopia can develop when an undetected vision problem goes untreated during a child's formative years.

## **What is Amblyopia?**

- Amblyopia - often called “lazy eye” - is uncorrectable vision loss in one or both eyes
- Amblyopia is the leading cause of vision loss in children
- Amblyopia is preventable
- Amblyopia is more easily treated if detected early

## **Long Term Issues Due to Vision Problems:**

- Poor academic performance (80% of a child's learning comes through his or her visual system)
- Low self-esteem
- Limited social & sports involvement
- Behavioral problems (7 out of 10 juvenile delinquents have an undiagnosed vision problem)

## **What Happens if a Possible Problem is Detected in My Child's Vision?**

The results of your child's vision screening will be sent to the screening site approximately one month after the screening. If a possible vision problem is detected, referral packets will be included for parents. It's important to remember that this is only a screening and does not constitute a diagnosis of vision problems.

## **Will Insurance or Medicaid Cover Follow-up Exams if My Child is Referred?**

Individual health insurance or Medicaid should cover most exams; however, plans vary and you many need to contact your child's primary care provider for more information. Contact your local Lions Club if you need assistance.

## **More Information on Lions KidSight Program**

- During the 2013 -14 school year Colorado KidSight screened 37,508 kids in the state with 5,082 kids referred with potential vision problems. This is a referral rate of 13.5%. In some communities referral rates have been as high as 20%.
- The Colorado KidSight Program received approval from the Colorado State Board of Education that it meets all the requirements of for vision screening. The KidSight program can be consider not just as a supplemental vision screening.
- A lot more information is available on these websites:
  - Colorado Lions KidSight website: [www.kidsightcolorado.org](http://www.kidsightcolorado.org)
  - Lions KidSight USA website: [www.e-district.org/sites/kidsightusa/](http://www.e-district.org/sites/kidsightusa/)
  - PlusOptix website: <http://www.plusoptix.com/>
  - Lions Club of Denver website: [www.denverlions.org](http://www.denverlions.org)

