

TENNESSEE LIONS CHARITIES, INC.



MONTHLY IMPACT
FEBRUARY 2026

All reports can be found in full on our website!
www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/impact

Table of Contents

Letter from Executive Director

Tennessee KidSight

- Kidsight Outreach
- KidSightPLUS
- Output, Outcome, Impact

Special Announcements!

- Beeping Egg Hunt @ TSB - **Sponsored by TLC!**
- Tennessee KidSight - Training and Round Table

Donor Recognition!

2026 - Sustaining Donor Pin!

FROM THE VERY MESSY OFFICE OF OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Friends and Fellow Lions,

I'd like to take a moment to thank you for a great start to 2026! We are only a few months into the year, but we are already seeing higher numbers in the Tennessee KidSight vision screening program! As we settle into spring, many of you are seeing your screenings begin to slow down until the start of the new school year. This is when our staff begins to ramp up one of the

aspects that sets Tennessee KidSight, especially the KidSight Outreach (kindergarten and pre-k), apart from others. Our dedicated follow-up with parents and teachers greatly increases the chance that a child will receive treatment after a referral.

The national average of children who receive treatment after a vision screening referral ranges widely from 5% to 50%. Cultural biases, lack of understanding about the referral process, a lack of funds for treatment, and other factors affect these statistics. I'm proud to say that the thousands of children referred by a Tennessee KidSight vision screening have much better chances of receiving treatment. We track the productivity of our follow-up efforts for KidSight Outreach closely, and we are proud to say that over the last five years, we have averaged an 80% productive contact rate with the parents and teachers of these students. These emails and phone calls allow our staff to address factors that could be preventing treatment and empower parents to make informed decisions about their children's vision care. We can also share information about previous referrals that went without treatment with parents. It is not uncommon for some children to be referred multiple times before a parent agrees to seek examination and treatment.

For KidSightPLUS, our staff fields calls and emails from parents who have questions and concerns, and we address these concerns in any way we can.



While being the start of our busiest follow-up period, spring is also the time when Lions across the state host their district conventions. I'm glad to have been able to attend nearly all of the district conventions this year and get to know the Lions who volunteer for TLC's Tennessee KidSight program. I had great conversations with many Lions, and I hope we can continue these conversations at a few events taking place this spring and summer.

I'll be hosting at least two, but hopefully three, Tennessee KidSight training events and round-table discussions to help all of us prepare for the upcoming school year. The RSVP page for the first of these is already up! Hopefully, the Lions in 12-0 and 12-N can join me at the Red Bank Lions' club house for a day of fellowship and strategy on Wednesday, May 20, 2026.

At least one more training session will be held at the TLC's offices, and it would be great to have a full house for this event. If you are unable to attend either, keep in mind that I'm willing to visit any club throughout the year.

Thanks to a great start to the year!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A.L. Wilhoite". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

ARTHUR WILHOITE

Executive Director

Tennessee Lions Charities, Inc.

Email: arthurwilhoite@tnlions.com

Office: (615) 690-8644 ext. 222

Cell: (615) 594-1868

TENNESSEE

KidSight

Two great programs that allow Tennessee's Lions to serve the children in their communities!

KidSight Outreach



Over 724,806 children have participated in KidSight Outreach vision screening since 1997!

43,650 children have been referred for life-changing treatment thanks to KidSight Outreach's early detection of vision problems!

Kindergarten & Pre - K

**KidSight
PLUS**
Grades 1-12

Launched in 2024 as a way to meet the needs of charter schools in Nashville, TN.

Provides vision screenings to older students.

Over 10,522 participants in the first year!



February 2026 Report

To view the full report visit our website!

www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/library

1,318 kindergarten and pre-k students screened!

108 kindergarten and pre-k referred for treatment that will allow for improved social, behavioral, and educational development.

30 Lions Club KidSight volunteers spent an estimated 95 hours conducting 46 KidSight Outreach vision screenings totaling \$3,305 in volunteer time.

The Current Estimated National Value of Each Volunteer Hour Is \$34.79. - independentsector.org

Top 5 KidSight Outreach Screening Clubs in February

Lions Club	# Screened	# Referred
Murfreesboro	384	35
Maryville	221	5
West Knox	192	9
Farragut	135	6
Athens	108	14



KidSight PLUS

February 2026 Report

180 students across the state of Tennessee in grades 1 - 12 participated in KidSightPLUS!

23 students were referred for treatment!

The families of these referred students received referral information that empowers them to make informed decisions about their child's healthcare!

Top 5 KidSightPLUS Clubs October 2025

Club	Screened	Referred
Lewisburg	51	13
Lookout Valley	36	2
Athens	30	1
Maryville	30	0
Cookeville	11	1

KidSightPLUS is a great service project for community events!

- Larger population served!
- Simpler protocols!
- Same elevated service that empowers and educates parents!

Visit our website to learn more!

www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/KidSightPLUS

Ask how we can get you prepared for your next community event!



February 2026 Output, Outcome, & Impact

Output

- 1,498 students in pre-k through 12th grade participated in a vision screening!
- 14 Lions Clubs and 30 Lions spent approximately 101 hours bringing Tennessee KidSight to schools and children in their communities.

Outcome

- Early detection and treatment can change a student's life. However, research shows that students and their families frequently experience difficulty accessing follow-up after a referral for treatment.
- We are proud to say that our staff's follow-up efforts lead to amazing conversations with parents, caregivers, and educators that almost always result in a child receiving needed treatment.
- Tennessee KidSight Follow-up protocols include:
 - Educating the parents of students who receive referrals about the importance of seeking treatment and the possible reasons for referral
 - Empowering parents to make educated decisions about their children's visual health through our staff's dedicated follow-up and educational and informational resources
 - Connecting those in need with an eye care provider for evaluation and treatment
 - Ensuring that no Tennessee student goes without treatment

Impact

- Vision plays a critical role in physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development. An unfound and untreated vision problem can delay a student's development and, in some cases, lead to irreversible vision loss.
- The 131 students referred for treatment in during February's screenings will have the opportunity to address the challenge of visual impairment and build a foundation that will enable them to build a solid foundation that will forever affect their lives.
- Tennessee Lions Charities and the Tennessee Lions, who volunteer their time to bring KidSight Outreach and KidSight**PLUS** to students across the state, provide more than a life-changing service; they provide examples of service-focused leadership and inspire the community leaders of tomorrow.



Strengthening the PRIDE since 1995!

We are excited to announce that Tennessee Lions Charities will be sponsoring a Beeping Egg Hunt for students at the Tennessee School for the Blind!

TLC strives to be a resource for education and empowerment for all Tennesseans. This educational and inclusive event for TSB's students fits in perfectly with TLC's mission and core values!

The event will be held at TSB on 4/1/2026, and Tennessee Lions volunteers are needed!

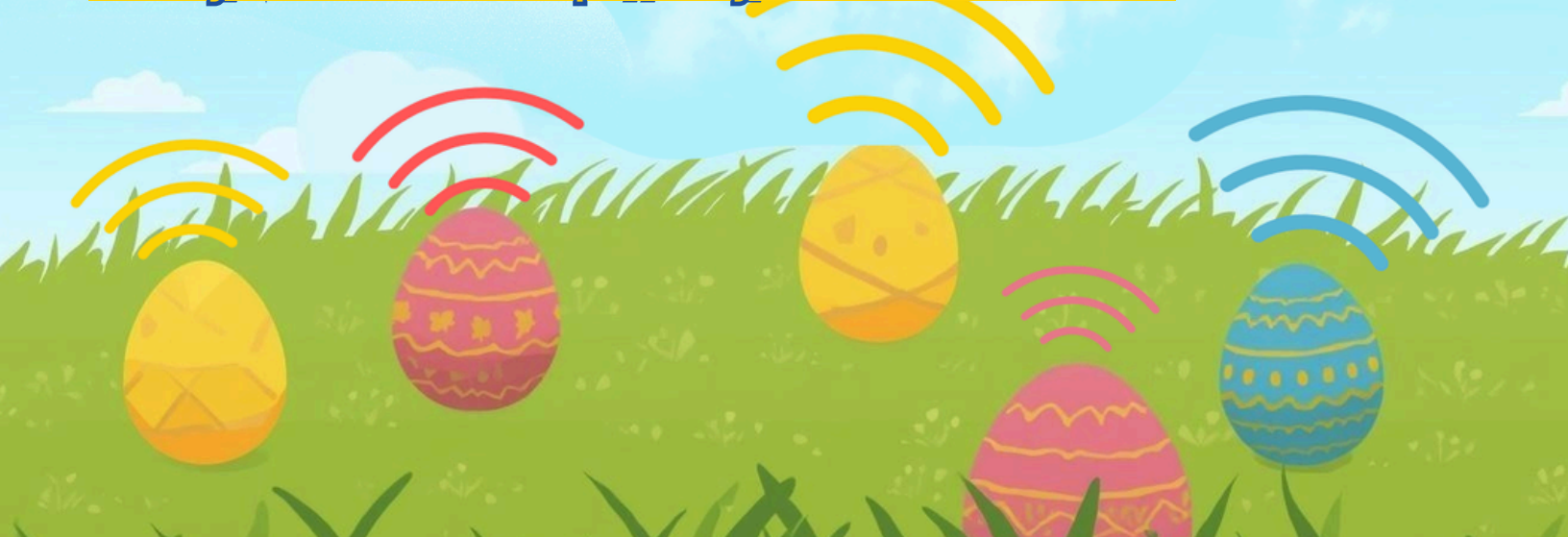
Volunteers will assist with serving dinner, hiding eggs, guiding participants, returning eggs, passing out swag bags, crafts and games, and most importantly... clean-up!

To volunteer, please visit the links below to complete background and liability waivers.

Volunteers arrive at 4:45 PM on 4/1/2026!

Background: <https://bit.ly/2025GCBVIBGC>

Liability/Media Waiver: <https://bit.ly/2025GCBVIVolunteer>



Tennessee Lions Charities, Inc.



**SPECIAL GUEST
from Plusoptix
TAMMY JOHNSON!**

Special Event!

When? 5/20/2026, 11 AM EDT

**Where? Red Bank Lions Club House
3704 Dayton Blvd. Red Bank, TN 37415**

**Join TLC's Executive Director,
Arthur Wilhoite, for a day of
fellowship, training, and strategy
for the 2026/2027 school year!**



LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!

RSVP TODAY!

www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/events

Sustaining Donors

Thank you!

Arthur Wilhoite

Lelia Gibson

Lynn Wilhoite

Roy Koskinen

Jim McFarland

Bill Slover

B.J. Blankenship

Carolyn Blankenship

Fred Mundt

Diane Mundt

Steve Falk

Clifford Swoape

Ron Birdwell

Brandon Johnson

Jill Smelser

Wendy Cain

Scott Shelhamer

Katherine Mangione-Swoape

Patrick Scott

Mark Cook

Debbie Mashburn

Thom Westlake

Connie Emmons

Ann Holbrooks

Rhonda Pruitt

Greg Putman

Tawnya Buster

We would like to thank the following individuals, organizations, and Lions Clubs for their support of our efforts in the last few months!

The Melrose Foundation

Lions Jon and Terri Anderson

PDG Alex and 2nd VDGE Tashena Martinez

Fairfield Glade Lions Club

Fayetteville Lions Club

Hixson Lions Club

Lookout Valley Lions Club

Smyrna Lions Club

Woodbury Lions Club

The Estate of Keith Pontius

Learn more about how you can support our mission and KidSight programs!

www.tennesseeelionscharities.org/funding

**BECOME A TLC/KIDSIGHT
SUSTAINING DONOR IN 2026 TO
RECEIVE THIS YEAR'S EXCLUSIVE
SUSTAINING DONOR PIN AND
EVERY YEAR'S EXCLUSIVE PIN
GOING FORWARD!**



2026'S SUSTAINING DONOR PIN

www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/ksosdi



Mission Statement

To empower and support the Lions of Tennessee through leadership, programs, and resources that strengthen their impact on the lives of Tennesseans.

www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/impact

