



TENNESSEE

LIONS

CHARITIES, INC.



JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026
IMPACT REPORT





Strengthening the PRIDE since 1995!

Tennessee Lions Charities, Inc. is the 501 (c) (3) organization that serves the Lions Clubs of Tennessee and the people of Tennessee. Our primary focus is the development and coordination of statewide service programs and projects for the Lions of Tennessee. We also develop unique educational and promotional resources that strengthen the impact of the services Tennessee's Lions can provide to their communities. Lastly, our staff provide patron services for Tennesseans who have participated in one of the programs we oversee.

Our Mission

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

Core Values

Prioritization of vision care

Resource for education and empowerment

Investment in strengthening the impact of Lions

Dedication to elevated service for all Tennesseans

Excellence in service-focused leadership



Trustees

District	Term 2024-2027	Term 2025-2028	Term 2026-2029
12-L	Lisa Vinson		
12-I	Mark Cook	Philip Barnes, 1 st VP	Lynn Wright
12-O	Lelia Gibson, 2 nd VP	Jim Fields	Sheila Chesanow
12-N	Jim McFarland, Treasurer	Richard Wilson	Bill Slover
12-S	Tashena Martinez	Darrell Woodcock	Carolyn Blankenship

**Trustees Appointed Based on service as Past International Director and
Past International President of Lions Clubs International**

**B.J. Blankenship, President
Bob Corlew - ex officio**

**MD-12 Council Chair
Evan Jones - ex officio**

**TLC Executive Director
Arthur Wilhoite - ex officio**

Staff

**Arthur Wilhoite
Executive Director
arthurwilhoite@tnlions.com**

**Lucas Wilhoite
Tennessee KidSight Coordinator
lucaswilhoite@tnlions.com**

FROM THE VERY MESSY OFFICE OF OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Friends and Lions,

2025/2026 was a year of reflection for Tennessee Lions Charities. We undertook a guided strategic planning process that forced our staff and trustees to look at where we have been and develop goals for the future of our organization.

TLC's strategic plan for the next few years will focus on awareness, development of new programs, sustainability, and modernizing our facilities. We feel that these four goals will have the greatest impact on the Lions we serve and the Tennesseans who benefit from our programs.

We also began looking ahead to the 2026/2027 school year and the theme for the Tennessee KidSight vision screening program a few months ago. This year's theme focuses on space exploration and Operation Tennessee KidSight. Vision and vision care play a huge role in the development of a child's sense of wonder and exploration. It is easy to empathize with a child's struggle to see the board in class or the text in a book, but it is hard to imagine being a child who is unable to enjoy the vastness of the night sky.

Hopefully, the 2026/2027 theme for Tennessee KidSight will also open more doors for our Lions Club volunteers. We have already seen several clubs preparing for screenings at fairs and back-to-school events; hopefully, we will continue to show the importance of Tennessee KidSight in communities across the state.



ARTHUR WILHOITE

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CAN YOU IMAGINE
A NIGHT SKY
WITHOUT STARS?

**FOR CHILDREN, A SKY WITHOUT
STARS COULD HAMPER THEIR
DEVELOPMENT AND DESIRE TO
EXPLORE.**

**LUCKILY, TENNESSEE'S CHILDREN
HAVE...**





**AND DEDICATED LIONS CLUB
VOLUNTEERS WHO HELP KIDS AND
FAMILIES DISCOVER VISION
PROBLEMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**



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

July 1997 - June 2026

737,962
Students Screened
in Tennessee

45,495
Students Referred
for Treatment

KidSight Outreach



Kindergarten & Pre - K

- Free vision screenings for kindergarten and pre-k students.
- Primary goal of KidSight Outreach is the detection of Amblyopia, a vision development disorder that can lead to irreversible vision loss.
- Extensive follow-up that educates and empowers parents and educators about the importance of seeking treatment after a referral.
- Unique educational and promotional resources that spread awareness about the importance of pediatric vision screenings.

KidSight
PLUS
Grades 1-12

- Free vision screenings for students in grades 1-12.
- Educational and empowering follow-up and patron service is available for parents and educators.
- Focus of these screenings expands to the discovery of unknown refractive errors.

2025/2026 Quick Facts

16,513 kindergarten and pre-k students screened!

1,580 kindergarten and pre-k students referred for treatment that will allow for improved social, behavioral, and educational development.



Tennessee Lions Charities staff will spend approximately 2,370 hours providing follow-up to the families of the referred students. These follow-up efforts educate and empower parents to make informed decisions about their child's vision care.

57 Lions Clubs and 168 KidSight volunteers spent an estimated 5,264 hours bringing KidSight Outreach vision screenings to the children in their communities!, totaling \$183,134 in volunteer time.

The current estimated national value of each volunteer hour is \$34.79. - independentsector.org

Top 5 KidSight Outreach Screening Clubs in 2025/20206

Lions Club	# Screened	# Referred
WEST KNOX	1186	54
MARYVILLE	1006	54
NOLENSVILLE	986	114
EAST HAMILTON	908	109
MURFREESBORO	785	86



To view the KidSight Outreach data for each club in 2025, visit our website!

www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/library





KidSight Outreach

Top 25

July 1997 - June 2025

Lions Club	# Children Screened	# Children Referred
WEST KNOX	61,726	2,268
MARYVILLE	43,267	1,951
MURFREESBORO NOON	39,942	3,618
FRANKLIN	32,764	2,121
MURFREESBORO	31,742	1,741
*FRANKLIN NOON	23,924	960
COOKEVILLE EVENING	21,663	1,193
FAIRFIELD GLADE	19,898	1,106
ROGERSVILLE	18,688	1,386
SHELBYVILLE	17,700	1,513
GALLATIN	16,447	877
TELLICO VILLAGE	15,669	975
LAWRENCEBURG	12,687	819
HOUSTON COUNTY	11,443	735
CLEVELAND	11,040	556
DANDRIDGE	10,606	739
LAFAYETTE	9,745	652
CAMPBELL COUNTY	9,624	650
*DALEWOOD-LAKESIDE	9,610	456
TULLAHOMA DOWNTOWN	9,280	563
DONELSON	9,240	373
*BRENTWOOD	9,133	295
NASHVILLE DOWNTOWN	8,930	686
FARRAGUT	8,452	356
GREENEVILLE	8,050	492

*Club no longer active



July 2025 - June 2026 Quick Facts

- 4,972 students across the state of Tennessee in grades 1 - 12 participated in KidSightPLUS!
- 742 students were referred for treatment!
- The students who received referrals from their KidSightPLUS screening also received informative materials that were designed to educate and help families understand the reason for referral. Empowering families to make informed decisions about their children's healthcare leads to more children receiving the treatment they need.. Our staff are also available to review results with parents to ensure they understand the reason for referral. When a need exists, our staff also helps parents find funding for treatment.

Top 5 KidSightPLUS Screening Clubs in 2025 /2026

Club	# Screened	# Referred
FAIRFIELD GLADE	1298	155
NOLENVILLE	698	244
KINGSPORT	506	45
MARYVILLE	456	54
WOODBURY	289	40



July 2025 - June 2026

Top 10

Club	# Screened	# Referred
FAIRFIELD GLADE	1,724	183
NOLENSVILLE	1,684	358
MARYVILLE	1,462	108
WEST KNOX	1,248	61
EAST HAMILTON	924	113
MURFREESBORO	800	86
MURFREESBORO NOON	636	76
PULASKI	629	58
FAYETTEVILLE	586	100
COLUMBIA	559	68

To view more detailed KidSight Outreach data for each club, visit our website!

www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/library



JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026

Output

- **Tennessee Lions Clubs dedicated over 5,000 volunteer hours to improve the lives of Tennessee's students through free vision screenings!**
- **21,485 students participated in a Tennessee KidSight vision screening!**
- **Tennessee Lions Charities' staff will spend over 2,000 hours conducting informative and empowering follow-ups with parents and educators of the more than 2,000 students who received referrals for treatment, removing barriers that limit students' access to care!**



JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026

Outcome

- Of more than 20,000 participants, 2,322 students received referrals for treatment!
- Early detection and treatment can change a student's life. However, research shows that students and their families frequently have trouble accessing care after a referral for treatment.
- 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 through partnership with our local Lions Clubs or through funds raised when a local Lions Club is unable to help



JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026

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 2,322 students referred for treatment in 2025/2026 now have the opportunity to address the challenges of visual impairment and build a solid foundation that will forever affect their lives for the better.
- Beyond improving the vision of students across the state, our Tennessee KidSight program offers our Lions Club volunteers the chance to provide examples of service-focused leadership that will hopefully inspire the community leaders of tomorrow.



2025-2026 FINANCIALS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash	\$97,115.64
Investments	\$1,422,800.53
Cash - Restricted TLC TN School For the Blind Fund	\$182,846.62
Investments - Restricted for Virginia Lindsey Leadership	\$64,950.85

FIXED ASSETS

Building and Equipment	\$1,337,981.95
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LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$12,971.26
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REVENUES

Program and Operations Income	\$191,353.49
Restricted Income	\$41,833.83

EXPENSES

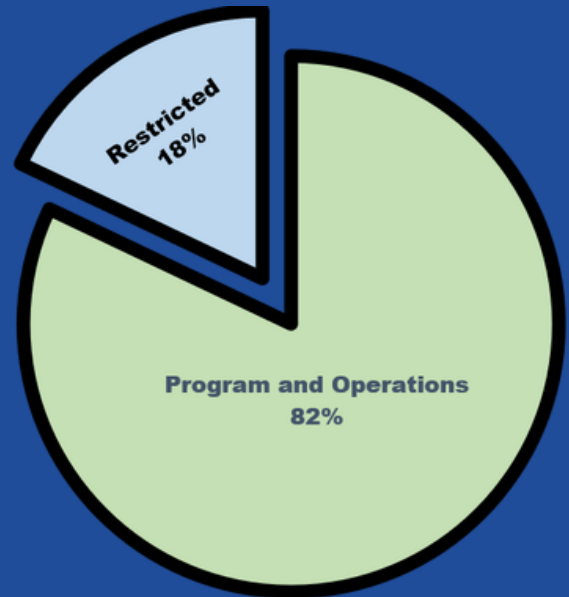
Programs and Operations	\$223,318.57
Depreciation	\$32,100.50
Restricted Expenses	\$19,249.84

2025-2026 Income Breakdown

Program and Operations Income: \$191,353.49

TLC HQ Income	\$77,449.97
Grants & TLC Endowment	\$45,122.36
Lions Club Donations	\$29,993.42
Misc.	\$10,534.96
Sustaining Donors	\$7,401.02
Focused Fundraising Drive	\$5,230.00
Lindsey -Jennings Fellowship	\$5,000.00
Individual Donations	\$4,043.00
Honors Banquet Tickets	\$1,840.00
Estate Gift	\$1,680.73
Memorials	\$800.00
KidSight Merch Fundraiser	\$630.00
Hall of Fame	\$450.00

**Total Income 2025-2026
\$233,187.32**



Restricted Income: \$41,833.83

TLC TN School for the Blind Fund	\$35,320.83
Lindsey-Jennings Fellowship - Endowment Restriction	\$4,000.00
Kevin Buie Pins	\$1,375.00
Honors Banquet - Donations Earmarked for Clovernook	\$1,178.00

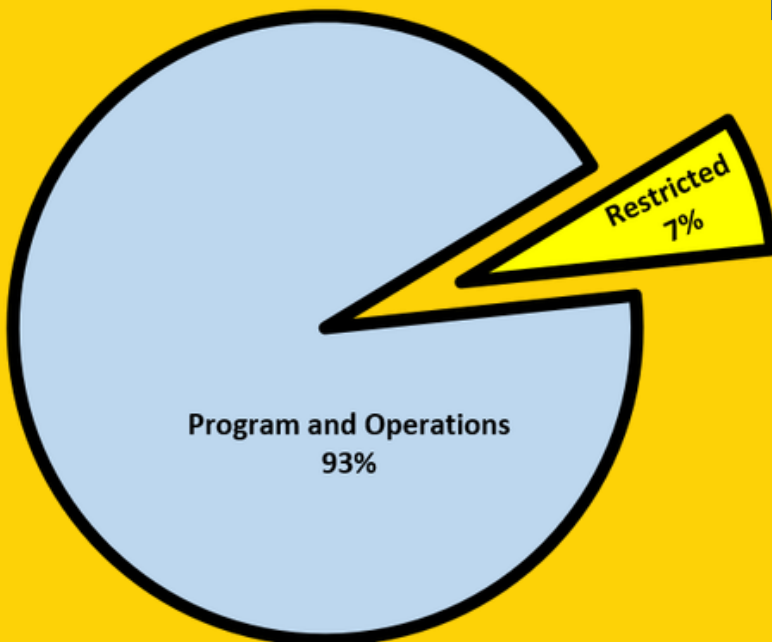
2025-2026 Expense Breakdown

Program and Operations Expenses \$255,419.07

TN KidSight Service	\$131,586.06
Operational Expenses	\$60,492.15
Depreciation	\$32,100.50
Fundraising Expenses	\$26,994.58
Honors Banquet	\$2,738.27
Lindsey-Jennings Fellowship	\$1,140.76
Hall of Fame	\$366.75

Restricted Expenses \$19,249.84

TLC TN School for the Blind Support	\$16,044.84
Honors Banquet Donation for Clovernook	\$1,178.00
Clovernook Easter Egg Hunt at TSB Sponsorship	\$1,000.00
Kevin Buie Miles for Service Pin	\$742.50
Lindsey-Jennings Restricted Expenses	\$159.50
Virginia Lindsey Leadership Award	\$125



**Total Expenses
2025-2026
\$274,668.91**

Thank you!

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

Foundations

Melrose Foundation

Nashville Predators Foundation

PayPal Giving

Raymond C. McKinley Family Foundation

T&T Family Foundation



Lions Clubs and Districts

Chapel Hill Lions Club

Crossville Lions Club

Dickson Lions Club

District 12-O Lions - White Cane

District 12-S Lions - White Cane

East Hamilton Lions Club

Fairfield Glade Lions Club

Fayetteville Lions Club

Hixson Lions Club

Johnson City Lions Club

Lafayette Lions Club

Lafayette Lioness Club

Lewisburg Lions Club

Lookout Valley Lions Club

Murfreesboro Lions Club

Nashville Downtown Lions Club

PDG Association

Red Bank Lions

Smyrna Lions Club

Springfield Lions Club

West Knox Lions Club

Woodbury Lions Club

*Donations restricted for TLC TSB Fund not included

Estate Gifts

Estate of W. Homer Brown

Estate of Keith D. Pontius

Sustaining Donors

Monthly

Arthur Wilhoite
Lelia Gibson
Lynn Wilhoite
Roy Koskinen
Jim McFarland
Bill Slover
B.J. Blankenship
Carolyn Blankenship
Steve Falk
Clifford Swoape
Ron Birdwell
Brandon Johnson
Jill Smelser
Scott Shelhamer
Katherine Mangione-Swoape
Patrick Scott
Debbie Mashburn
Thom Westlake
Connie Emmons
Ann Holbrooks
Rhonda Pruitt
George Putman
Tawnya Buster
Tashena Martinez

Annual

Mark Cook
Fred Mundt
Diane Mundt
Wendy Cain
Lynn Wright
Steve McLelland



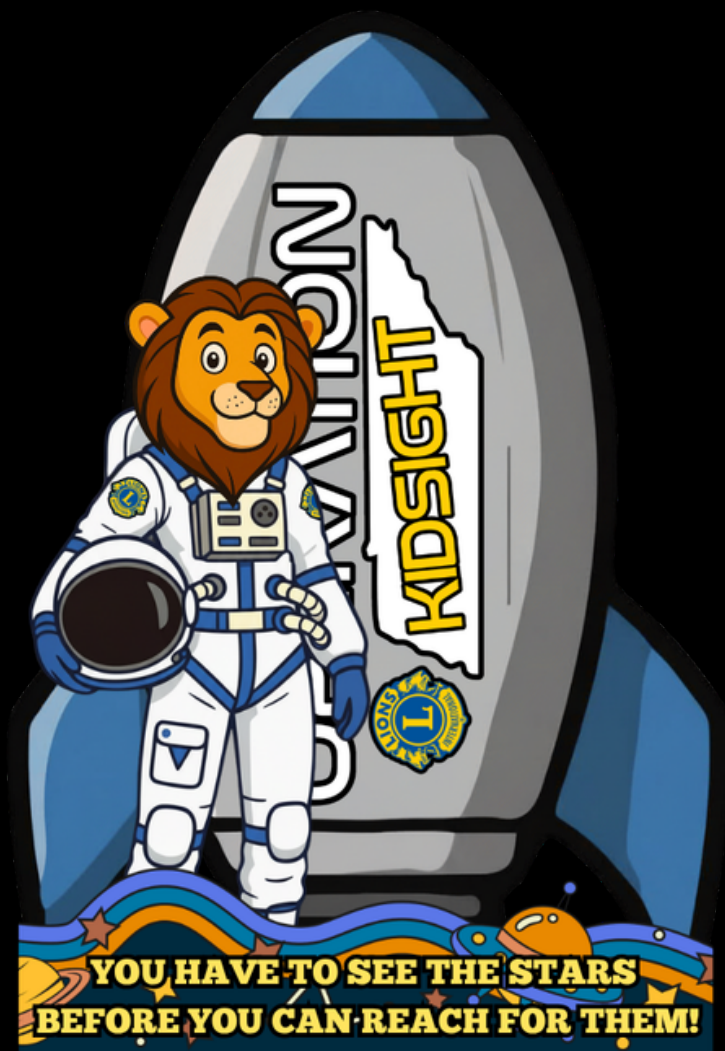
Become a KidSight Sustaining Donor Today!
www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/ksosdi

Individual Donations

Phil Barnes	Jon Anderson
Sheila Chesanow	Terri Anderson
Jim Fields	Ed Gibbons
Darrell Woodcock	Alejandro Martinez
Lisa Vinson	Tashena Martinez
Ann Butler	Patrick Scott
Terry Voyles	
Thom Smelser	

*Donations restricted for TLC TSB Fund not included

Learn more about how you can support our mission and programs!
www.tennesseelionscharities.org/funding



Visit our website to
learn more about
Tennessee Lions
Charities and our
great work!

If you have questions about TLC or need KidSight supplies,
please do not hesitate to reach out!

Arthur Wilhoite

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www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org



www.TennesseeLionsCharities.org/impact