



CARE FOR THE
HOMELESS

Caring for Homeless Patients to SEE a better future:
*Collaborative Initiative to Increase Access of
Optometry Services*

Presenter:

Gabriela Gonzalez, B.S in Public Health

Health Educator Project Coordinator



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HOMELESS

DISCLAIMER:

THIS PRESENTATION AND EXAMPLES
ARE FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY.



Agenda

- Introduction
- Vision Program Overview
- Outcomes
- Next Steps
- Q&A

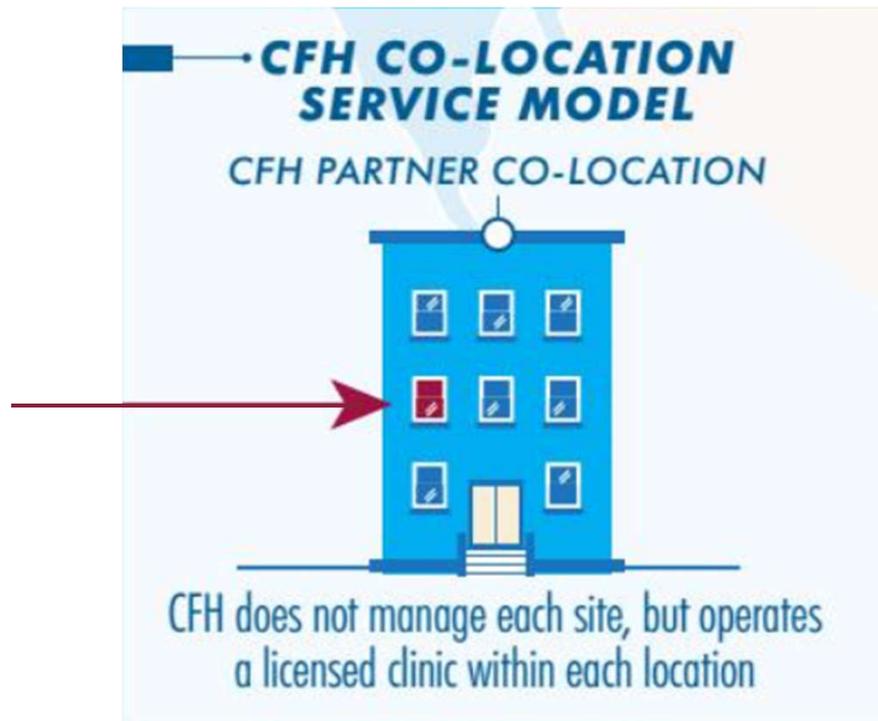


CARE FOR THE HOMELESS

Who Are We? Care for the Homeless fights homelessness by delivering high-quality and client-centered healthcare, human services and shelter to homeless individuals and families, and by advocating for policies to ameliorate, prevent and end homelessness.



Service Model



We work to meet our patients where they stay or congregate:
in soup kitchens, drop in-centers, and shelters.



CARE FOR THE HOMELESS

Serving New York City

Care for the Homeless
in Brooklyn, the Bronx, Manhattan and Queens.

Women's Shelter

Susan's Place

Our 200-bed shelter for homeless women, Susan's Place is a one-stop shop for clients to get all of the help they need for a stable future.

Preventative Health Screenings

All Angels' Church

Over 3,000 patients receive health education services each year through patient education campaigns on heart health, cancer screening, diabetes, HIV Awareness, smoking cessation and more.

Wellness & Mental Health

Peter Jay Sharp Center for Opportunity

Mental illness is one of the largest causes of homelessness for single adults. Our teams provide holistic care and wellness programming with the goal of empowering the clients.

Dental Care

Part of the Solution

Dental care is one of the biggest unmet needs for homeless New Yorkers. Our Dental Program treats malnutrition, poor oral hygiene and trauma.

Pediatrics

Jamaica Family Assessment Center

Homeless children are sick four times more often than those who are housed. We help keep kids healthy and in school.

- Soup Kitchen
- Single Shelter
- Family Shelter
- Street Medicine
- Drop-in Center
- Safe Haven
- Other

We meet homeless people where they are. Clinics are co-located in homeless shelters, soup kitchens, SROs and drop-in centers, collaborating with nonprofit partners city-wide.

Our Mission:
Care for the Homeless fights homelessness by delivering high-quality and client-centered healthcare, human services and shelter to homeless individuals and families, and by advocating for policies to ameliorate, prevent and end homelessness.

PCMH: Patient-Centered Medical Home Recognition



Learning Objectives

At the end of this presentation, you will be able to:

- Describe an innovative approach that engages community entities to work together to fill care gaps among the homeless population and their vision health.
- Identify steps towards developing a vision program at your own practice.
- Demonstrate and apply strategies learned to build community networks to promote vision health for homeless individuals.



Vision Health Statistics



1/4 school-age
children suffer from
a vision disorder.²

- Center for Disease Control and Prevention in 2015 published that approximately 12 million people in the United States had vision impairment, weakening their vision.
 - Women, minority groups, and people suffering from a chronic disease like diabetes are at higher risk for vision impairment.
- According to the National Eye Institute, nearly 3 million American have low vision.
 - Its prevalence is expected to increase in the U.S by as much as 70 percent over the next fifteen years.
- Vision problems for homeless children and adults can decrease educational achievement and overall quality of life.



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Vision Program at CFH

Collaborative Partnership between:

- New York State Lions Club.
- SUNY College of Optometry - University Eye Center.



In late 2016, we implemented a practice transformation project. Our partnership agenda is to make vision screening and treatment more accessible.

This program aligns with the 2016 Bright Futures-American Academy of Pediatrics Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care.



Health Education Department

- Coordinates and conducts preventive Health Promotions at all sites.
- Develops and implements health promotions and programs.
- Maintains and updates patient education materials.
- Provides care coordination services for patients, including one-on-one counseling.
- Serves as a resource for the agency.



Program Overview

- 1. Vision Health Education:** patient education on the importance of eye care and vision screenings, and tips to maintain good eye health.
- 2. Health Promotion:** Conduct vision screenings at health centers twice a year at family sites and annually at single adult sites.
 - New York State Lions Club and CFH Health Education team conduct screenings.
 - CFH Health Center team will make referrals and provides care coordination assistance for patients in need further examination.
- 3. Optometry Services & Referrals:** Abnormal vision screenings results are referred to SUNY College of Optometry for follow-up and comprehensive eye care treatment.

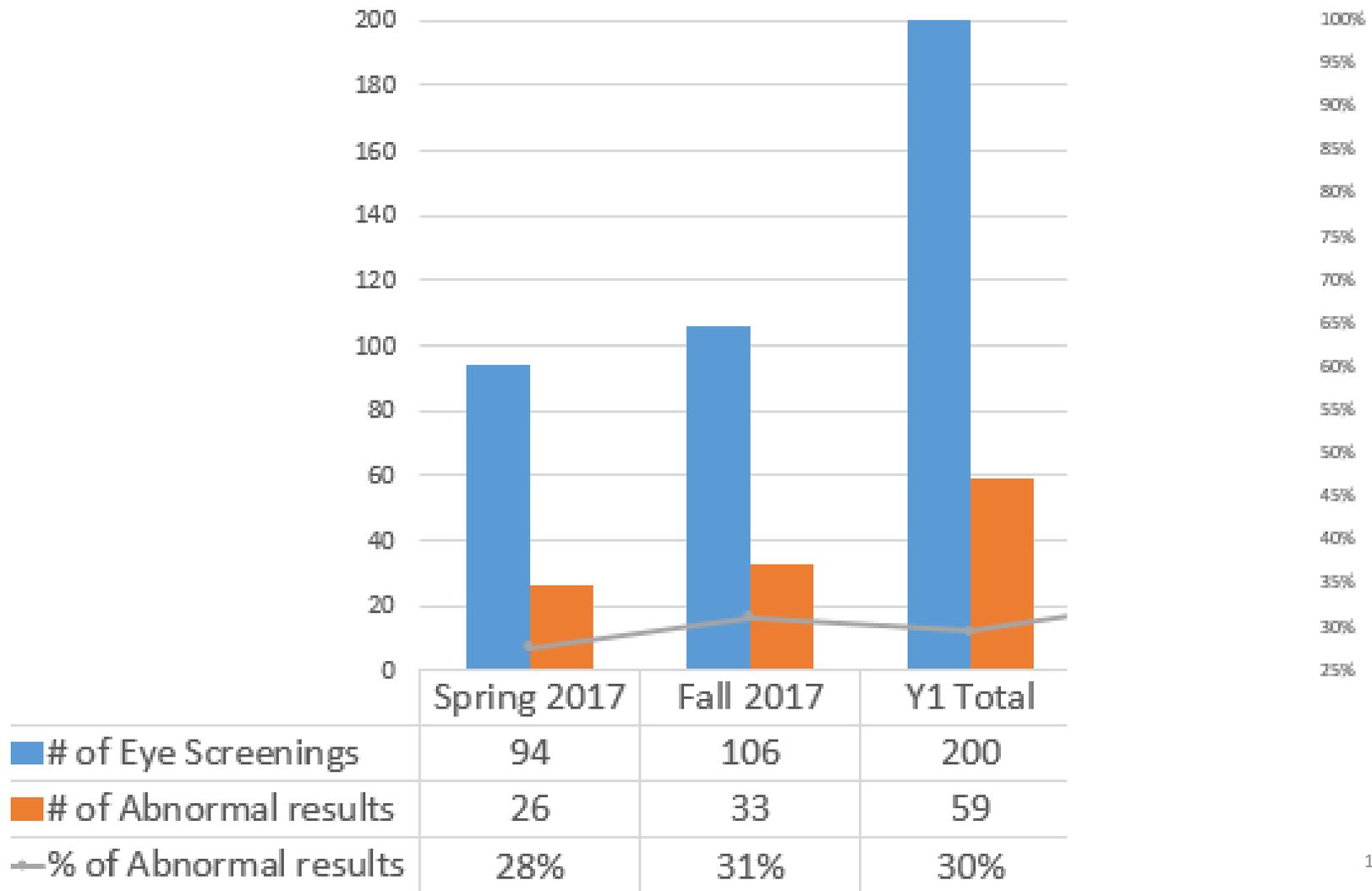


Conducting Screenings at CFH

- ✓ All patients sign a consent form.
- ✓ Lions Club members and/or Health Education conducts screenings.
- ✓ CFH medical providers see patient with abnormal results for a visit and give referrals to SUNY College of Optometry.
- ✓ At the end of the event, all vision screening results are uploaded into patient's charts in our EHR and patient also receives a paper copy.
- ✓ SUNY College of Optometry accommodates patients depending on their needs and eye care treatment.
- ✓ Referred patients have received eye glasses and other eye care services.



CFH Program Outcomes





CFH Program Next Steps

- We project to conduct 200 - 400 total screenings in 2018.
 - Over 200 pediatric vision screenings.
 - Aiming for 200 adult vision screenings.
- Expand program to purchase portable optometry equipment.



Spot Screening Device

Revolutionizing
vision screening
in children



WelchAllyn[®]

- The Spot Vision Screener is a handheld, portable device designed to easily detect vision issues on patients from 6 months of age through adulthood.
- Screens both eyes at once from a nonthreatening 3-foot distance.
- It allows simple management of patient data entry, and easy configuration for both vision screening and auto-refraction applications.



Policy Guidelines strongly recommends instrument-based vision screening

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) supports instrument-based vision screening as an alternative to visual acuity testing with eye charts (snellen chart, optotypes). These techniques have better success after 12 months of age and can be repeated at each annual preventative medicine encounter through 5 years of age or until visual acuity can be assessed reliably.⁴

6 mos - 3 yrs (pre-verbal)

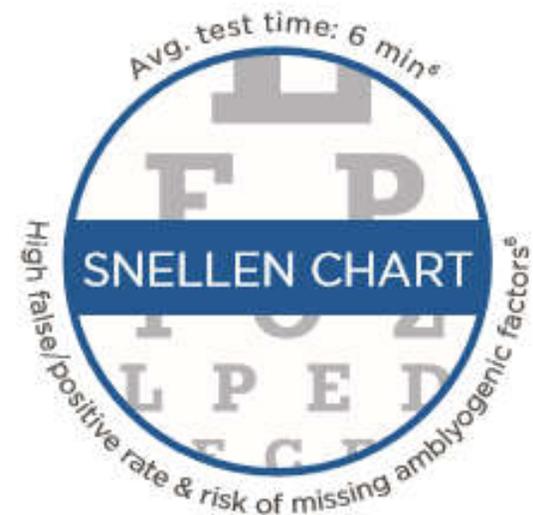
Ideal stage to detect amblyopic precursors

4 - 8 yrs (assess school readiness)

Final opportunity to detect amblyopic conditions through refractive measurements

9 - 15 yrs (adolescence)

Changes in vision are common as the body grows; 1 in 4² children in this stage have a vision issue



One study has shown Snellen acuity measures in older children resulted in a 21% under-referral rate⁷



Screening Device Functionality

Can screen for and detect six amblyopic risk factors in children as young as 6 months:

- Myopia (nearsightedness)
- Hyperopia (farsightedness)
- Astigmatism (blurred vision)
- Anisometropia (unequal refractive power)
- Strabismus (eye misalignment)
- Anisocoria (unequal pupil size)

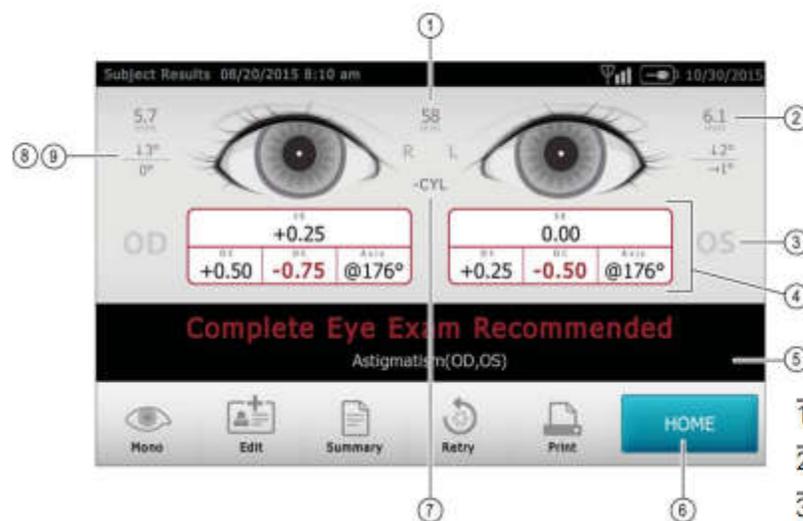
When used in adults: only recommended to detect auto-refractive errors.



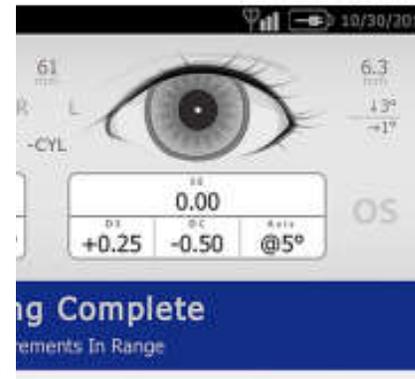
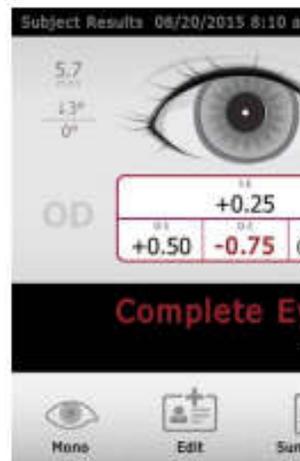
Welch Allyn Spot Vision Screener Model VS100, User Manual

Measurements within range

The figure below outlines the results screen and what it shows you:



Eye exam recommended



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Pupillary Distance |
| 2 | Pupil Size Indicator |
| 3 | Right Eye (OD), Left Eye (OS) |
| 4 | Complete Refraction
SE - Spherical equivalent
DS - Sphere
DC - Cylinder
Axis - Axis |
| 5 | Screening Result |
| 6 | Home |
| 7 | Cylinder Convention |
| 8 | Alignment Indicator |
| 9 | Degree, Horizontal, Vertical |

Results that are out-of-range are indicated in red.



Patient Education Samples

Simple Tips for Healthy Eyes



Your eyes are an important part of your health. There are many things you can do to keep them healthy and make sure you are seeing your best. Follow these simple steps for maintaining healthy eyes well into your golden years.

Have a comprehensive dilated eye exam. You might think your vision is fine or that your eyes are healthy, but visiting your eye care professional for a comprehensive dilated eye exam is the only way to really be sure. When it comes to common vision problems, some people don't realize they could see better with glasses or contact lenses. In addition, many common eye diseases such as glaucoma, diabetic eye disease, and age-related macular degeneration often have no warning signs. A dilated eye exam is the only way to detect these diseases in their early stages.



During a comprehensive dilated eye exam, your eye care professional places drops in your eyes to dilate, or widen, the pupil to allow more light to enter the eye the same way an open door lets more light into a dark room. This dilation enables your eye care professional to get a good look at the back of the eyes and examine them for any signs of damage or disease. Your eye care professional is the only one who can determine if your eyes are healthy and if you are seeing your best.

Know your family's eye health history. Talk to your family members about their eye health history. It's important to know if anyone has been diagnosed with a disease or condition since many are hereditary. This information will help to determine if you are at higher risk for developing an eye disease or condition.



Eat right to protect your sight. You've heard carrots are good for your eyes. But eating a diet rich in fruits and vegetables, particularly dark leafy greens such as spinach, kale, or collard greens, is important for keeping your eyes healthy, too.¹ Research has also shown there are eye health benefits from eating fish high in omega-3 fatty acids, such as salmon, tuna, and halibut.



Maintain a healthy weight. Being overweight or obese increases your risk of developing diabetes and other systemic conditions, which can lead to vision loss, such as diabetic eye disease or glaucoma. If you are having trouble maintaining a healthy weight, talk to your doctor.

Wear protective eyewear. Wear protective eyewear when playing sports or doing activities around the home. Protective eyewear includes safety glasses and goggles, safety shields, and eye guards specially designed to provide the correct protection for a certain activity. Most protective eyewear lenses are made of polycarbonate, which is 10 times stronger than other plastics. Many eye care providers sell protective eyewear, as do some sporting goods stores.

Consejos simples para tener ojos sanos



Sus ojos son una parte importante de su salud. Hay muchas cosas que usted puede hacer para mantenerlos sanos y asegurarse de que está viendo lo mejor posible. Siga estos simples pasos para mantener sus ojos sanos durante sus años dorados.

Hágase un examen completo de los ojos con dilatación de las pupilas. Usted puede pensar que su visión está bien o que sus ojos están sanos, pero la única manera de estar seguro es visitando a su oculista para un examen de los ojos completo con dilatación de las pupilas. Cuando se trata de problemas comunes de la visión, algunas personas no saben que podrían ver mejor con anteojos o lentes de contacto. Además, muchas enfermedades comunes de los ojos como el glaucoma, la enfermedad diabética del ojo y la degeneración macular relacionada con la edad muchas veces no presentan signos de aviso. La única manera de detectar estas enfermedades en sus etapas tempranas es con un examen de los ojos con dilatación de las pupilas.



Durante el examen completo de los ojos con dilatación de las pupilas, su oculista le pondrá unas gotas en sus ojos para dilatar, o agrandar, la pupila y permitir que entre más luz al ojo de la misma manera que una puerta abierta permite que entre más luz en un cuarto oscuro. Esto permite al oculista mirar la parte de atrás de los ojos y examinarlos para

ver si hay algún signo de daño o enfermedad. Su oculista es la única persona que puede determinar si sus ojos están sanos y si usted está viendo lo mejor posible.

Conozca su historial familiar de la salud de los ojos. Hable con los miembros de su familia sobre su historial de salud de los ojos. Es importante saber si alguien ha sido diagnosticado con una enfermedad o condición ya que muchas son hereditarias. Esto le puede ayudar a determinar si usted tiene mayor riesgo de desarrollar una enfermedad o condición en los ojos.



Coma correctamente para proteger su vista. Usted ha escuchado que las zanahorias son buenas para sus ojos. Seguir una dieta rica en frutas y vegetales, particularmente los de hojas verdes oscuras como las espinacas, la col y la col rizada, es también importante para mantener sus ojos sanos.¹ Las investigaciones también han demostrado que hay beneficios para la salud de los ojos al comer pescados altos en ácidos grasos omega-3 como el salmón, el atún y el mero.

Mantenga un peso saludable. Estar en sobrepeso u obeso aumenta su riesgo de desarrollar diabetes y otras condiciones sistémicas, que pueden llevar a una pérdida de visión, como la enfermedad diabética del ojo o el glaucoma. Si usted está teniendo problemas para mantener un peso saludable, hable con su médico.



Use equipo de protección para los ojos. Use equipo de protección para los ojos cuando esté practicando deportes o haciendo actividades alrededor de la casa. El equipo para proteger



Lions Club Handout

Message to Parents...

The Lions Clubs in New York State have launched a special program to screen children for vision problems that can lead to Amblyopia. The program focuses on preschool children



between the ages of 1 and 5. The trained volunteers from your community's local Lions Clubs will screen your children's eyes with either a special Plusoptix or Welch Allyn®

Vision Screener with the results sent to the Lions SEE main office at the Ross Eye Institute in Buffalo. (The volunteer does not diagnose vision problems.) If a problem is detected, Lions SEE will contact you through the screening site, and send a "To Do" packet to help you seek professional care.



The screening is a free community service project that is financially supported by your local Lions Clubs and a special grant from Lions Clubs International.



If your child has not yet seen an eye doctor, let us screen your child's eyes.



What Is Amblyopia?

Amblyopia, commonly known as "lazy eye", is the eye condition noted by reduced vision **not correctable** by glasses or contact



lenses and is not due to any eye disease. When one eye is better than the other, the child will begin to stop using the weaker

eye. The brain, for some reason, does not fully acknowledge the images seen by the amblyopic eye. This almost always affects only one eye but may manifest with reduction of vision in both eyes. It is estimated that three percent of children under six have some form of amblyopia.

Amblyopia can be caused by a number of different vision problems.

- **Strabismus** – When the eyes are not aligned properly; crossed eyes.
- **Hyperopia** - Farsightedness.
- **Media Opacity** - object preventing light from entering eye (e.g. cataract).
- **Anisometropia** - difference in the vision between the eyes.
- **Myopia** - Nearsightedness.
- **Ptosis** - drooping eyelid.
- **Astigmatism** - blurring caused by unequal curvature of the cornea.

Are there any risks in the screening procedure?

The Vision-screening procedure is safe and noninvasive. No device comes in contact with your child. No eye drops and no puff of air are used. The volunteer Lion holds the device in front of your child, using the screening device like a camera. The procedure is comfortable for your child and convenient for you.



How reliable is the screening process?

The technique is approximately 85- 90% effective in detecting problems that may lead to amblyopia. It is more reliable than the standard tests a pediatrician performs for a young child. Children under five (5) cannot reliably read an eye chart. This is a screening procedure and does not substitute for a complete eye exam.



Contact your local Lions Club listed on the back for more information or call Lions SEE, Inc. at (716) 881-7915



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Health Promotions Events





Resources

- National Eye Institute (NEI) - Financial Aid for Eye Care

<https://nei.nih.gov/healthyeyes/financialaid>

- Lions Club International

<http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/index.php>

- SUNY College of Optometry

<https://www.sunyopt.edu/>



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Contact Information

Gabriela Gonzalez, Health Educator Project Coordinator

Email: ggonzalez@cfhnyc.org

Phone: 212-366-4459 ex.t 226

www.careforthehomeless.org

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