# KIDSIGHT

### **ANNUAL REPORT** 2023 - 2024

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## ABOUT KIDSIGHT

KidSight's mission is "to prevent vision conditions and promote healthy eyesight in children."

At KidSight, our goal is simple: to provide free vision screenings and comprehensive follow-up for every child under 6 years old in Missouri. We know that parents often do not take their children for routine vision exams and need this preventative screening service to alert them that there is an issue. For children, healthy vision is essential to learning. In fact, 80% of early childhood learning is acquired through vision. Add to that a condition, amblyopia, which is the number one cause of vision loss in children and can lead to blindness in one or both eyes if not treated by age 7.



It is our goal that every child with a vision problem gets treatment before starting kindergarten, and we are working hard to make it happen. Since our founding in 1996, we've screened over 750,000 children, and we know over 60% of children we've referred have gotten care. Our unique approach is the utilization of a collaborative team comprised of dedicated staff and volunteers. This team effort allows us to extend our reach across the entire state, ensuring that no child is left without access to the vision care they require. By harnessing the collective efforts and expertise of our team members, we effectively identify children in need, connect them with appropriate resources, and facilitate their journey towards receiving the necessary treatment. This collaborative approach underscores our commitment to serving all communities within the state, regardless of location or socioeconomic status, in our mission to support the well-being of every child.

Sherice (left) and Lora (right) KidSight staff

## **SCREENING HIGHLIGHTS**





Children received a KidSight vision screening.



638

Children were referred for a possible vision problem.

Partner sites hosted KidSight vision screenings.

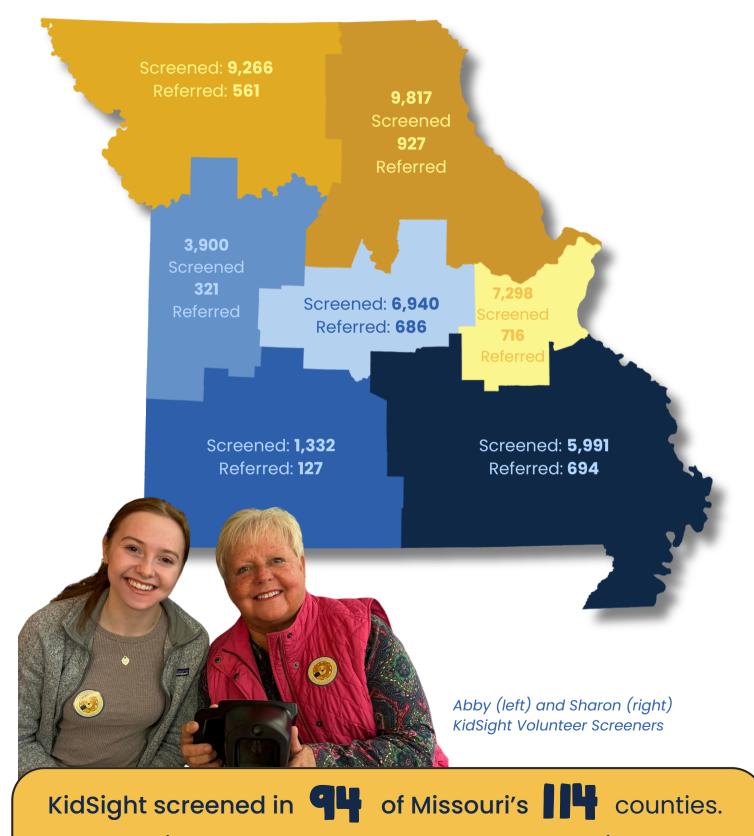
Missouri counties served.

Colton, Age 4

"When we first went and picked up his glasses, he kept putting them off and then raising them up, to compare how he saw through them and not. I remember we just sat and laughed forever while he kept doing it, he was amazed how different things looked."

- Cindy, Colton's mother

## **SCREENINGS BY REGION**



(Plus St. Louis City and Johnson County, Kansas)

## THE SIGHT SQUAD

### KIDSIGHT'S VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The KidSight Volunteer Program is a dynamic and vital part of our organization, boasting **18 dedicated screening teams**. Our 43 skilled screeners and 79 assistants work tirelessly to conduct vision screenings for children in their community. The collaborative efforts of our volunteers enable us to reach a wider audience and make a significant impact on children's lives, promoting better eye health, and overall well-being.



of KidSight screenings were conducted by volunteers. 4,426

hours were donated by KidSight volunteers this fiscal year.

#### **Top Volunteer Teams**

(number of children screened)

Team Jefferson City	4,790
Team Chillicothe	4,751
Team St. Charles	4,621
Roma Wonneman	3,175
Team New Haven	2,343
Team Grant City	2,312
Joann Pruitt	2,265
Team Owensville	2,261
Team Hillsboro	2,241

and

trained volunteer assistants

Lion Jene Crook KidSight Volunteer Screener

KidSight has **43** trained volunteer

## REFERRALS + FOLLOW-UP

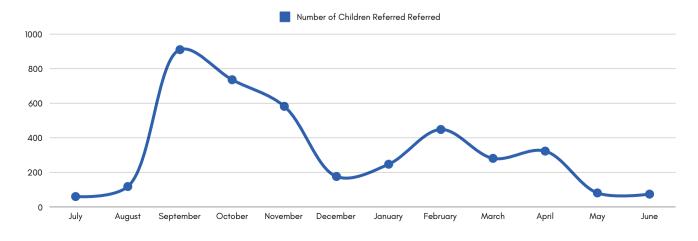
KidSight's follow-up program is a crucial component of our mission to ensure long-term eye health for children. After screenings, we provide detailed reports to parents and guardians, highlighting any potential vision issues detected. Our team then assists families in navigating the next steps, including connecting with local eye care and financial assistance for those in need.

Last fiscal year, **we referred 4,036 children** for potential vision disorders. Of those referred, **1,014 were flagged as high risk** for amblyogenic risk factors.

EJ, Age 6

72% OF CONTACTED FAMILIES REPORTED FOLLOW-UP WITH A LOCAL EYE DOCTOR.

#### NUMBER OF REFERRALS GIVEN BY MONTH



# MEET MARLEY JO

Marley is what her parents affectionately call their "sour patch kiddo" – a term of endearment for their spirited daughter who can go from sassy to sweet in the blink of an eye. She adores spending her days outdoors, chasing after butterflies with her big sister, and making friends with just about anyone she meets. Unfortunately, Marley Jo, at four years old, was struggling to learn at preschool.

A few months ago, KidSight came to Marley's rural preschool to offer free vision screenings. The screening was quick and simple but the results indicated that she needed a referral for potential farsightedness. Shocked but determined, Marley's family wasted no time. They booked an appointment with a local eye doctor armed with the information provided by KidSight. There, they discovered the extent of Marley's vision impairment – severe farsightedness with +4.25 in one eye and +5 in the other. Marley's near vision was so poor that she was unable to see pictures in a book, unable to trace letter on a page, and unable to recognize simple shapes.

With the guidance of KidSight and the expertise of her doctors, Marley has begun her journey toward clearer vision. And as the weeks turned into months, her family started to notice the changes. Her once tentative grasp on letters and writing has strengthened, a testament to the transformative power of early intervention.

#### "Thank you so much for offering this to Marley's daycare! We would have never known how much she was struggling without your help."

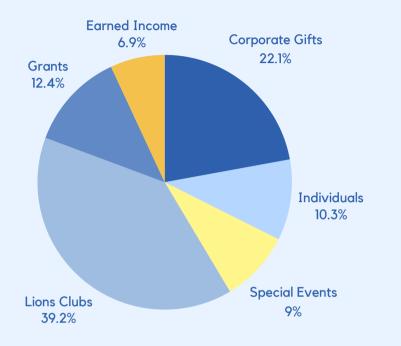
- Kassie, Marley Jo's mother

For Marley, KidSight was more than just a screening program – it is a beacon of hope that illuminated the path to a brighter future. Without it, her journey might be shrouded in uncertainty, her potential left untapped. Your support ensures that KidSight can screen more children, like Marley.



You can support KidSight screenings anytime at: www.kid-sight.org/give

## **FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**



#### Income

Corporate gifts include Saving Sight's donations and reduction in facility expenses, and smaller corporate matching gifts. Grants include both corporate and family foundation grants. Special Events includes income from the board sponsored Trivia Night, Mystery Bus Tour, and other smaller events. Earned income includes vision practice sponsorships, fee-based vision screenings, and income from interest.

#### **Total Income: \$258,913**





Value of the volunteer screener hours donated to KidSight.

# THANK YOU DONORS

### **VISIONARIES** (\$5,000+)

Griffin Family Foundation Mader Foundation Mervyn W. Jenkins Foundation William J Brace Foundation

Cape Girardeau Lions Club Jefferson City Host Lions Club Lions Eye Foundation of MD26-M2

### **CHAMPIONS OF SIGHT** (\$2,000 TO \$4,999)

Chillicothe Lions Club House Springs Lions Club Marshall Lions Club Maryville Host Lions Club Missouri Lions MD26-M2 Owensville Lions Club PDG Association of MD26-M5 St. Charles First Capitol Lions Club St. Joseph Host Lions Club Webster Groves Lions Club Bucker Foundation

### **DEFENDERS OF SIGHT** (\$1,000 TO \$1,999)

**Creve Coeur Lions Club** Green Castle Lions Club Harvester Lions Club Hermann Lions Club Jefferson City Evening Lions Club Liberty Lions Club Maryville Pride Lions Club Mayview Lions Club Missouri Lions MD26-M3 **Monett Lions Club Moscow Mills Lions Club** Paris Lions Club **Prairie Home Lions Club** Rolla Lions Club Seymour Lions Club Sikeston Lions Club Washington Lions Club

#### Board of Directors FY23-24

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