



VLEIF, Inc. c/o Sandra Armendaris, 7623 Virginia Ave, Falls Church, VA 22043
January 21, 2025

REPORT FROM VLEIF

This will be a brief update on the activities of the VLEIF for the current year.

- 1. Scholastic Grants – We received 25 Scholastic Grant Applications. 2 were deemed ineligible, so 23 were approved. Total payout will be \$49,700.00. None of this would be possible without the Clubs. Thanks to the sponsoring clubs for your participation.**
- 2. VLEIF lost a dedicated board member with the passing of Lion Ralph Thompson. A grant to award selected Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVIs) funds to be spent on students was established in his honor. The Grant Committee approved four \$1,000.00 grants this time.**
- 3. Eye Care for the needy expanded to Fredericksburg, VA. VLEIF donated an eyecare lane to the “Moss Free Clinic” in Fredericksburg, VA and it is now operational with Licensed Optometrists volunteering at least one or two days per month providing eyecare to those in need. The Clinic is actively looking to add more professional volunteers. The Lions in the area have adopted the Clinic and actively works to screen vision on a regular basis.**
- 4. The “Lion Richard A. Falls Research Grant” program continues to fund research projects dedicated to curing and/or preventing eye diseases and improving the life of those with vision impairments. Research Grants of \$11,200.00 were awarded last year.**
- 5. VLEIF continues to fund and support the Lions Eye Clinic at the Inova complex. We contribute \$25,000.00 per year to the operating expenses. This clinic is dedicated to providing eyecare to indigents who have no insurance, and once per week perform eye exams and provide eyeglasses to needy individuals.**
- 6. This year, VLEIF celebrated 50 years of association with the Lions Eye Clinic. The clinic underwent major restoration (\$200,000.00) and purchased needed equipment. VLEIF donated half the cost of the equipment, \$47,000.00 and donated \$50,000.00 for Furniture. (This will be paid in two payments, \$25,000.00 this year and \$25,000.00 next year.**
- 7. VLEIF also joins with the “Prevention of Blindness Society of the Washington Metropolitan Area” in support of the Alexandria Low Vision Learning Center. This practice is dedicated to serving those who are chronically visually impaired in our community.**

8. The VLEIF Board has approved funds to assist the clubs with providing needed eyecare assistance when they come up against budget shortfalls. The remaining funds from the dissolution of the Sight and Hearing Van Corporation were turned over to VLEIF, and these funds will be used to assist the Clubs in their screening efforts. Contact me or our District Representative and we will help when we can.

Ed “Woody” Woodard, PDG

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