

Funding Facts

- \$2.5—\$2.8 million Endowment needed to yield \$100,000 to fund annual cost
- \$1.7 million in new funds from LVRF supporters
- \$1 million from Businesses, Organizations and non-Lions (Partnering with Wilmer Development to secure)
- Donations are eligible to participate in the LVRF Recognition Program (see LVRF Recognition Program brochure for details)
- Committee established to advance LVRF mission Beyond our Borders
- LVRF supported annual Fellowship since 2010 and voted to continue annual support of the Fellowship until 2021 while raising Endowment

For more information: Contact District LVRF Trustees to schedule a meeting Program, answer questions about the Fellowship, or how to donate and receive proper credit and recognition.

Donations should be made payable to: Lions Vision Research Foundation, Inc. and the memo line, or accompanying note, to indicate Lions Low Vision Fellowship Endowment.

LVRF Recognition Program applies to Donations.

Multiple District 22 Lions Vision Research Foundation, Inc.

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Lions Low Vision Fellowship Endowment

Informational Brochure





Lions Low Vision Fellowship Program

Introduction: A formal program for post-doctoral fellowship training in Low Vision Rehabilitation related clinical science and research is offered at The Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins. The Accredited Subspecialty Training Program (ASTP) “Fellowship” in Low Vision Rehabilitation is for a one-year clinical fellowship, beginning July 1.

Training Program: The training program is designed to provide the fellow with training in advanced clinical low vision rehabilitation care and experience with vision rehabilitation research. The effort within the one-year fellowship is 80% clinical and 20% research. The Fellow’s level of independence increases throughout the training program, from observation only to direct care, from straightforward refractive cases to complex visual problems, with neurological co-morbidities. At the end of the year the graduate is expected to achieve the following goals:

1) Be proficient in the clinical delivery of low vision rehabilitation care in a built-disciplinary setting, 2) Diagnose, treat, manage and direct the care of the low vision patient with consideration applied to co-morbidities, psycho-social concerns, and the key roles of each of the rehab team members, 3) Complete a research project and publish in peer-reviewed journal.

Lions Low Vision Fellowship Program: Wilmer offers a one year subspecialty training program in low vision, This is **currently one of only two low vision fellowships in the country**, tasked with educating new care givers to meet the growing demand for care and future leaders. The previous fellows have participated in studies including LOVRNET and developing best practices for lens configuration. The result has been an increase in patient visits to the low vision clinic and in the lens prescription rate. In addition, the fellowship has provided a valuable resource to the vision community as a whole by producing physicians who are creating and educating others in new treatment protocols. The fellowship is funded on a year-to-year basis, which is unstable in the current academic medical environment.

Endowed Fellowships: Fellowships in academic medicine are vulnerable to budget cuts and external influences. An endowed fund allows resources to be available in perpetuity for academic programs. Lions and Wilmer are partnering together to endow the Lions Low Vision Fellowship.

(Previous Information taken from Wilmer Eye Institute Web and Brochure information.)

Fellow Testimonial

The Lions low vision rehabilitation fellowship allowed me not only to learn to practice low vision rehabilitation at a high level, but also to question and to consider how to move the field as a whole forward. My fellow, “fellows” have routinely lectured at the American Academy of Optometry, participate in the low vision sections at major conferences and have contributed to some of the latest research that has changed and defined practice patterns in our field. It is a pleasure to continue to engage and to continue to work with those from the Lions Fellowship program on a national level year after year. It is a life long fellowship. - Nicole

The Lions Low Vision Rehabilitation Fellowship and my subsequent rehabilitation at a high level, but also to question and to consider how to move the field as a whole forward. My fellow, “fellows” have routinely lectured at the American Academy of Optometry, participate in the low vision sections at major conferences and have time at Johns Hopkins introduced me to the national and international low vision communities. I developed the skill-set to speak to small support groups, to large rooms of Lions club members and to present my research in front of the leaders in the field. I honed my clinical skills and developed my own practice style so that I could care for patients in hospitals, private clinics and even on an RV with the New England Eye On-Site mobile van. Not only did the fellowship change my life and individual career, it has allowed me to become a teacher and mentor to so many others who are beginning their low vision journeys. It has provided me with a lifelong connection of the best clinicians and researchers who I can rely on as I teach my students and continue to dedicate myself to the field of low vision - Lexi