In 2015, Bud Shepherd underwent surgery for a kidney removal and suffered an ischemic stroke, losing a significant amount of his eyesight. After living a very full life, Bud was suddenly faced with giving up many things that he liked to do, including driving, reading, spending time on his computer, and taking care of his cows and horses.

In February 2017, Bud was referred to NewView Oklahoma by his ophthalmologist, something he says was "life-changing." He was seen by one of our doctors for a low vision eye exam, which helped him get yoked prism glasses, giving him some increased peripheral vision and assisting with his balance. He was also given a low vision occupational therapy (OT) evaluation and low vision OT treatments.

NewView occupational therapist Anita Miller went into Bud's home and marked many of the things that he uses daily, including the microwave and his computer keyboard. She also marked steps in his home with high contrasting tape to make his transitions safer. In addition, she taught Bud medication safety so he could manage his own medication on a daily basis.

Today Bud has the proper magnification and can read again when he isn’t listening to books on tape. He can also use his iPhone more efficiently and get the most of the functions it offers. Bud will soon be receiving orientation and mobility training, giving him even more independence in and around the home.

NewView Oklahoma believes that every child deserves to have a summer camp experience. OWL Camp, or Oklahomans Without Limits, was created in 2000 and has grown to two weeks of camp each summer for children ages 8 to 18.

Camp activities include bowling, movies, museum trips and more. A favorite camp activity is the adaptive water sports, including water skiing, wake boarding and tubing.

"We build our activities on reaching our limits through trying new things and showing off those activities we are best at," said Cathy Holden, senior vice president of rehabilitation and clinical operations at NewView Oklahoma. Each blind or visually impaired camper is partnered with a sighted buddy. Campers can do all the same things the sighted youth do with very little adaptation.

"The kids have such a great time being together and getting to do activities they thought they might never do because of their vision impairment," Holden said. "For many, this camp is a time to forget about their limitations and explore a world built around their abilities."
Hit by Storms, Sustains Flood Damage

On April 29, 2017, NewView Oklahoma’s corporate offices suffered devastating damage when severe storms ripped through Oklahoma City. A major roof failure due to 90 mph straight line winds resulted in flooding our offices from the 4th floor down. This tragedy caused extensive damage to our building where 60 blind and visually impaired Oklahomans are employed in our manufacturing area and contact center. The building also serves as a corporate headquarters where a dedicated staff of professionals work diligently to provide Oklahomans who are blind with the opportunities, tools and resources they need to live independently and work productively.

The financial impact of making repairs to our building will be significant and we are asking for your help.

Fortunately, our manufacturing facility was not damaged, but we lost productivity for more than a week as we ensured the facility was made safe for ingress/egress for our blind and visually impaired employees. We did not produce or ship any products during that time, but continued to pay every employee on staff. Since the severe storm damage was inflicted, many of our staff have been working at alternate locations while insurance evaluations are being completed and temporary repairs are performed. Many thanks to United Way locations while insurance evaluations are being completed and temporary repairs are performed. Many thanks to United Way.

While most of the repair costs should be covered by insurance, NewView’s deductible and other out-of-pocket expenses are estimated to be greater than $150,000 – funds that would otherwise be used to deliver our life changing services to thousands of visually impaired Oklahomans.

Please consider making a gift to NewView Oklahoma to offset the costs for the needed repairs to our building. Your generosity will ensure that NewView will be able to continue to fulfill our mission – to empower people with vision loss to achieve their full potential for living independently where they live, work, learn and play. A contribution envelope is enclosed for your convenience or visit www.newviewoklahoma.org to donate online.

With your help, we will persevere and come out of this trial stronger than ever. Thank you for your consideration and your interest in improving the lives of blind Oklahomans.

Recent Grants and Gifts

NewView received three grants recently to help provide services to seniors with visual impairments.

NewView received a $10,000 grant from Astrea Better Health of Oklahoma to help provide occupational therapy and orientation and mobility training services to seniors currently on waiting lists at our low-vision clinics.

NewView received a $10,000 grant from the Carolyn Watson Rural Oklahoma Community Foundation and its Community Grant program. The grant will be used to support the delivery of three low-vision clinics in southwestern Oklahoma at the INTEGRIS Family Clinic in Altus, which will allow NewView to increase services to individuals in rural Oklahoma. The clinics will serve adults over 65 with low vision living in Jackson, Kiowa, Haskell, Tillman and Garfield counties. NVO expects to see up to 50 individuals in this pilot program running from this fall through next spring. These clinics will increase access to low vision optics and assessments, as well as follow-up rehabilitation services including help with daily living skills, safe travel and assistive technology needs.

NewView received a $20,000 grant from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation to help fund a medication management program for seniors who are vision-impaired.

More than 70 percent of the clients served by NewView are older adults challenged by vision loss over the age of 55 years old. Grants of $25,000 each from the Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation and the Grace and Franklin Bernsen Foundation to support vision rehabilitation services in the Tulsa area will ensure that seniors have increased access to the services they need to live safely and independently.

A $5,000 grant by the Osteopathic Founders Foundation will provide adaptive devices such as magnifiers, canes, specialized lighting and other equipment for older adults who do not have the financial resources to purchase these items.
Every day in every corner of our state, NewView Oklahoma gives hope to individuals with vision loss. But we simply cannot do it without you. Giving a tax-deductible donation today or establishing a planned gift for tomorrow will help clients like Bud live fully and independently!

My gift is enclosed for:

_____ $25  _____ $50  _____ $100

___ Other ______________________

(please see reverse side for payment information)

Please make my gift:

In honor of: ____________________________________

In memory of: __________________________________

501 N. Douglas Ave  |  Oklahoma City, OK 73106  |  855-811-9699  |  newviewoklahoma.org
Payment Information

___ My check is enclosed *(please make checks payable to NewView Oklahoma)*

___ Charge my credit card one time in the amount of $_________

___ Charge my credit card monthly in the amount of $_________ for _______ months

___ Invoice me in the amount of $_________

___ Contact me about planned giving options

Full Name: ___________________________________
Address: _____________________________________
City:__________________________State: _________
Zip Code:_____________Phone: ________________
Email: _______________________________________

Credit Card Information

___ Visa  ____MasterCard ____Discover ____ AM EX

Card Number: ________________________________
Exp. Date:____________ Security Code: _________
Signature: ___________________________________