

SAVE THE DATE

October 25, 2017

Please join us at our third annual Tulsa ENVISION THE FUTURE luncheon to learn how you can support our life-changing programs.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2017 | 12:00 P.M.- 1:00 P.M.

Renaissance Hotel & Convention Center
6808 South 107th East Avenue

HONORARY CHAIRS: Sarah Hansel, Sarah Miller

To RSVP, or if you are interested in hosting a table, please contact Tiffany Henley at thenley@newviewoklahoma.org

We Love our Volunteers!

Leadership Oklahoma City recently recognized Julie Hensley with the Clyde Benn Volunteer Award for her dedication in serving as a NewView Oklahoma OWL Camp volunteer nurse. For 14 years Julie has used her personal vacation time to help OWL campers enjoy a week of fun and learning. Throughout her years at camp, she has treated children with sunburns, splinters and stomachaches as well as more serious medical concerns, including seizures and feeding tubes.

The award is named after Leadership OKC XI member Clyde Benn, former director of the office of minority health at the Oklahoma State Health Department. To honor his mentorship to youth, Leadership OKC sponsors a youth-serving organization to recognize a recipient of their choice with the designation and a \$2,500 cash gift to the volunteer who has a sustained and significant commitment to front-line service to youth.

Thank you Julie and congratulations on this well-deserved honor!



NewView Oklahoma president and CEO Lauren Branch and NewView volunteer Julie Hensley

newview
OKLAHOMA

CEO Newsletter
JULY 2017

Living Life Independently

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.



OWL Campers Enjoy Summer Fun

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."



NewView Douglas Location 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 of Central Oklahoma and the Arthritis Foundation for allowing our employees to use offices within their facilities.

While our employees are back on the job, we know that because of the extreme water and structural damage our property suffered, it will take months and hundreds of

thousands of dollars to return NewView to where we were before April 29. As of June 30, NewView has incurred more than \$75,000 in upfront costs related to storm damage just to make the building safe and restore basic functionality to the building. Based on current estimates from our insurance company and contractors, NewView will incur another \$475,000 in other upfront costs related to storm remediation, roof, electrical and plumbing repairs, damaged equipment and rental of temporary office space for dislocated staff.

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 \$150,000.00 – 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 Aetna 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, Harmon, Tillman and Greer 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 optometry 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.

NewView Hosts Successful Flip Flops & Pop Tops Event

The May 11th Flip Flops and Pop Tops event was a great success, raising nearly \$10,000 to help NewView Oklahoma provide services to the blind and visually impaired!

Thank you to Clarke Harris and The Greens Country Club for hosting such a fabulous event. We are grateful for your support and to all those who donated to the silent auction and raffles. From OKC Thunder tickets, to round trip Southwest Airlines trip, we also appreciate those who donated items to make the fundraiser such a great success!

If you weren't able to attend the event, you can still contribute to our programs and services by visiting www.newviewoklahoma.org/donate.



Clark Harris (right) and Dru Walker kick off The Greens Country Club summer events with a silent auction fundraiser for NewView Oklahoma.

Thank you for your help to empower blind and vision impaired individuals to achieve their maximum potential!

Follow Us on Social Media



Lauren Branch, PRESIDENT AND CEO
[newviewoklahoma.org](http://www.newviewoklahoma.org)

NewView Headquarters

501 North Douglas Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73016
(405) 232-4644

Tulsa Low Vision Center

5986 South Yale Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74135
(918) 779-7772



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!

newview
OKLAHOMA

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: _____