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**CAROLYN WATSON RURAL OKLAHOMA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS \$10,000 GRANT TO  
NEWVIEW OKLAHOMA**

**Oklahoma City, OK (June 22, 2017)** – NewView Oklahoma, the only private in-state provider of comprehensive vision rehabilitation services to blind and vision-impaired Oklahomans, is pleased to announce it has 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.

"We are so pleased to have received this grant allowing us to extend our reach into rural areas and bring services directly to older individuals in southwest Oklahoma," said Lauren Branch, president and CEO of NewView. "We appreciate the support of the Carolyn Watson Rural Oklahoma Community Foundation to help make it possible to reach this under-served population."

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 which this fall and runs through Spring 2018. 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. The goal is keep individuals living safely and independently in their own homes.

The Carolyn Watson Rural Oklahoma Community Foundation was founded by the late Carolyn Watson, CEO and chairman of Shamrock Bank, N.S., in 1995 to improve the quality of life in rural Oklahoma communities. Through its two grant programs, the organization promotes education, health, literacy and arts and the humanities in 20 Oklahoma counties. Since its inception, the Carolyn Watson Rural Oklahoma Community Foundation has awarded nearly \$900,000 in grants to schools, teachers and communities in rural Oklahoma. Additionally, the Carolyn Watson Opportunities Scholarship offers awards of up to \$10,000 per academic year for high school seniors' graduation from 62 rural Oklahoma counties to attend college. For more information, please visit [www.ruraloklahoma.org](http://www.ruraloklahoma.org).

NewView Oklahoma offers hope to individuals living with blindness and visual impairments throughout Oklahoma. To learn more about NewView Oklahoma's programs or clinical services operated by the organization, visit [www.newviewoklahoma.org](http://www.newviewoklahoma.org).

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**NewView Oklahoma** is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1949 with a mission to empower people who are blind and visually impaired to achieve their maximum level of independence through employment, low vision rehabilitation, and community outreach. NewView Oklahoma is the leading employer of the blind and visually impaired individuals in Oklahoma and offers the only comprehensive Low Vision clinics in the state. Visit online at [www.newviewoklahoma.org](http://www.newviewoklahoma.org) or follow on [Facebook](#) and on [Twitter](#).