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Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma Presents NewView Oklahoma with \$50,000 Donation

OKLAHOMA CITY (April 3, 2017) - NewView Oklahoma recently received a generous donation from the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma to help create a new state-of-the-art low vision rehabilitation center. The new facility will help NewView serve even more blind and visually impaired individuals, many of whom suffer from macular degeneration and other age-related diseases.

“The Masons are staunch supporters of seniors and those with vision impairments, and we are very impressed with NewView and the services they provide to Oklahoman’s who are blind and visually impaired. No one else is doing what NewView does in Oklahoma,” said John Logan, executive director of the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma. “New View’s mission really resonated with our board because many of our members and friends have vision concerns. We wanted to do what we could to help support this great organization.”

Logan and Rick Allison, grand master of Masons, presented a check for \$50,000 to Lauren Branch, executive director of NewView Oklahoma to help with the new building, which will more than double NewView’s clinic capacity.

“With our services in such high demand, it is imperative that we have better means to fully serve the community,” Branch said. “The Masons’ generous gift will help us build a state-of-the-art facility to expand our services.”

The building at 4301 North Classen Boulevard in Oklahoma City will be designed with a multitude of state-of-the-art upgrades including a braille lab, teaching kitchen, pediatric therapy, a technology training center (STEM), an independent living and job skills training area, three low vision exam lanes and a community room for group training, art classes, support groups and other activities. Vision impaired patients will be guided through the facility with directed lighting, which will feature adjustable intensity for different eye conditions. High-contrast colors will accentuate all edges and corners for fast navigation and non-reflective finishes will significantly reduce glare. In addition, a meticulously designed flooring layout will provide different surfaces such as carpet, tile and vinyl to provide textural cues and acoustic difference that help identify locations.

NewView Oklahoma offers hope to individuals living with blindness and visual impairments from Guymon to Idabel and everywhere in-between. To learn more about NewView Oklahoma’s programs or clinical services, please visit www.newviewoklahoma.org.

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NewView Oklahoma

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 Clinic in the state. Visit them online at www.newviewoklahoma.org.