

## WHY IS VISION SCREENING SO IMPORTANT?



Early detection/intervention can prevent vision loss and improve literacy.

American Optometric Association research shows that one in four children has an undiagnosed vision problem.

The Essilor Vision Foundation has also demonstrated the impact of uncorrected vision problems.

- 90% of children who need eyeglasses don't have them.
- 44% of parents are not aware that behavioral problems are an indication that a child's vision is impaired.



Thanks to our collaboration with Lions International to recruit and train vision screening volunteers throughout South Florida, qualified public schools in need of vision screening assistance can call for volunteer availability in your area: Lion CC Diana Castillo  
305-898-0179 • cas9673@aol.com

## APPLY FOR A NO COST EYE EXAM AND GLASSES ON OUR HEIKEN PORTAL

### WHO CAN APPLY?

- Parents of Florida public school students and private school students on school choice scholarship
- Parents of Head Start students

### WHY USE THE HEIKEN PORTAL?

- Faster Processing
- Confidential and Secure



### AVAILABLE IN:

- English
- Español
- Kreyol
- Português

Heiken does **NOT** share a student's personal information with any other agencies.

## AMERICAN OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION PRESS RELEASE

St. Louis, MO, August 4, 2008

The American Optometric Association (AOA) reminds parents that good vision is critical for many classroom tasks - from reading books or seeing a blackboard to viewing a computer screen. Without healthy vision, students can face unnecessary challenges not only in the classroom, but also to their mental, physical, social and emotional well being. A comprehensive eye examination for students is one of the most important "to-dos" as children head back to school, and yet it is often overlooked. Without an eye exam, many children will suffer from undetected vision problems, and some may even be misdiagnosed as having a learning disorder.



**Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program**  
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## NO COST EYE EXAMINATIONS AND GLASSES FOR ELIGIBLE SCHOOLCHILDREN



**FLORIDA HEIKEN**  
*Children's Vision Program, LLC*

FOUNDED 1992

A DIVISION OF MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC.

**A STATEWIDE PROGRAM**



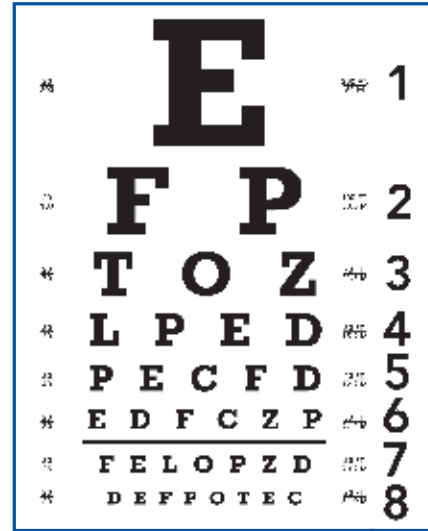
## WHY ARE COMPREHENSIVE EYE EXAMS SO IMPORTANT?

According to the American Optometric Association, one in four students has vision problems. If left untreated, these problems can contribute to poor school performance, behavior issues, and delinquency. Students with poor vision may not see the board properly or might struggle with close work. As a result, they may fall behind in class or act out.

Early intervention can help improve literacy and classroom performance. Students will be able to read their assignments, see the board, and achieve their full academic potential.



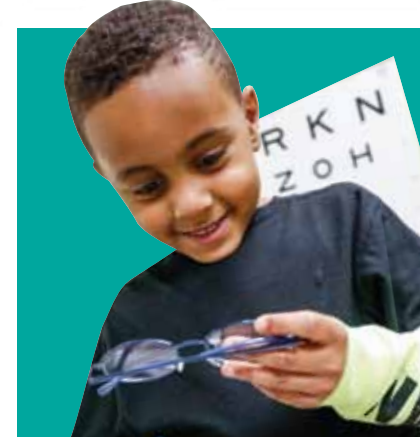
## WHAT IS THE FLORIDA HEIKEN CHILDREN'S VISION PROGRAM?



The Heiken Children's Vision Fund was created in 1992 by the Miami Dade Optometric Physicians Association in memory of Dr. Bruce Heiken who frequently provided free eye care to children. In 2007, the Board of the Bruce Heiken Memorial Fund and the Board of Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc. agreed to a merger creating the Miami Lighthouse Heiken Children's Vision Program. In 2010, the Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, LLC was formed as a division of Miami Lighthouse to provide free eye exams throughout the State of Florida.

## WHO DOES THE FLORIDA HEIKEN PROGRAM SERVE?

The program offers no-cost comprehensive eye examinations, with dilation, and prescription eyeglasses to eligible underserved school students. These services are currently provided statewide on our 5 mobile eye care units and a portable clinic to setup inside at school visits or via a voucher to one of our 1,150 participating in-office optometrists. Since its inception, the Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program has served over 191,000 students. With the statewide expansion, the program serves an average of 14,000-18,000 students annually throughout Florida depending on available funding. In a typical year, Florida Heiken mobile eye care units are scheduled for approximately 600 visits at schools and community events throughout the State.



## SAFETY PROTOCOLS



### REQUIRED TO ENTER THE EYECARE UNIT

- Staff must wear a mask.
- Students must wear a mask and use hand sanitizer.

### SAFETY ON THE MOBILE EYECARE UNIT

- All touched surfaces and equipment SANITIZED between students and entire interior every day.
- UV/HEPA Air Filtration Systems

FLORIDA HEIKEN CHILDREN'S VISION PROGRAM MOBILE UNITS ARE FULLY EQUIPPED EYE CARE CLINICS ON WHEELS.

