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Georgia Lions  
Lighthouse  
Foundation

# The Beacon

September 2009

## Jimmie is Reconnected with Family and Friends

Jimmie worked for Blue Cross Blue Shield for 25 years. She lived near a beach, and she enjoyed going water skiing and shopping in town but felt she was too far from her family. After retiring, she came to Tifton to get away from city traffic and to be closer to her daughter and grandchildren.

Jimmie started to notice her hearing loss after she moved. She frequently had to ask people to repeat themselves, which bothered her because she thought it frustrated them. She loved going to the movies and being outdoors, but found it more difficult with age and with her hearing loss. Jimmie eventually started to feel alone in large groups. She would have trouble following conversations and so she would disengage. This was especially difficult when her Bridge group got together. They were each other's support system, and Jimmie wasn't able to fully participate in the gatherings because she couldn't hear.

It's a pleasure to be around people when you can hear what they're saying, and you can engage in the conversation.

In May of 2008 Jimmie was tired of not being able to enjoy other people's company, and she contacted the Lighthouse. By June she had a new hearing aid. It has taken her a little while to get used to them, but she appreciates being able to hear everything going on around her.

Jimmie now looks forward to seeing her friends for cards. She can talk with them again and hear their stories. She jokes that she still can't water ski, but she can now enjoy her other favorite pastimes.

In Jimmie's words, "If you can't hear, it's just so frustrating. You hate to keep asking people to repeat what they said, and I know they get tired of doing that. I don't have to do that near as much as I used to. Thank you very much for doing this for people. I think it's a great service, and it just changes people's lives, really. It makes them be a little bit more outgoing, and it's a pleasure to be around people when you can hear what they're saying and you can engage in the conversation."

## Do You Know a Group that Could Use Glasses?



Every year the Lighthouse receives over 100,000 pairs of donated glasses, but we need your help getting them to people in need.

Our **reading glasses** and **sunglasses** can go to any organization that may be able to use them. In the past, reading glasses have been sent to homeless shelters and on mission trips. The sunglasses have gone to migrant workers within the United States, and overseas to people at risk for developing cataracts because they spend all day in the sun. The sunglasses not only make the outdoor work more comfortable, but also protect against harmful UV rays.

Our **prescription eyeglasses** can only be dispersed outside the U.S. If you know a group who is going on a mission trip and would like to bring prescription glasses along, or if you have an idea for people who could use reading glasses or sunglasses within the United States, please contact Tiffany at [tellerbee@lionslighthouse.org](mailto:tellerbee@lionslighthouse.org). Thank you!

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## Planned Giving

### Once You Give It Away, You Can Give It Away Again!

Take a survey of any twenty people on the street, and chances are that most, if not all, will tell you that once you've given something away, that's it. It's gone. Done deal. And, of course, this is true almost all of the time. But did you know that there is an estate planning concept that actually makes it possible for you to give all or a portion of your estate away twice upon your death?

We call it the Give It Twice Trust, and it's a simple planning option that has particular appeal to those with small to medium-sized estates.

In a nutshell, here's how the concept works:

1. Let's use a \$500,000 estate as our example. At death (in the case of a husband and wife, we're talking about the second death), estate assets are transferred into a Trust.
2. This Trust generates annual income to charity.
3. Simultaneously, each year one-tenth of the Trust principal is transferred to family.



At the conclusion of the ten-year period the original Trust amount -- \$500,000 -- has been transferred to family without tax; and the income generated by the Trust has been transferred to charity, also without any tax due.

In other words, thanks to a little planning, the husband and wife have managed to give the \$500,000 value of their estate away, twice!

This plan also has appeal in many situations because it allows parents to transfer an inheritance to children over time, thus insuring a level of management even after the parents are gone.

The possibility of giving it twice means that many people have found a way to accomplish two important objectives - the desire to bestow an inheritance on family and the desire to see philanthropic dreams realized.

For more information on this and other planned giving options please contact Sarah Epting at 404-325-3630.

# How You Can Get Involved With the Lighthouse

## On-Going Volunteer Opportunities

We have a number of on-going volunteer opportunities at the Lighthouse. If you would like to get involved with our organization in any of the following ways, please contact Tiffany Ellerbee at [tellerbee@lionslighthouse.org](mailto:tellerbee@lionslighthouse.org) or call 404-325-3630.

### Receive vision screening training

Vision screenings are easy to do and a vital resource to the community. You can call the Lighthouse to schedule a training day for a group and in turn that group can host a vision screening.



### Host a vision screening

After training you can host a vision screening. We get requests for screenings from around the state, and if you are trained and you are in that area we can refer them to you. We will provide the screening materials, you just need the trained personnel.

### Work in our eyeglass recycling center

The eyeglass recycling center is open for volunteer groups on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 – noon, and Monday, Tuesday, and Friday afternoons from 2:30-5:00. We will also be welcoming groups of 8 or more people to volunteer on Saturdays.

### Assist at a vision clinic



The Lighthouse now has 13 clinics across the state of Georgia located in Athens, Augusta, Atlanta, Decatur, Savannah, Tifton, and Waycross. At these clinics volunteers are needed to help the patients who come in to see an optometrist and pick out their glasses. In

order to help in the clinic you will need to complete a volunteer form that can be emailed to you. You will also receive training on how to assist at the clinics.

There are many ways to assist the Lighthouse Foundation, and we gratefully accept any help you can provide!

## Join us Online



The Lighthouse is a part of ebay's "Giving Works" program. You can sell an item on ebay, and donate some or all of the proceeds to the Lighthouse. Giving Works items tend to get more bids and go for higher final sale prices than normal items because people can search for them through multiple paths. You will also automatically be given a tax receipt for your donation. To get started, please visit [http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP\\_ID=33501](http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=33501)



Help spread the word about the good work you and the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation do by becoming our fan on **facebook**. You will get the most recent client success stories, hear about upcoming events, and have a chance to participate in discussions about the future of the Lighthouse.



We are also now on **Twitter!** Follow username LionsLighthouse to get updates on Lighthouse successes, news, and events!

## Summer Service Numbers

During July and August of 2009:

- 135 people received hearing aids through the Lighthouse.
- 23 sight-saving surgeries were performed.
- 272 people received services at one of our 13 eye clinics.

## Giving Financial Support

Through partnerships with our incredible doctor-volunteers the Lighthouse is able to pay for medical services at 20% of their market value. As a result, a Georgian in need receives \$5 in medical services for every dollar you donate to the foundation. The Lighthouse operates at 6% overhead, so \$0.94 of every dollar you give goes directly to vision and hearing services. For example:

- \$25** gives a Georgian a pair of glasses;
- \$50** provides a dilated eye exam;
- \$500** provides diabetic laser treatment;
- \$600** restores someone's hearing with a digital hearing aid and follow-up care; and
- \$1,000** gives a Georgian their sight back through a cataract surgery.

## Another Way to Give

If you are a state or federal employee, you can now have donations to the Lighthouse taken directly out of your paycheck through the Combined Federal Campaign.

**GA State Number:** 112000

**Federal Number:** 52771

**Yes,** I would like to support the  
Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation.

To invest in a Georgian's sight or hearing, I (we) enclose a gift of:

\$1000     \$500     \$250     \$100     \$50     \$25     Other

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address 2: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to:**

Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation  
1775 Clairmont Rd  
Decatur, GA 30033

**Or donate online at** <http://www.lionslighthouse.org>

## The Lions' Den



### Does your club have an AD?

Associate Directors (ADs) are the liaisons between the Lighthouse and the Lions clubs. They will receive our monthly financial report as well as information on volunteer opportunities, individual and club giving, upcoming screenings and clinics, and special events. If you have not assigned an AD, please add it to the agenda for your club's next meeting. Once an AD is assigned, please e-mail his or her name and preferred contact information to Kim\*.

### Have you set a White Cane goal?

The Lighthouse hopes to raise \$167,500 for sight-saving surgeries this year. Please discuss White Cane at your next meeting, and make sure your club has a goal written into the budget. In addition, you may want to assign a White Cane chair who is separate from your Associate Director. The chair will get information from the Lighthouse about White Cane, and will be responsible for managing the campaign for your club this year. If you assign a White Cane chair, please send his or her name and contact information to Kim\*.

### Do you have a fun fundraiser?

Does your club have a fun fundraiser that you would like to share with others? Submit your idea on the Georgia Lions Lighthouse facebook page, or e-mail Kim\* to have it added to the Lighthouse portion of your district newsletters, the state newspaper, or The Beacon.

Thank you for all that you do for the Lighthouse and for Georgians in need!

\*Kim Fletcher's contact information:  
kfletcher@lionslighthouse.org  
404-325-3630 x313