



**Public Health**  
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## **Grant Makes Eye Exams & Glasses Available for Muskegon Youth**

Muskegon, MI – The Vision Screening program at Public Health – Muskegon County has recently been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Julia Hackley Committee of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County to support follow-up vision care for approximately 70 Muskegon youth.

Thanks to this grant, preschool, elementary, middle and high school age youth may now be eligible for a follow-up vision exam as well as prescription glasses at no charge to their family. To be eligible, the youth must be a City of Muskegon resident, be uninsured or underinsured for vision care, and have had a vision screening administered by the public health department that indicated a vision impairment.

Impaired vision is one of the most common health problems affecting children. It is estimated between 20-25% of children in Michigan have a vision impairment. Children do not know how well they should see. Eyes grow as children grow and may develop problems at any stage. Therefore, local public health departments in Michigan routinely screen the vision of children in preschool, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 9th grades as well as students in driver education class.

Public Health – Muskegon County has been trying to reach eligible families through direct mail and phone calls to notify them of this opportunity. Any family that has concerns about their child's vision and would like to find out if their child is eligible is encouraged to call (231) 724-1394.

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community foundation<sup>SM</sup>

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