



Press Release

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Communities Benefit When Taxpayers Designate Oregon State Tax Refunds to #14 Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

For Immediate Release

(PORTLAND, February 27, 2007) Eight year old Cristina of Redmond, Oregon wasn't paying too much attention to her textbooks, or even the classroom chalkboard. She always seemed to look away. It wasn't until the third grade when her teacher noticed that it wasn't that Cristina wasn't interested. Cristina was doing her best to look out from the sides of her eyes. Only then was it discovered that Cristina had congenital cataracts since birth, unnoticeable to the human eye.

With no insurance for such an operation, Cristina's family turned to the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation for support. With their help, Cristina had surgeries in both eyes during 2006, and is now back in her classroom, learning at the same level as her fellow classmates. This truly life-altering surgery would not have been possible without the support from the Oregon Lions and supporters who donate their tax refunds to the Foundation.

Since 1959, the OLSHF has been supporting Oregonians in need in the areas of sight, hearing, diabetes awareness and positive youth development.

Oregonians can donate all or part of their refund to the Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation by simply entering the number "14" in the "Other" box in the Charitable Checkoff section of their tax return. Current tax forms only have room to list the original grand-fathered groups, requiring that tax payers actually enter the number "14" in the Charitable Checkoff box provided in the refund portion of their tax return. The actual line for making the donation may be different depending upon which version of the return that a tax payer is filing (40, 40S, 40N, 40P).

Tax payers can also mail their donations to the addresses listed on the Oregon State web site. In particular for the OLSHF, the address is 1410 SW Morrison St., Suite 760, Portland, Oregon 97205.

The Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation provides sight and hearing assistance to more than 80,000 Oregonians in need. For nearly 50 years,

OLSHF has contributed to improving the quality of life in Oregon through the Lions Eye Bank; two traveling Mobile Health Screening Units providing preventive health screenings at no charge; a Patient Care Program that provides financial assistance for eye and ear surgeries; operates a children's statewide low-vision clinic and supports a variety of youth development projects; and maintains a Vision Research Laboratory that has achieved national recognition for developing a revolutionary new technique for corneal transplants.

For more information on the OLSHF call 1-800-635-4667 or go to our website at www.orlions.org.

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