

Exciting Partnerships

This year Vision To Learn Delaware launched two exciting new partnerships that will help the program see more kids in the years to come. At a Wilmington event held at The Bayard School at Pulaski, Boeing announced multi-state support for Vision To Learn, including a \$100,000 donation to help children in Delaware. The event also welcomed Senator Chris Coons, who emphasized the critical role of vision health in a child's ability to learn and recognized Vision To Learn for bridging the gap in access to vision care. Delaware has been at the forefront of addressing this issue, with Senator Coons and Vision To Learn partnering to provide glasses to students in need.

Vision To Learn Delaware also gained a new local partner in the Delaware Blue Coats. In February the Blue Coats held "Super Sight Night" where the team transformed into the "Delaware Super Coats" for one day to raise awareness for children's vision care. "Super Sight Night" was held in support of Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware whose President, Nick Moriello, expressed their commitment to expanding access to vision care for children. Larry Meli, President of the Blue Coats, highlighted the power of basketball to bring communities together and support valuable initiatives like Vision To Learn.

"My glasses are so cool! Now I can see!"

— MartinJennie Smith Elementary School

Seeing Past Headaches

At Gauger Middle School, Vision To Learn met a 6th grader named Tara. Even though Tara already had glasses, they were several years old, and gave her headaches that made it impossible for her to focus in class whenever she wore them. Her family tried to get her a new pair, but unfortunately found that their insurance would not cover them.

Tara thought she was going to have to go the rest of the year with her old glasses until she stepped onto Vision To Learn's mobile clinic. She was provided an eye exam and a brand-new pair of prescription glasses. When asked what she thought of her new glasses Tara said, "I love my glasses! Now I can see better."

Sight for the Summer

The school year had just begun at West Seaford Elementary and the school's nurse was finishing delivering the first batch of glasses provided by Vision To Learn to her students. She was preparing to wrap up for the day when she heard a commotion coming from a classroom. Going over to investigate, she found 2nd grader Travis proudly yelling "I can see! I can see!" as he showed off his brand new pair of glasses. Travis had struggled all of last year to see in class, so on being able to witness this moment the school's nurse said "today reminded me of why I choose to do this. It renewed my spirit."

