

Gwinnett County Public Library

Rural Expansion

Coming off its most successful year yet, Vision To Learn in Georgia continued to grow, setting a new record for the number of vision screenings, eye exams and glasses provided to children across Georgia.

During the 2022-23 fiscal year, the program added a new mobile clinic, bringing the total to four mobile clinics working five days a week across the state. Through a new grant from Rome City Schools and additional support from the Georgia Department of Education, Vision To Learn was able for the first time to expand services into Georgia's rural counties. This expansion allows our Georgia program to help children in a community where the closest eye doctor that accepts Medicaid is a three hour drive away.

The Georgia program now helps kids in Floyd County, in the northwest corner of the state, and in the southeastern swamps of Okefenokee in Brantley and Clinch County. In the coming school year the project will continue to reach more children as it expands to Augusta and Macon County.

“I look good! I’m glad I got my glasses because I can finally see!”

— Eddie

Graves Elementary School

Seeing Clearly in Skyview

Tiffany Haugabook was working as an Exceptional Student Education coordinator at Skyview High School when she noticed that many of the students she worked with were having trouble seeing during class. When she investigated further she found that not only did a lot of these students not have the glasses they needed, but that many of them “have not had an eye exam in a long time and only a fraction of them are ready to graduate.”

Concerned about how her student’s vision could be impacting their ability to learn in the classroom, she arranged a partnership with Vision To Learn and Skyview High School to get students the glasses they need to see clearly. One of the students who received glasses was 10th grader Maya. When asked about her glasses Maya said, “I can see now! I can’t remember the last time I could see this clear.”

Confidence for the Classroom

Before Vision To Learn visited his school in Atlanta, Hector used to find himself squinting his eyes and frequently changing seats with his friends to get a clear view of the board. He lost confidence as he struggled to copy down important information and found himself trailing behind his peers academically.

After receiving glasses from Vision To Learn, Hector has found renewed confidence. He no longer has to switch seats or squint to see the board, and is even participating in class more often. His teacher recalls that he walked into class “with a huge smile on his face after he received his glasses. He showed the whole class and said, ‘I can finally see.’”

2022 - 2023

Exams and glasses by district



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s House in Atlanta

97
SITES
SERVED



GEORGIA



DISTRICT

Exams

Glasses

CLAYTON	1,519	1,247
COBB	1,342	1,041
COWETA	29	25
DEKALB	360	309
FULTON	4,687	4,152
GWINNETT	1,649	1,348
HABERSHAM	205	196
HALL	349	314
STEPHENS	238	210

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