

# Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

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231 YEARS OF SERVICE

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FINAL



Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette

Steelers wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster takes a selfie with the 21 students at Pittsburgh King K-8 who received new glasses through the Vision To Learn Pennsylvania program on Friday.

## THE 'COOL' KIDS

### Students get free glasses, celebrate with Steelers player Smith-Schuster

By Elizabeth Behrman  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Students at Pittsburgh King K-8 got a reminder from a local celebrity that wearing glasses can be cool.

Steelers wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster said he wore glasses as a kid, and that they helped him in school, while playing sports and while playing video games.

"I think it's very, very cool," he said

about wearing glasses.

Students at the North Side school gathered in the gymnasium Friday morning to celebrate the launch of a program that will provide free eye exams and glasses to Pittsburgh students who need them. At King, 21 students got the first pairs through the partnership between Pittsburgh Public Schools and Vision To Learn, a Los Angeles-based non-profit that aims to provide vision care to low-income children across the country.



Vision To Learn  
Focus on the Future

2017-18 ANNUAL REPORT

# Our Mission

**Vision To Learn provides eye exams and glasses, free of charge, to children in low-income communities**

“ The LA Clippers Foundation’s goal is to make a positive difference for children in Los Angeles. This is what we do, and there is no better way to do it than by working with a strong, proven community leader like Vision To Learn to help kids. ”

**Steve Ballmer**  
Owner, LA Clippers



*LA Clippers Owner Steve Ballmer at Lovelia P. Flourmoy Elementary in Los Angeles*



*Dr. Mehmet Oz and Austin Beutner with students from Shortlidge Academy in Wilmington, DE*

“ I’m in awe of people who find simple, elegant solutions to big problems that have a clear impact... Vision To Learn has already had a huge impact on thousands of kids’ lives. ”

**Dr. Mehmet Oz**  
Host, The Dr. Oz Show





Students at Ronald E. McNair Elementary School in Compton with music mogul and philanthropist Master P and Dodgers Justin Turner and Kenley Jansen

“ Without the glasses that I got in third grade, there’s no chance I would be standing up here today getting to talk to you guys as a player for the Dodgers. ”

**Justin Turner**  
LA Dodgers All-Star

“ I look at these kids and I see myself at their age. These glasses will help them achieve their dreams. ”

**Percy “Master P” Miller**  
Music Mogul, Philanthropist

“ I certainly did not even realize that there are so many kids who are not getting glasses. ”

**California Governor Jerry Brown**



California Governor Jerry Brown at Jefferson Elementary in Sacramento



Mississippi First Lady Deborah Bryant at Oak Forest Elementary School in Jackson

“ Mississippi is leading the way in addressing health issues that impact students’ school performance. Vision To Learn’s program is an easy intervention that gives students a big leg up. ”

**Mississippi First Lady Deborah Bryant**

“ California’s teachers know the high number of students whose school performance suffers due to a lack of glasses...This is unacceptable. ”

**Eric Heins**  
President, California Teachers Association



Top Dawg Entertainment’s Holiday Toy Drive at Nickerson Gardens in Watts, CA

# The “Cool” Kids

They're “The Cool Kids” now. The headline in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette says it all. Pittsburgh Steeler JuJu Smith-Schuster joined the Vision To Learn team to kick off an effort to make sure every child in Pittsburgh has the glasses they need. As JuJu made clear, “[Glasses] can help you in school; help you at home, with your friends, being able to play sports... I think [they're] very, very cool.”



We started Vision To Learn six years ago to address what seemed an obvious, unmet need—kids in low-income communities do not have the glasses they need to succeed in school and in life. 13 states, 260 cities, 118 school districts and more than 135,000 kids later, we've learned that while simple in concept, the work is not easy and the benefits are profound. A few highlights of what we've learned:

- Glasses make a difference. Researchers from UCLA studied Vision To Learn's work and found grades improve for kids who receive glasses. Students are more confident and engage more in the classroom; and the classroom environment improves for all students as teachers are not distracted by those kids who are struggling to see.
- Local heroes help make it happen. Renee and Hugh McColl in Charlotte, Bruce Gebhardt in Pittsburgh, Anne Holton in Richmond, Gayle Wicker in Jackson, Colleen Ochoa Peters in Detroit, and many others like them who are part of the fabric of their local communities. For Vision To Learn to be successful, we need partners who share our commitment to helping kids.
- Collaboration makes us better. Partnerships like those with Conexus, which conducts vision screenings; with Rotary Clubs, who raise funds and volunteer their time; with Boys & Girls Clubs, to serve kids in 150 clubs across the country; with Johns Hopkins University, which is helping to research the impact of Vision To Learn's work; and with United Farm Workers, to serve children who otherwise would not receive care. All demonstrate how Vision To Learn can help more children by working with other community-based organizations.
- Kids are not Red or Blue. Vision To Learn serves kids in states with Democratic and Republican elected leaders. Vision To Learn has the support of union and reform leaders in public education. No politics, no ideology—it's simply about the kids.
- Our school partners provide the foundation. Superintendents like Dr. Ruth Pérez in Paramount, California, and Dr. Meria Carstarphen in Atlanta, Georgia, are leading the way in helping to involve parents in our work—which allows Vision To Learn to serve every child in need. In every district we serve, school leaders, nurses and classroom teachers work side by side with our staff to help kids.
- Great staff makes it work. Our clinicians, schedulers, program managers and administrative team work tirelessly to make sure kids feel safe, welcome and receive exactly the help they need.
- And yes, it's cool to wear glasses. Our many team partners—from the Clippers and Dodgers to the Pistons and Hawks, to individuals like JuJu Smith-Schuster, Justin Turner, and Percy “Master P” Miller—all devote resources and time to help and share their stories with the kids. We can provide the glasses, but folks like JuJu, Justin, and Master P help the kids feel proud to wear them.

This has been a year of transition at Vision To Learn. I have taken on a new role as Superintendent of Los Angeles Unified School District. I am a public school kid and my own great public school education provided the foundation for all that has come since; and it's an honor to work to provide that same opportunity for others. While I have stepped down as Chair of Vision To Learn, I remain deeply committed to the mission and will continue to do all I can to help.

My wife, Virginia, has taken on the role of Chair and brings great talents and a passion to help children. Mickey Kantor continues to serve as Co-Chair and brings a lifetime of experience and an unwavering commitment to helping those most in need. Ann Hollister has become President of Vision To Learn and will continue to build on the extraordinary progress we have made under her leadership. I am confident in the team at Vision To Learn.

I am proud of what Vision To Learn has accomplished since we started, and grateful for everyone who has helped along the way. With your continued commitment and support, we will keep working to make sure each and every one of the kids in our country who needs glasses has them. That sounds pretty cool to me.

Thank you for your support.

Austin Beutner  
Founder, Vision To Learn

# Vision To Learn 2017-18 School Year Highlights

**49,273**

kids provided with  
eye exams

**39,637**

kids provided  
with glasses

**2,309**

school visits

**884**

schools,

**88**

school districts

**226**

community organizations

**23**

health fairs

**13**

states

“Chan Zuckerberg Initiative is proud to support Vision To Learn, a program that provides direct, measurable help to kids in need.”

**David Plouffe**  
President of Policy and Advocacy,  
Chan Zuckerberg Initiative



David Plouffe at Ronald McNair Middle School  
in East Palo Alto



Golden State Warriors Dance Team members at Oracle Arena  
in Oakland

TWO-THIRDS  
of Medi-Cal children  
examined by Vision To Learn  
had not received  
vision care in the  
PAST **4** YEARS



**Vision To Learn**  
Focus on the Future



# The Challenge



At least  
**2 MILLION  
KIDS**  
IN AMERICA  
lack the glasses  
they need



**80%**  
of all learning  
during a child's  
first 12 years is  
**VISUAL**



**95%**  
of first graders in  
low-income  
communities who  
need glasses do not  
have them

Students not  
proficient in  
reading by the end  
of **3RD GRADE**  
are more likely to  
**DROP OUT  
OF SCHOOL**

# Vision To Learn Since 2012

**680,000**

vision screenings

**136,099**

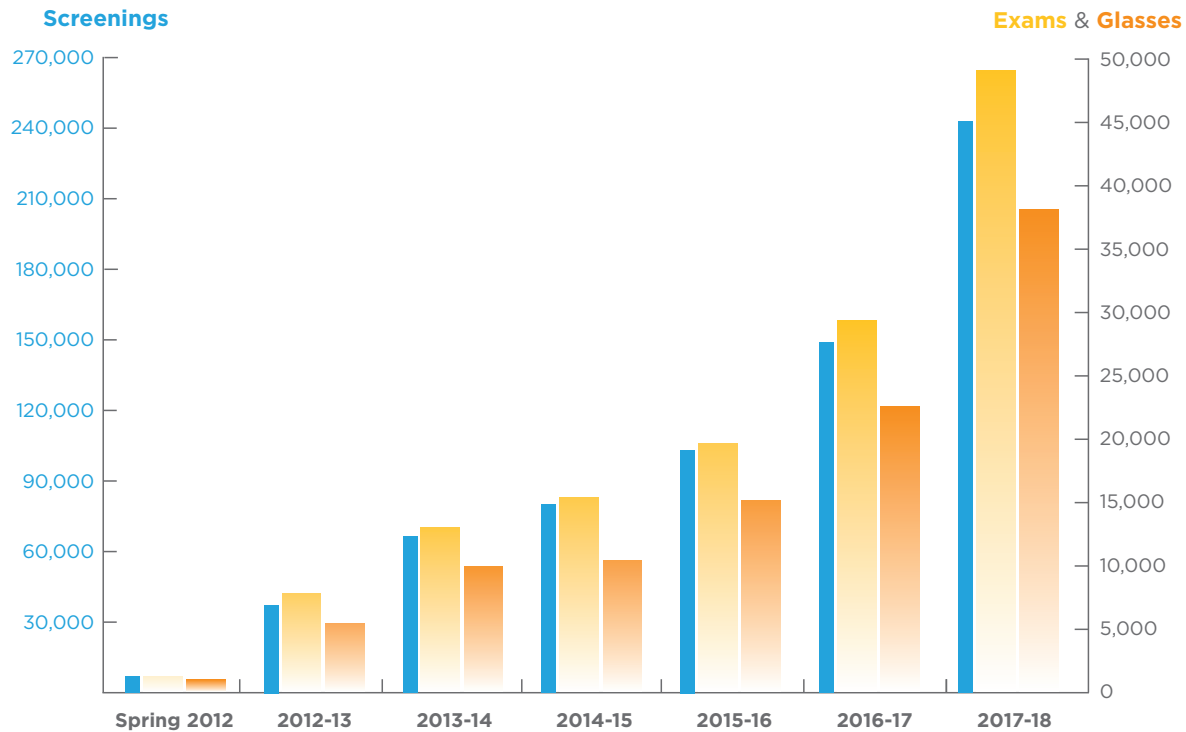
eye exams

**107,516**

glasses

**6,079**

visits to schools,  
community organizations  
and health fairs



## 2017-18 Funding Sources

### PRIVATE

Foundations, Corporations  
and Individuals

\$7,793,223

### PUBLIC

Medi-Cal, Medicaid

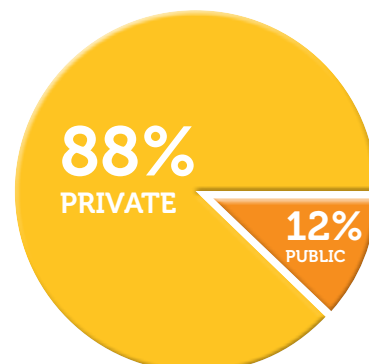
\$445,424

Other Public Funds

\$160,230

School Districts

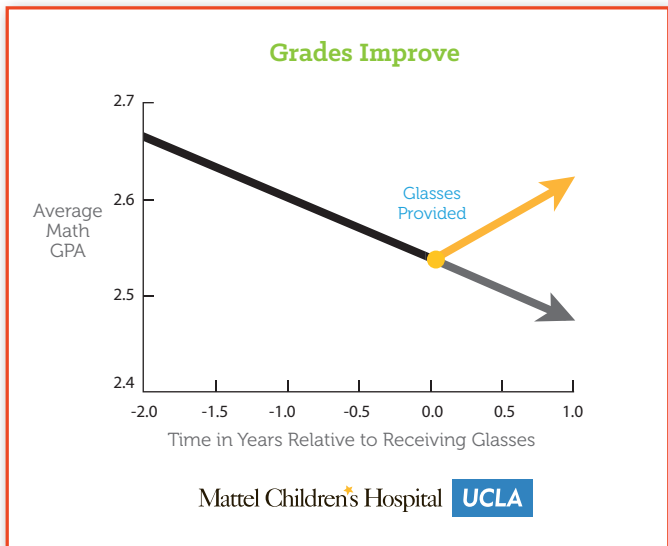
\$454,900



# Vision To Learn Makes a Difference

Researchers at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital have documented Vision To Learn's impact in the peer-reviewed *Maternal and Child Health Journal*.

- ◆ Before receiving glasses, student grades had been trending down. After receiving glasses, students' grades and self-esteem improved.
- ◆ Students who receive glasses pay better attention in class and are more engaged.
- ◆ Vision To Learn removes financial and logistical barriers to receiving glasses.



**Justin Turner** @redturn2  
Loved teaming up with @DodgersFdn @VisionToLearn @MasterPMiller @RomeoMiller and @kenleyjansen74 to provide kids in the Compton School district with reading glasses! This program is doing amazing things and this year impacting the entire Compton Unified School District!!

**Kenley Jansen** @kenleyjansen74  
Got to join @DodgersFdn @redturn2, @MasterPMiller and @VisionToLearn at Compton Unified where we gave free eye glasses to students. Btw, JT and I are on the mobile eye sprinter and it goes all around LA, Long Beach and Compton. #VisiontoLearn #DodgersFoundation

**Mark Zuckerberg**  
June 8 at 1:59pm ·  
Uplifting moment of the day: the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative is partnering with Vision To Learn to provide free eye exams and glasses to many of the 2 million students in our country who have correctable vision but no access to eye care. There are few simple things that are guaranteed to have a positive effect on children's education and life trajectory. This is one of them.

**Mikaela Shiffrin** @MikaelaShiffrin  
Cool to see @VisionToLearn providing glasses to kids who can't afford them.. helping them to learn and grow -- visiontolearn.org  
8:33 PM - 3 May 2017

**Levar M. Stoney** @LevarStoney  
Great to work with Vision to Learn and Conexus to provide 20,000 glasses to RPS students! 🕶️

**#SJSharkie** @sjsharkie  
Busy day: 2 reading is cool assemblies and then giving eyeglasses to children that need them with @JRandalWard42 @tierney71 @VisionToLearn

**Mayor Catherine Pugh** @MayorPugh50  
Celebrating the gift of sight and the intrepid work of @VisionToLearn who provide free eye exams and glasses to students in need.

**Meria Carstarphen** @CarstarphenMJ  
Thank you @ATLHawks, @VisionToLearn, Bd Mbr @collinsforkids & @PrincipalBGrant! @APSPartnerships work 2 deliver 🕶️ glasses 2 @FickettES!

**Micah Ali** @mrmicahali  
@mrmicahali remains tremendously encouraged & proud 2 be an organizational partner in the incalculably impactful work of @DodgersFdn @VisionToLearn @NicholWhiteman & @austinbeutner as they deliver on their pledge 2 give millions of kids the gift of sight by giving them glasses.





*Pittsburgh Steelers' JuJu Smith-Schuster at Pittsburgh King K-8 School*

“Fun fact: I used to wear glasses growing up as a kid, and I loved it. I think it's very, very cool. I think you guys should embrace it... You guys need to take care of your eyes. It can help you in school, help you at home, with your friends, being able to play sports, and even playing video games.”

**JuJu Smith-Schuster**  
Wide Receiver, Pittsburgh Steelers  
Pittsburgh, PA

“This is exactly the kind of support we need to flip the script and make sure our kids have a bright future. Thank you to Tom Gores, FlintNOW and Vision To Learn for continuing to invest in our children and our community.”

**Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha**  
Founder & Director, Pediatric Public Health Initiative  
Flint, MI



*Detroit Pistons Community Ambassador Earl Cureton and FlintNOW Representative Arn Tellern at Ronald Brown Academy in Detroit*



*Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia with student in Long Beach at Washington Middle School*

“Like many kids who grow up in low-income households, I didn't always have access to glasses or insurance for eye exams. Many kids can't fully participate in our classrooms, not because they can't learn, but because they literally can't see.”

**Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia**  
State of the City Address  
Long Beach, CA

“Versant Health, bringing you Davis Vision and Superior Vision, is pleased to partner with Vision To Learn, to provide access to quality vision care for students at school. This innovative program model helps students who might otherwise go without care get the eye exams and glasses they need.”

**Mark C. Ruchman, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer, Versant Health  
Baltimore, MD



*Hampstead Hill Academy student in Baltimore*

# Building on Success

2013

**March 27**

First child helped in Los Angeles, CA at Napa Elementary

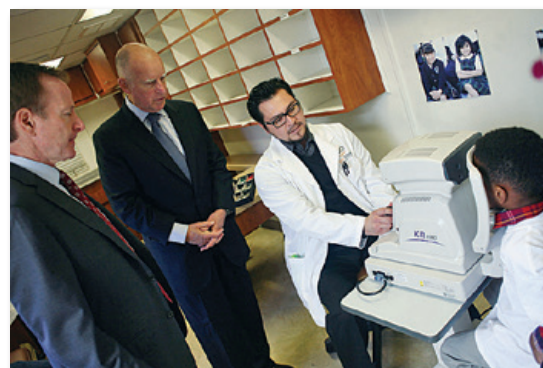
2012

Vision To Learn received "State Gold Award" from the California Teachers Association



**October 3**

First child helped in Sacramento, CA at David Reese Academy



CA Governor Jerry Brown visits a VTL mobile clinic at Jefferson Elementary, Sacramento, CA

**10,000 kids helped**

**April 28**

First child helped in Oakland, CA at Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary



U.S. Senator Kamala Harris at Franklin Elementary, Oakland, CA



The Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation becomes VTL's first community partner

“ I see kids every day at school who are falling behind because they can't see. Vision To Learn gets these kids back on track. ”



Genessee Quizon, Intervention Teacher, Betty Plasencia Elementary



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2014

**August 3**

First child helped in Honolulu, HI  
at Royal School



**June 6**

Vision To Learn named a "Pacesetter Program"  
by Campaign for Grade-Level Reading



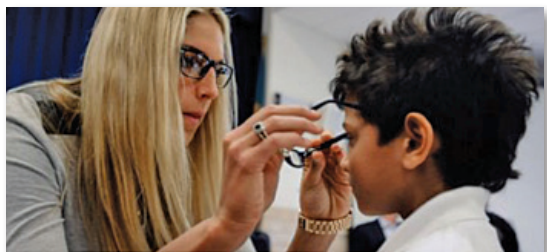
2015

**September 16**

First child helped in Long Beach, CA at  
Edison Elementary

**October 14**

First child helped in Wilmington, DE



WNBA Player Elena Delle Donne at Shortlidge  
Academy, Wilmington, DE

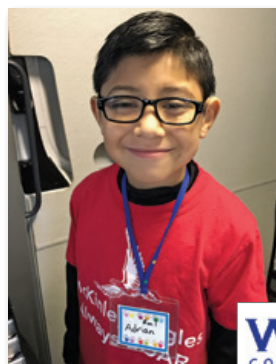
UCLA research published  
proving VTL's impact



Mattel Children's Hospital

**UCLA**

**20,000 kids helped**



Golden State Warriors  
partner to help  
students at McKinley  
Elementary,  
San Leandro, CA



**40,000 kids helped**

**September 15**

Vision To Learn named a  
"Bright Spot in Hispanic  
Education" by the White  
House Initiative on  
Educational Excellence  
for Hispanics



Vision To Learn  
Focus on the Future



# 2016

**January 7**

First child helped in Dubuque, IA at Lincoln Elementary



Every child Pre-K through 12th grade in Inglewood Unified School District, a district of 12,000 kids, helped by Vision To Learn in partnership with LA Clippers Foundation



“Working with Vision To Learn was just a no brainer. It gives kids the glasses... to excel, not only in the classroom, but also in life.”

**LA Clippers Forward Paul Pierce**

**April 19**

First child helped in Baltimore, MD



*Congressman John Delaney and Former Baltimore Raven Ray Lewis at Hampstead Hill Academy, Baltimore, MD*

**September 9**

Partnership with San Jose Sharks announced in San Jose, CA



*San Jose Sharks Forward Chris Tierney in San Jose, CA at Selma Olinder Elementary*



“When I grow up I want to be a teacher. These glasses will help me read to so many kids.”

**Yahaira, 1st grader**

**September 28**

First child helped in Detroit, MI at Samuel L. Gompers Elementary with Vision To Learn partner Detroit Pistons



**60,000 kids helped**

2017

**February 24**

Vision To Learn provided 1,000th kid in Detroit with glasses



Mayor Mike Duggan at Samuel Gompers Elementary-Middle School, Detroit, MI

**March 8**

Vision To Learn provided 1,000th kid in Baltimore with glasses



Mayor Catherine Pugh with students in Baltimore, MD at Bernard Harris Elementary

**March 14**

Long Beach Challenge launched, helping every child in Long Beach Unified School District, a district of 81,000 kids, supported by LA Clippers Foundation



Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia thanked a student at his 2018 State of the City Address

**April 10**

First child helped in Des Moines, IA at Lovejoy Elementary



80,000 kids helped

**May 8**

First child helped in Jackson, MS at Timberlawn Elementary



**May 23**

First child helped in Newark, NJ at Speedway Academy



New York Giants defensive tackle Jay Bromley with student in Newark, NJ

**June 8**

VTL announced support from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative to help provide eyeglasses to many more kids across the Bay Area and in new expansion states



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**August 30**

Program in Atlanta Public Schools launched



*APS Superintendent Meria Carstarphen with student after receiving new glasses*

**October 26**

First child helped in Richmond, VA at Elizabeth D. Redd Elementary School



**December 15**

Services expanded to all Windward Oahu schools in Hawaii



**December 15**

VTL teamed with Ayesha and Golden State Warriors' Steph Curry (a.k.a "Santa") to provide glasses to Oakland kids



**December 19**

PBS NewsHour profiled VTL's work in Baltimore as part of its weekly series, "Making the Grade"



**December 20**

Vision To Learn appeared on The Dr. Oz Show in New York City



**January 16**

ESPN Sports Center featured Vision To Learn



**January 16**

LA Clippers Foundation partnered with VTL to provide free eye exams and glasses to every Los Angeles Unified School District student in need



*Siblings received new glasses at Lovelia P. Flournoy Elementary in Los Angeles, CA*

**100,000 kids helped**

**February 23**

Two events in Northern California celebrated an important VTL milestone: helping more than 100,000 children to date



**WARRIORS**  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



# 2018

### March 8

Vision To Learn provided 1,000th child in Atlanta with glasses



### April 25

First child helped in Charlotte, NC at Thomasboro Academy



### April 26

Pilot program launched in New Orleans, LA at Foundation Preparatory Charter School



*Master P with a student at Foundation Preparatory Charter School*

**125,000 kids helped**

### April 26

One-year anniversary helping kids in Jackson, MS celebrated with Mississippi First Lady Deborah Bryant



### May 25

Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation teamed up with VTL to provide free eye exams and glasses to every Compton Unified School District student in need



*Los Angeles Dodgers Kenley Jansen and Justin Turner with a student at Ronald E. McNair Elementary in Compton, CA*

### May 31

FlintNOW Foundation and VTL kicked off their new initiative in Flint Community Schools in Flint, MI



### June 1

First child helped in Pittsburgh, PA at Pittsburgh King PreK-8



*Pittsburgh Steelers' JuJu Smith-Schuster with a student at Pittsburgh King PreK-8*

# Vision To Learn Around the Nation

“Many students identified as ‘problem learners’ do have a problem, but the problem is with their vision, not with their ability or willingness to learn.”

**Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas**

Vision To Learn serves L.A. County’s two largest school districts -- L.A. Unified and Long Beach Unified -- and works in districts across the region including Alhambra, Compton, Montebello and Redondo Unified. The LA Clippers Foundation partnered with Vision To Learn in 2017 to provide glasses to every student in Long Beach Unified.

## L.A. Unified Launched 2012



43,281 exams  
34,208 glasses

*Los Angeles Unified School District Board President Mónica García at Lovelia P. Flourmoy Elementary in Los Angeles*

## Southern California Launched 2012



80,170 exams  
62,263 glasses

*Mark Ridley-Thomas at the 2016 Vision To Learn Spring Spectacle*

“L.A. Unified is proud to work with the LA Clippers Foundation and Vision To Learn to give all of our students access to comprehensive screenings and eye glasses and to help them reach their fullest potential.”

**L.A. Unified School District Board President Mónica García**

Los Angeles Unified is the birthplace of Vision To Learn. On March 27, 2012, Vision To Learn made its inaugural visit to Napa Street Elementary in Northridge. Since then Vision To Learn’s mobile clinics have made more than 1,700 visits to over 400 campuses, providing eye exams to more than 40,000 kids.

In 2017, Los Angeles Unified School District and the LA Clippers Foundation agreed to help Vision To Learn provide every student in L.A. Unified who needs them with free eye exams and glasses.

“We know seeing Sharks mascot S.J. Sharkie on the Vision To Learn mobile clinic will encourage kids to wear their new glasses.”

**Heather Hooper, Director, Sharks Foundation**

Vision To Learn launched in Sacramento and expanded to school districts large and small, including Oakland Unified, San Francisco Unified, Fremont Unified, Redwood City Unified, and Ravenswood City School District.

A grant from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative helps Vision To Learn serve students throughout the nine-county Bay Area and Sacramento. The Golden State Warriors Community Foundation and San Jose’s Sharks Foundation also support Vision To Learn in the Bay Area.

## Northern California Launched 2013



22,443 exams  
19,094 glasses

*San Jose Sharks' Chris Tierney at Selma Olinder Elementary in San Jose*

## Delaware Launched 2014



*Delaware Governor John Carney at Kuumba Academy in Wilmington*

“Once again, Delaware is first in the nation – this time in finding a solution to help kids do better in school.”

### Wilmington Mayor Michael Purzycki

Delaware is the first state in which Vision To Learn received its credentials as a Medicaid provider, paving the way for Vision To Learn's public-private partnership model. Funding from the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) also expanded Vision To Learn's reach.

7,787 exams  
6,038 glasses

## Georgia Launched 2017

“Atlanta Public Schools is excited to work with Vision To Learn to help students achieve in the classroom and beyond. The support of the Atlanta Hawks Foundation reminds our students that wearing glasses is cool.”

### Meria Carstarphen Superintendent, Atlanta Public Schools

The Atlanta Hawks Foundation helped Vision To Learn launch its Georgia effort in the Atlanta Public Schools. A Hawks-themed mobile clinic, Hawks players, mascot Harry the Hawk and Hawks cheerleaders all join school events to celebrate kids getting new glasses.

2,465 exams  
2,108 glasses



*Atlanta Public Schools Superintendent  
Dr. Meria J. Carstarphen at Fickett  
Elementary*



## Hawaii Launched 2015

“To help our keiki thrive in school, we must address their basic needs. Providing glasses is a simple intervention that makes a big difference.”

**Terrence R. George**  
**President and CEO, Harold K.L. Castle Foundation**

Hawaii Governor David Ige and Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell helped launch Vision To Learn in Hawaii. The non-profit Project Vision Hawaii, which provides vision screenings at schools, partnered with Vision To Learn to begin serving kids in Kauai in 2016, the Big Island in 2017, and Maui in 2018.

“Through efforts like these, we can help thousands more students obtain the glasses they need to thrive in the new Hawaii economy.”

**Hawaii Governor David Ige**

1,473 exams  
857 glasses



*Hawaii Governor David Ige at Kalihi Waena Elementary in Honolulu*

3,181 exams  
2,442 glasses



*Theisen Home Farm Auto President  
Jim Theisen at Fulton Elementary in Dubuque*

## Iowa Launched 2016

“We had a student, a fifth grader, that got a pair of glasses today that had the opportunity to go back and do some testing after putting the glasses on, and literally increased his score just by how he looked at the text and being able to read the words.”

**Amy Schmidt**  
**Principal, Irving Elementary**

Vision To Learn launched in Iowa in collaboration with the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. Vision To Learn has since expanded to serve Des Moines Independent Community School District, as well as schools in Waterloo and other cities throughout Eastern Iowa.



## Maryland Launched 2016

6,274 exams  
4,873 glasses

“When she’s in school and she can’t see the blackboard, she might hear, but she can’t really see without her glasses.”

**Deboris Jackson**  
regarding her second-grade granddaughter Khloe

Vision To Learn works in the Baltimore City Public School System (BCPSS). Partners include the Baltimore City Health Department, which provides vision screenings in BCPSS, and the Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins University, which is conducting a study on the program.



*Baltimore Ravens Hall of Famer Ray Lewis at Hampstead Hill Academy*

“Glasses are freaking cool!”

**Ray Lewis**  
Hall of Famer, Baltimore Ravens

## Michigan Launched 2016

“Kids in Flint still need our support more than ever, and we’re committed to looking out for their future. We are proud to bring Vision To Learn to this community to give children the gift of sight, a tool with lasting impact that will make a difference in their lives for years to come.”

**Tom Gores**  
Owner, Detroit Pistons and Founder of FlintNOW

Vision To Learn started in Michigan by helping students in Detroit Public Schools Community District K-8 schools. Working with the Detroit Health Department, Vision To Learn has expanded to serve schools in Flint and Wayne County.

6,852 exams  
5,642 glasses



*Detroit Pistons Community Ambassador Earl Cureton at Ronald Brown Academy*

## Mississippi Launched 2017



1,652 exams  
1,436 glasses

*Vision To Learn Mississippi Director Gayle Wicker at Timberlawn Elementary in Jackson*

“When students have trouble seeing at school, they can’t do their best. Providing students with the tools they need, such as glasses, can improve their performance in the classroom and foster full participation in the learning process.”

**Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba**

Vision To Learn launched in May 2017 in Jackson Public Schools.

“In education as in life, sometimes the simplest solution can make the biggest difference. By giving children the vision help they need, we can open their eyes to learning and totally change their destiny.”

**Laura Overdeck**  
Chair, Overdeck Family Foundation

Vision To Learn’s effort in New Jersey began in Newark Public Schools. Newark is Vision To Learn’s first school partner to use a passive or “opt- out” consent method, providing help to more kids.

## New Jersey Launched 2017



2,012 exams  
1,437 glasses

*NY Giants’ Jay Bromley at Speedway Academy in Newark*

## Virginia Launched 2017

1,590 exams  
1,187 glasses



*Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe at Elizabeth D. Redd Elementary in Richmond*

“Launching this program in Richmond is the first step toward ensuring that our students have all of the tools they need to succeed in the classroom.”

**Former Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe**

Vision To Learn launched in Virginia by serving students in Richmond Public Schools, in partnership with Conexus, a non-profit that provides vision screenings.

“Identifying and resolving the vision challenges that our students are experiencing helps us to ultimately increase their chances for academic success. The eyeglasses that have been received will have long-lasting impacts on the future of our students.”

**Jason Kamras**  
Superintendent, Richmond Public Schools



## Charlotte, NC

### Coming in September 2018

“ We have been humbled by the support in the local Charlotte community for this initiative and look forward to serving the children in Charlotte who need glasses. The beauty of the program is the instant impact of sight with the gift of glasses. Being able to see will change the learning and life trajectory for these children. ”

**Renee and Hugh McColl**  
Co-Chairs, Vision To Learn North Carolina

Vision To Learn's North Carolina co-chairs Renee and Hugh McColl helped lead Vision To Learn's launch in North Carolina, in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' Christen Linke Young, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Superintendent Dr. Clayton M. Wilcox, and music mogul and philanthropist Percy "Master P" Miller attended the kick-off event at Thomasboro Academy.



*Vision To Learn North Carolina Co-Chairs Renee and Hugh McColl and music mogul and philanthropist Percy "Master P" Miller at Thomasboro Academy in Charlotte*

## Pittsburgh, PA

### Coming in September 2018



*Vision To Learn Pennsylvania Co-Chair Bruce Gebhardt and Pittsburgh Steelers' JuJu Smith-Schuster at Pittsburgh King K-8 School*

“ I am grateful to the Pittsburgh-area foundations that make this possible. Seeing the board or a book clearly is a critical stepping stone to achieving success in school as well as in life. ”

**Bruce Gebhardt**  
Co-Chair, Vision To Learn Pennsylvania

Vision To Learn began service in Pennsylvania in Pittsburgh Public Schools (PPS). Vision To Learn Pennsylvania Co-Chair Bruce Gebhardt joined PPS Superintendent Dr. Anthony Hamlet, Pennsylvania's Children's Health Insurance Program Executive Director Patricia Allan, and Pittsburgh Steelers' JuJu Smith-Schuster at the launch event.

# Supporters

## \$1,000,000 +

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*Rotary District 5280 Member  
Nora MacLellan at Mark Twain  
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“Partnering with Vision To Learn has allowed hundreds of Rotary Members to improve the educational achievement of students in their community. By volunteering as vision screeners, fundraising, and helping Vision To Learn build service relationships with their local schools, Rotary has helped thousands of kids get glasses they otherwise would have gone without.”

**Cozette Vergari**  
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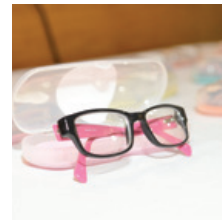
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