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LIONS
BRIGHTSIGHT
A Multiple District 410 Project

The Bright Side NEWSLETTER



AUGUST
2026
Edition 11

Fellow Lions,

As we begin this fresh Lionistic year, I want to share a heartfelt thank you with all the Clubs that embraced the challenge to be “Knights of the Blind” over the last twelve months. Because of your amazing support across the Multiple District, BrightSight successfully achieved its goals—transforming prescriptions from our Clubs and partners into affordable, high-quality glasses using recycled and new frames.

Now, we want to do even more! One of my goals this year is to connect with every Club and inspire you to take on Vision projects in your communities. There is nothing quite like the reward of putting affordable spectacles into the hands of someone who needs it, and a vision screening is a simple, high-impact project to run.

A specific word of thanks goes to our outgoing Chairman, PCC Cliff Hocking for his stellar leadership and hard work throughout the year! My gratitude to the past Manco team as well. You all truly paved the path for our success.

I would also like to express my thanks to the professional, dedicated and passionate staff at the BrightSight office in Benoni.

A very warm welcome to our new incoming Manco members—I can't wait to work with you all to make this coming year our best one yet!

This year, we are poised to do more! Serve more people and make a real impact in our communities!

Donovan Henri - Chairman

Bringing the World Into Focus!



The Life-Changing Impact of Lions BrightSight

For many of us, clear vision is something we take for granted. We read, study, drive, and work without a second thought. But for thousands of individuals across our Multiple District, uncorrected vision impairment is a daily barrier to education, employment, and quality of life.

A Legacy of Service

Lions BrightSight has been transforming lives since its inception in July 1978. This initiative serves as a beacon of hope for underprivileged individuals, children, and senior citizens who cannot afford traditional vision care. Your Club can be an integral part of this great service pillar!

Giving Sight, Changing Lives

The core objective of Lions BrightSight is simple yet incredibly effective. We receive optical prescriptions from Lions Clubs and other organisations. From there, we process these scripts at a very low cost by:

- Utilising high-quality, pre-owned frames donated by the public.
- Checking and sorting recycled frames thoroughly to ensure they are in excellent condition.
- Fitting these frames with brand-new, customised prescription lenses.

By re-purposing frames, BrightSight not only keeps costs down for those in need but also promotes environmental sustainability through recycling unusable components.

How Your Club Can Help

The success of this project relies heavily on Club support and active participation. Here is how you or your Club can get involved:

- **Host Collection Boxes**
Place branded Lions BrightSight collection boxes at local businesses, schools, gyms, and supermarkets. People love donating old frames rather than throwing them away. Boost your Club's visibility, too.
- **Run a Vision Screening Project**
Download our Tool Kits and see how easy it is to make a huge difference in your community! All you need is contained in the kits!

A simple pair of glasses can mean the difference between a child succeeding in school or struggling, or an adult securing employment to feed their family.

Together, we can continue to bring smiles—and clear vision—to those who need it most.

To learn more about running a successful vision project or ordering collection boxes, visit the official Lions BrightSight website.



[Click Here to go to Website](http://www.lionsbrightsight.co.za)



About Lions BrightSight

Lions BrightSight was initially established in 1974 as a multi-club collaboration within District 410B. In 1991, the Council of Governors of MD410 constituted the successful project as an official MD410 project called the Lions Clubs International Multiple District 410 Operation Brightsight.

Our Objectives

To receive prescriptions from Lions Clubs, Provincial Hospitals, Optometric Clinics, and various other Organisations and to process these scripts at low cost, using new and pre-owned frames that are in excellent condition, fitted with new prescription lenses.

Control & Management

Control of Lions BrightSight is in the hands of the Governing Body consisting of the Council of Governors of Lions International Multiple District 410.

The Pride of Multiple District 410

Since its inception, thousands of spectacles have been distributed to people, bringing smiles to the faces of people from all over the country. Without the help of Lions Clubs and Lions BrightSight they would have gone through life with impaired vision.

TOP NEWS

Everything your Club needs to run a successful Vision Project is available on our website!

- Easy online submission of Club Script Orders;
- Online price list of all our services;
- Five vision screening devices available to Clubs at no cost;
- Downloadable Tool Kits with everything included to screen learners and adults;
- Grant funding application page for Clubs to apply for financial assistance for their vision projects. (When funding is available.)

[Click Here to go to Website](#)

The 2026/27 Lions BrightSight Team

The Management Committee

- Donovan Henri (Chairperson, Marketing, Webmaster & IT)
- Graeme Logan (Vice Chairperson)
- PCC Jacqui Hocking (Secretary)
- PDG Malcolm Johnston (Treasurer)
- PCC Cliff Hocking (Internal Public Relations)
- PDG Dave Cousins (Area Chairperson – Pretoria)
- PDG Rocky Wright (Area Chairperson – Cape Town & Surrounds & Namibia)
- PDG Perry Chetty (Area Chairperson – KwaZulu Natal)
- Jiří Uchytíl (Sage, Legal & DSD Compliance)
- Gavin Polkinghorne (Assistant to Treasurer & Governance)
- James van Heerden (Area Chairperson – East Rand & Mpumalanga)
- Keith Thomson (Area Chairperson – Eastern Cape)
- Rochelle McDonald (Area Chairperson – Vaal Triangle)
- Shelly Vorster (DC Sight 410W, Marketing & Area Chairperson – Garden Route)

Staff at the BrightSight Office, Benoni, Gauteng

- Kirsty-Anne Mackenzie – Operations Manager
- Angie Tshabalala – Clerk & Technical Assistant
- Fortunate Khosa – Locum Optometrist
- Wynand Grové – Locum Optometrist



www.lionsbrightsight.co.za

BRIGHTSIGHT EYE CLINICS

Clubs can refer patients, by appointment, to the weekly Eye Clinics held at the BrightSight office in Benoni, Gauteng.

A locum Optometrist is on site during clinic days for full clinical assessments and patients can choose a frame on site and get assistance on fitting during collection.

Please contact **Kirsty-Anne** during office hours to make an appointment or to discuss the procedures on Clinic Days.

LAND LINE:
011 422 5577

EMAIL:
manager@lionsbrightsight.co.za

OFFICE HOURS:
Mon to Thu: 08:00 – 16:00
Fridays: 08:00 – 13:00
Closed Weekends & Holidays

ADDRESS:
110 Woburn Avenue, Benoni, 1501





HOW TO RUN A VISION SCREENING PROJECT

A vision screening project is one of the most rewarding projects a Club can undertake.

There are mainly two types of projects to consider - a Learner Project or an Adult Screening Project.

The four distinct aspects of both are:

1. Partnering with an Optometrist;
2. Identifying a school or business that needs the service;
3. Funding the cost of the project;
4. Supplying the spectacles.

Here is our suggestion to planning a vision project:

Partnering with a Local Optometrist

This is often the most difficult part of running a vision project. Start with this aspect first.

Screening is an initial assessment to detect red flags, not a substitute for a full clinical examination. Establishing a strong partnership with a licensed Optometrist bridges the gap between basic screening and actual treatment. Screening identifies who needs help; the Optometrist diagnoses what they need and issues the formal prescription.

Build a good relationship with the Optometrists in your community and they may be willing to assist at little to no cost to your Club.

Identifying Target Organisations

The foundation of a successful project begins with choosing the right community partner. While vision issues affect every demographic, focusing on high-need, under-resourced beneficiaries ensures your project makes the greatest possible impact.

Typical partners are under-resourced schools, early childhood development centres & daycares, community & youth centres/shelters, senior centres & retirement homes, community centres & food banks, factory floors & work-sites, and corporate & local government offices.

Funding Your Project

Various funding models can enable Clubs run successful vision projects:

- Club fund-raising for vision projects;
- Corporate partnerships that unlock funds or resources for projects;
- BrightSight Grants, when funds are available;
- LCIF Grants for bigger projects. Must be requested by a District or a Multiple District. Conditions apply.

Clubs can also consider partially funded services, where those patients can afford to make a contribution, do so. Be creative and investigate all avenues available.

Supplying Spectacles

Lions BrightSight is ideally positioned to provide spectacles at low cost! Our price list is published on our website and our online order page simplifies the ordering process.

There is a downloadable Script Order Form for completion by the Club and Optometrist and a page to assist patients choose a suitable frame.

We offer a quick turn-around and free delivery of spectacles to Clubs across the Multiple District.

Resources on Our Website

We have made it easy for Clubs to run projects with pages on our website to:

- Order spectacles & choose frames;
- Current price list is published;
- Obtain screening devices for projects;
- Apply for BrightSight grant funding;
- Download tool kits.

[Click Here to go to Website](#)

Tool Kits

Our comprehensive downloadable Tool Kits are invaluable to Clubs for vision project management.

Learners screenings need to be approached with all the necessary attention as it involves minors and requires parental consent.

The School Screening Tool Kit helps Clubs navigate a learner screening project with all the required letters, documentation and reports to approach a school, get consent and buy-in from all parties concerned.

Community screening is much simpler and does not require all the paperwork, unless minors are involved too. The tool kit contains forms and advertising examples too.

Start a Screening Project Today!

We look forward to hearing from your Club. Giving the gift of sight is an amazing experience! Please feel free to contact us for any information or assistance you require. We're glad to help in any way we can!

TOOL KITS



Download our comprehensive **Tool Kits** containing contact letters and permission slips and much more, today!

All you need to run a successful vision project is available to your Club Service Chair!

[Click Here ...](#)

PINS



Knights of the Blind

pins available for order online. Price based on quantities ordered.

[Order Online ...](#)



HOW TO ORDER SPECTACLES From Lions BrightSight

STEP 1



Go to the our website and down-load our Club Script Order Form which includes examples of frame styles to help your patient choose a a suitable frame ...

[CLICK HERE ...](#)

STEP 4



Check your email for a reply from our system, confirming your order. You will receive an Invoice from the BrightSight office, which you can submit to your Club Treasurer for payment. Once the spectacles have been made, they will be shipped to the address you indicated on the Club Script Order Form.

For more information, please contact Kirsty-Anne at the BrightSight offices during office hours on weekdays:

011 422 5577

STEP 2



Fill in the yellow portion of the form with all the details we need to process your order quickly and courier the spectacles to you. When you have an appointment for the patient, email or hand the form to the Optometrist, who will complete the blue section of the form including the style of frame chosen and also sign the prescription section ...

[CLICK HERE ...](#)

STEP 3



Once you have a signed form scan or photograph it, then go back to our website, complete the short cover form on the order page and upload the signed Club Script Order Form and send your order to our offices in Benoni.



SCREENING DEVICES

Lions BrightSight has five screening devices available to Lions Clubs, at zero cost, for screening projects with the proviso that the resulting prescriptions are processed by Lions BrightSight.

Contact Kirsty-Anne at the office in Benoni, Gauteng on 011 422 5577 or email her at manager@lionsbrightsight.co.za for more assistance.

SITE MAP

Here is a summary of the pages and areas on our website!

SCRIPT ORDERS

- Online portal for Script Orders.

PRICE LIST

- Price list of all our services.

CLUB RESOURCES

- Screening devices for Clubs;
- Tool Kits for screening projects;
- Grant funding page for Club vision projects, when funding is available;
- Sales of Collection Boxes, Shirts, Knights of the Blind Pins and White Canes.

PARTNERSHIPS

- List of our corporate partners

NEWSLETTERS

- Catalogue of our newsletters

CONTACT PAGE

- Easy contact page to reach us.

[Click Here to go to Website](#)

COLLECTION BOXES

**R50
per box**



Used Frame Collection Boxes are available now for Clubs to distribute in communities to enhance your their presence and marketing reach ...

[Order Online ...](#)