

Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Bank

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



A project of the Lions of Colorado and Wyoming



Vision & Mission



WHY WE EXIST

We exist to restore hope where hope may have been lost.

MISSION

To fulfill the wishes of eye donors and their families to help another overcome blindness through transplantation and research.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



JOHN LOHMEIER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I reflect on the past year, I am both proud and humbled by the life-changing work we continue to do at the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Bank (RMLEB). Our success is made possible by a dedicated and compassionate network—medical professionals, donor families, eye bank staff, and surgeons—along with key partners including hospitals, funeral homes, coroners, and medical examiners. Together, we honor the wishes of individuals and families who decide to give the gift of sight through transplantation and research. We must never forget the very foundation for everything we do, the selfless and altruistic decision to help another by choosing to be a donor.

One of the most powerful reminders the decision to donate has comes from the heartfelt letters exchanged between donor families and transplant recipients. These personal connections speak to the emotional depth of our mission and the hope that can be restored through each donation. They remind us not only why we do what we do, but also how lucky we are to be able to play a part in the donation-transplant process to restore sight.

Over the past year, RMLEB staff procured, qualified, and matched eye tissue to help restore sight to **2,211 individuals worldwide**. Our reputation for excellence in what we do is directly attributable to our highly committed and capable staff. It takes very special and dedicated people working hard 24 hours a day 7 days per week to make any of this happen.

We are also pleased to report that RMLEB remains in a strong financial position. This reflects our commitment to responsible stewardship of the resources entrusted to us. We are deeply grateful for the continued support from Lions clubs, donor families, cornea recipients, and friends in the community who contribute in their own way to make our work possible.

Looking ahead, I am confident in the direction we're headed. With a passionate and skilled staff, the continued support of our partners, and trust from the community and the individuals who choose to help another through eye donation, RMLEB will remain a leader among eye banks.

Thank you for being part of this vital mission.



ROCKY MOUNTAIN LIONS EYE BANK BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024 - 2025

01 Lion Glenn Stanko

MD-6 At Large
President

02 PDG Ted Wenckus

D-15 At Large
Vice President

03 PCC Dr. Ron Smith

D-6 SE
Treasurer

04 PDG Joe Rall

MD-6 At Large
Secretary

05 Lion Brian Ballard

D-15 At Large
Director

06 PDG Gwen Balk

D 6-C
Director

07 Lion Bruce Heimbuck

D-15 At Large
Director

08 PDG David Merritt

D 6-W
Director

09 Lion Carole Kitchell

D 6-NE
Director



2,396

eye donors gave the
Gift of Sight in FY
2024-2025

Over

17,000

eye tissues for
advancement in surgery
techniques and valuable
medical research.

Over

70,000

eye tissues for sight-restorative transplants and
reconstructive surgeries.



127,396

Miles Driven By
Staff in Colorado

2024-2025 Highlights

29,246

Miles Driven By
Staff in Wyoming

4,712

Tissues
Donated

2,211

Tissues Placed for
Sight-Restoring
Transplants

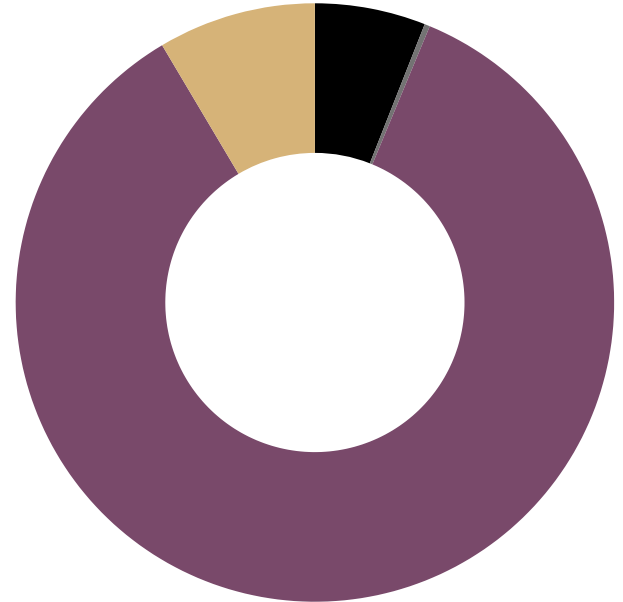
420

Tissues Placed in
Research/Training

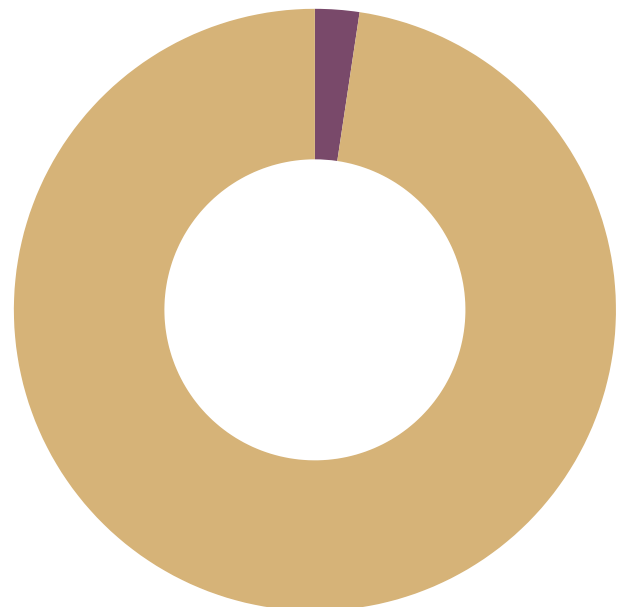


Financials

Administration	\$362,558
Surgery	\$17,633
Tissue Recovery/Processing	\$5,164,729
Community Relations/Fundraising	\$517,072
Total Expenses	\$6,061,992



Tissue Reimbursement	\$6,139,492
Contributions	\$149,250
Total Operations Revenue	\$6,288,742
Net Investments (unrealized)	\$1,477,000



Help us continue our sight-saving mission of carrying out the wishes of eye donors and their families to help others overcome blindness.

<https://www.corneas.org/Make-a-Contribution-to-RMLEB>

2024-2025 CONTRIBUTORS

Lions Clubs

Akron Lions Club
Big Horn Lions Club
Broomfield Lions Club
Brush Lions Club
Calhan Lions Club
Canon City Noon Lions Club
Centennial Airport Lions Club
Cheyenne Sunrise Lions Club
Collbran Lions Club
Colorado Lions Foundation Bingo
Denver Lions Club Foundation
Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation
El Paso County Tri-Lakes Lions Club
Englewood Lions Foundation
Fort Collins Lions Foundation
Fraser River Valley Lions Club
Fruita Lions Club
Haxtun Lions Club
Highlands Ranch Lions Club
Holyoke Lions Club
Idalia Lions Club
Julesburg Lions Club Fund
Lafayette Lions Club
Lamar Lions Club
Lingle Ft Laramie Lions Club
Littleton Lions Foundation
Loveland Lions Club
Meeker Lions Club
Montrose Lions Club
Mountain Lions Club of Red Feather Lakes
Nederland Lions Club
Orchard Mesa Lions Club
Pinedale Lions Club
Riverton Lions Club
Saratoga Lions Club
Security Lions Club
Thornton Lions Club
Wiley Lions Club
Woodland Park Pikes Peak Lions Club

Individuals

Anonymous
Barbara Peckler
Barbara Seemiller
Basil Katsaros
Basil Katsaros & Paula vonLindern
Betty Moellenberg
Bev Hood
Bill & Virginia Hippe
Bill and Donna Lykins
Bob Wyman
Brian & Twila Ballard
Bruce & Gail Heimback
Carole Kitchell
Colleen Countryman
Connie Sullivan
Dan Griffin
Daniel & Bernadette Spinuzzi
David & Colleen Countryman
David & Susan Gray
David Merritt
David Uebel
Diane Collopy
Diane Maurer
Donald Schuster
Ed & Blanche Stoller
Edwin Krebs
Elizabeth Holland
Eric Duprey
Gary & Brenda Nesbitt
Gary & Carol Andrews
Gary & Melanie Northup
Gary & Wendi Ekborg
Gary Crum
Gregory Dyekman
James & Leslea Rapp
James Briggs
James Navratil
James White
Jane Anderson

Jeffrey Milheiser
Joan Meister
Joe & Brenda Rall
John & Anna Buckingham
John & Kimberlee Horst
John Howard
John Lohmeier
Joyce Radcliffe
Julia Hartman

Funds/Foundations

Colorado Gives Community First
Foundation
Hughes Charitable Foundation
PayPal Giving Fund
Robert C. Dickinson Rev. Trust
The Harland and MaryAnn Ranney -
Gifting Fund

In Memory/Honor Of

Keith Bentzen, In honor of Dr. Amiel
Gary and Carol Andrews, In Memory of Ken
Moellenberg
Betty Moellenberg, In Memory of Ken Moellenberg
Bill and Donna Lykins, In Memory of Lois Painter
Patricia Stoller, In Memory of Lois Painter
Ed and Blanche Stoller, In Memory of Lois Painter
Gary and Janet Uken, In Memory of Lois Painter
Gary & Melanie Northup, In memory of Michael
Clynes
Susan Wine, Jack Clarke Wine, III
John and Anna Buckingham, Kenneth Buckingham
Gary Crum, Lion Earl Crum
Connie Sullivan, Lion Patsy Osburn
Brad and Leslie Vickers, Morgan Vickers



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