



# NeighborImpact

Critical Needs. Diverse Services. Empowering Change.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 18, 2007

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## **The Bend Lions Club Supports Head Start**

**Who:** The Bend Lions Club took an interest in Head Start's screening and referral of children who need support around hearing and vision services.

**What:** A hearing machine of almost four thousand dollars was purchased by the Lions Club of Bend for the Head Start program. In addition, further support was given for those children who do not have insurance or do not qualify for the Oregon Health Plan, by paying for vision exams and glasses.

**When:** In May 2007, Jill Rowe contacted Brady Remsen of the Lions Club looking for help in getting an exam for a child who did not qualify for OHP services. In conversation, Jill learned that the Lions Club is a huge advocate for hearing and vision screenings of both children and adults. Brady Remsen invited Jill to make a presentation to the Lions Club at their local meeting. By September 2007 the Lions Club had not only purchased and delivered a hearing machine to the Head Start Program but they had also paid for three eye exams in which all three children needed glasses.

**Where:** The Bend Lions Club meets on a Wednesday at Jake's Diner in Bend. NeighborImpact's Head Start program operates twenty classrooms in eight locations in Deschutes and Crook Counties.

**Why:** The Bend Lions Club is a huge advocate for our community in terms of hearing and vision support. When Brady learned that Head Start has a requirement to screen all children within 45 days of school for hearing and vision, the Lions Club wanted to support that requirement by providing the tools to make this happen. At the time of Jill's presentation to the Club, Head Start had one hearing machine that screened the 271 children receiving Head Start services. Because of Head Start's opportunity to expand and serve an additional 84 students, the Lions Club supported that need by providing an additional hearing machine.

**History/Mission:** NeighborImpact seeks to change the course of each family's future by giving them the tools they need to succeed. NeighborImpact's tool box includes Head Start, weatherization, home repair, energy and rent assistance, financial skills building, savings programs, assisting parents to find child care, tutoring homeless children, providing emergency and transitional housing to homeless families, home buyer education and feeding the hungry.

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