

December Panther Press

Comstock Park Parents,

Within the next couple of months, each of our schools will have their vision and hearing screenings done through the Kent County Health Department! Below are the tentative dates:

Comstock Park High School – December 2, 2019



Mill Creek Middle School – December 9, 2019

Stoney Creek Elementary – Initial Screen March 23 – 26, 2020/Rescreen April 27 – 29, 2020

Greenridge Elementary – Initial Screen April 20 – 22, 2020/Rescreen May 7 & 8, 2020

Pine Island Elementary – May 18 – 21, 2020

Your local health department works in conjunction with your child's school to provide hearing and vision screenings based on the chart to the right.

Hearing and Vision Screening Requirements		
Pre-school	X	X
Kindergarten	X	
1st Grade		X
2nd Grade	X	
3rd Grade		X
4th Grade	X	
5th Grade		X
7th Grade		X
9th		X

*Some local public health departments may schedule screenings at different intervals. Call your local public health department for more information.

What if your child is showing signs of vision problems, but isn't in the grade to be screened?

Please contact me (the District Nurse) or let your child's teacher know to contact me.

If they are showing signs of struggling, we can get them screened!

As always, with any questions or concerns, please reach out to me!

Happy Holidays!

Heather Norman, RN, BSN

Comstock Park District School Nurse

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Why do we do screenings?



Children often do not realize that they are not seeing as they should and may not complain or show signs of vision problems.

If not detected and treated early, vision problems in children can lead to:

- Loss of vision
- Learning difficulties
- Delayed sensory, motor, cognitive or social-emotional development

A vision screening is a first step toward ensuring a lifetime of healthy vision for your child.

HOW CAN A VISION SCREENING HELP MY CHILD?

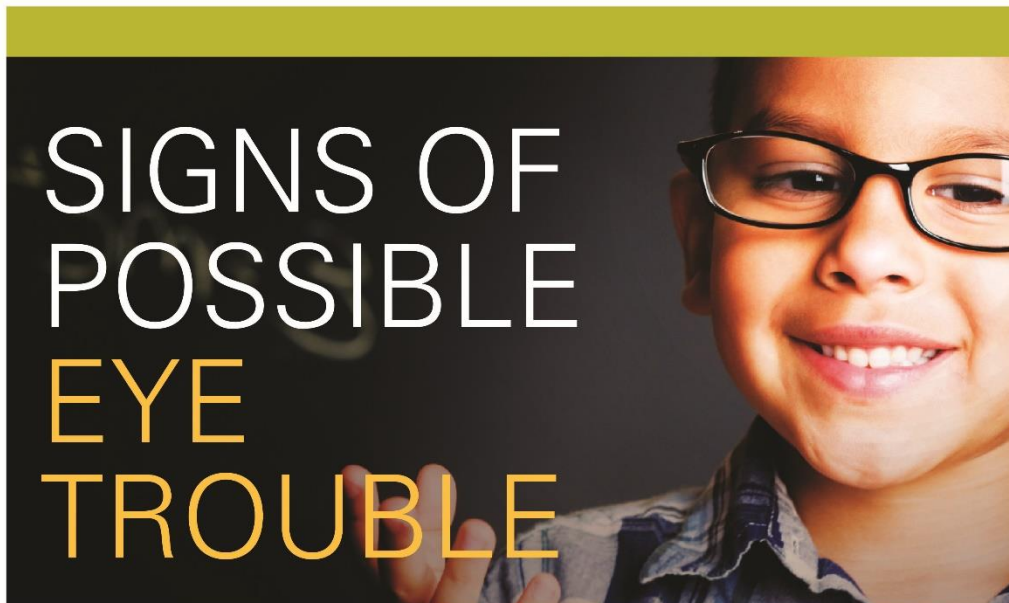
- Identifies children in need of a professional eye examination
- May help detect disorders in an early, treatable stage
- Provides parents, caregivers and the public with valuable information about eye care
- May result in a referral to an eye care professional or primary care provider

For more information about children's vision screening visit PreventBlindness.org or ask your eye care professional.

211 West Wacker Drive
Suite 1700
Chicago, Illinois 60606
PreventBlindness.org

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Blindness®**
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What are the signs that my child is having vision problems?



If your child shows one or more signs below, take him or her to an eye doctor as soon as possible.

WHAT DO YOUR CHILD'S EYES LOOK LIKE?

- eyes don't line up, one eye appears crossed or looks out
- eyelids are red-rimmed, crusted or swollen
- eyes are watery or red (inflamed)

HOW DOES YOUR CHILD ACT?

- rubs eyes a lot
- closes or covers one eye
- tilts head or thrusts head forward
- has trouble reading or doing other close-up work or holds objects close to eyes to see
- blinks more than usual or seems cranky when doing close-up work
- squints eyes or frowns

WHAT DOES YOUR CHILD SAY?

- "My eyes are itchy," "My eyes are burning" or "My eyes feel scratchy."
- "I can't see that very well."
- After doing close-up work, your child says "I feel dizzy," "I feel sick/nauseous" or "I have a headache."
- "Everything looks blurry," or "I see double."

Remember, your child may still have an eye problem even if he or she does not complain or has not shown any unusual signs.

For more information about children's eye health and safety visit PreventBlindness.org or ask your eye care professional.

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What if I am having trouble paying for vision services and glasses?

If you are having trouble paying for glasses for your child, please see the resources below and contact me, I may be able provide some additional assistance!



Vision Resources



Non-Profit / Charitable eye care providers

- GR Lions Club Vision Clinic at Heart of the City Health Center: 616-776-2135 www.cherryhealth.org
- Cherry Health Montcalm Area Health Vision Clinic: 616-225-9650
 - Sliding Fee Program available. You may apply if you have no insurance or if you need assistance to help pay for your care at Cherry Health.
- InfantSee www.infantsee.org: Free eye evaluation for infants 6 months to one year.

Doctors of Optometry (vision or health insurance and self-pay)

- Search for a doctor in your area, www.themoa.org
- Retail optical stores in malls or discount stores

Doctors of Ophthalmology (vision or health insurance and self-pay)

Recommendations

If your child does not have medical insurance, please apply for Medicaid or MICHild. On-line applications available at www.michigan.gov/mibridges or we can help you by appointment here.

Medicaid covers eye exams and glasses for children!

A routine eye examination once every two years is a Medicaid benefit and does not require prior authorization.

A complete pair of eyeglasses is a Medicaid benefit and does not require prior authorization when the beneficiary's eyeglasses have been lost, stolen or broken beyond repair and the number of replacements have not exceeded Medicaid limits which are: For beneficiaries under age 21, two pair of replacement glasses per year (one year is defined as 365 days from the date of the first pair of glasses was ordered) www.michigan.gov/mdch (Medicaid provider manual)

Most folks with Medicaid are in a Medicaid managed care plan. Each plan has many eye care providers available. Kent County has five Medicaid managed care plans that a person may choose or be assigned. Call the member services number (on the Medicaid card) for the eye care provider list.

Blue Cross Complete	1-800-228-8554	mibluecrosscomplete.com
McLaren Health Plan	1-888-327-0671	mclarenhealthplan.org
Meridian Health Plan	1-888-437-0606	mhplan.com/mi
Molina Health Plan	1-888-898-7969	molinahealthcare.com
Priority Health	1-888-975-8102	priorityhealth.com
United Health Care	1-866-633-2446	uhc.com

(Note: Most Medicaid Managed Care plans use VSP which has many providers in their network – check out www.vsp.com)

Kent County H & V Screening Program 616-632-7047 Call with any questions!!



Recursos de visión



Proveedores de atención médica de la vista sin fin de lucro/ad honorem

- GR Lions Club Vision Clinic (GR El Club de Leones de Vision Clinica) en el Centro de salud Heart of the City Health Center: 616-776-2135 www.cherryhealth.org
- Cherry Health Montcalm Area Health Vision Clinic: 616-225-9650
 - Programa de tarifa móvil disponible: Puede aplicar con Cherry Health por el programa si no tiene seguro médico o si necesitan ayuda para pagar por su cuidado.
- InfantSee: www.infantsee.org Evaluación de la vista gratuita para niños de entre 6 meses y un año de edad

Médicos especializados en optometría (mediante seguro de la vista o seguro de salud y también por cuenta propia)

- Busque un médico en su área al visitar www.themoa.org
- Ópticas minoristas en centros comerciales o tiendas de descuentos

Médicos especializados en Oftalmología (mediante seguro de la vista o seguro de salud y también por cuenta propia)

Recomendaciones

- Si su hijo/a no tiene seguro médico, por favor presente una solicitud ante Medicaid o MICHild. Las solicitudes en línea se encuentran disponibles en www.michigan.gov/mibridges

¡Medicaid cubre los exámenes de la vista y los lentes para niños!

Un examen de rutina de la vista una vez cada dos años es un beneficio otorgado por Medicaid y no requiere autorización previa.

También es un beneficio otorgado por Medicaid el hecho de recibir un par completo de lentes, lo cual no requiere autorización previa. Si los lentes del beneficiario se han perdido, han sido robados o se han roto sin posibilidad de reparación, siempre y cuando la cantidad de reemplazos no supere los límites de Medicaid. Estos límites son: Para beneficiarios menores de 21 años de edad, dos pares de lentes de reemplazo por año (se define un año como el equivalente a 365 días a partir de la fecha en que se ordena el primer par de lentes) www.michigan.gov/mdhhs (manual de proveedores de Medicaid)

La mayoría de las personas que cuentan con Medicaid forman parte de un plan de atención administrada de Medicaid. Cada plan incluye varios proveedores de atención de la vista disponibles. El Condado de Kent cuenta con cinco planes de atención administrada de Medicaid entre los cuales una persona puede elegir o se le pueden asignar. Llame al número de servicios para miembros (en la tarjeta de Medicaid) para obtener una lista de los proveedores de atención de la vista.

Blue Cross Complete	1-800-228-8554	mibluecrosscomplete.com
McLaren Health Plan	1-888-327-0671	mclarenhealthplan.org
Meridian Health Plan	1-888-437-0606	mhplan.com/mi
Molina Health Plan	1-888-898-7969	molinahealthcare.com
Priority Health	1-888-975-8102	priorityhealth.com
United Health Care	1-866-633-2446	uhc.com

(Nota: La mayoría de los planes de atención administrada de Medicaid usan VSP, el cual cuenta con muchos proveedores de atención médica dentro de su red. Visite: www.vsp.com)

Kent County H & V Screening Program 616-632-7047 Llame si tiene preguntas!!