

## **New Eyes To Host Vision Clinic For Those in Need**

*Families and Individuals Encouraged to Visit Short Hills Location for Free, New Prescription Eyeglasses During First Ever Event on Dec. 1*

**Short Hills, N.J. (November 13, 2018)** - New Eyes for the Needy, a not-for-profit, is holding a community vision clinic and eyeglass fitting event, all under one roof, on December 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at New Eyes' location in Short Hills, NJ.

Attendees who already have an eyeglass prescription can select and order free eyeglasses. Optometrists will be onsite for a limited number of eye exams for those who do not have a prescription.

To be eligible to attend, individuals and families must be in financial need, and have no other resources available to them to pay for glasses, including federal or state programs or assistance from local charitable organizations.

"Our core mission is to bring clearer vision to those in need in the United States and throughout the world. And we want to also make a deep impact in the lives of our fellow New Jersey residents who might not be able to afford a new pair of prescription eyeglasses," said Jean Gajano, Executive Director, New Eyes for the Needy. "With our inaugural vision clinic, we're giving people who qualify, a one-stop-shop to have their vision checked, speak with optometrists onsite, and, with help from our volunteers, pick a pair of prescription eyeglasses.

Children are welcome to attend the event with a parent or guardian. New Eyes for the Needy is located at 549 Millburn Ave (cross street, Baltusrol Way), Short Hills. The location is a short walk from the train station, and close to NJ Transit bus stops.

Actor/producer Jake Gyllenhaal is an advocate and spokesperson for New Eyes for the Needy.

"Want a shock? Over two billion people around the world struggle with poor eyesight," said Gyllenhaal. "That's 6 in 10 of our fellow humans who need glasses in order to perform the most basic business of modern life with comfort and clear vision. And yet, up to 30 percent of those people in the US and around the world do not have access to the medical attention they need to be fitted with the proper prescription lenses."

New Eyes purchases prescription eyeglasses for people in the United States where eligible recipients can receive a new pair of eyeglasses by working through a social service agency, school nurse or other health advocate. To be eligible, applicants must be in financial need, completed a recent eye exam, and have no other resources available to them to pay for glasses, including federal or state programs or assistance from local charitable organizations.

The non-profit recycles gently used glasses overseas for distribution in developing countries.

In 2016, New Eyes launched the **20/20 for 2020** campaign, which is on track to raise \$1,000,000 and collect 1,000,000 pairs of gently used glasses by the year 2020.

## **ABOUT NEW EYES FOR THE NEEDY**

New Eyes for the Needy, founded in 1932, is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization based in Short Hills, NJ, dedicated to improving the vision of financially struggling children, adults and families in the United States and abroad. With more than 14 million Americans lacking access to prescription eyeglasses, New Eyes is dedicated to using technology, business partnerships and a thriving volunteer base to bring one of the most basic human needs – clear vision – to those in need.

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