PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

1. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**: Please include no more than a one-page summary of the proposal and how it supports the Giving Circle’s mission statement. See attached.

2. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

   **Name and Address of the Organization:**
   Eye Care 4 Kids
   6911 S. State Street, Midvale, UT 84047

   **Website/Facebook Page:**
   www.eyecare4kids.org
   facebook.com/eyecare4kids

   **Contact Person**
   - **Name**: Joseph G. Carbone
   - **Title**: President, CEO, Founder
   - **Email**: joseph@eyecare4kids.org
   - **Telephone#**: 801-285-5443

   **Date Organization was Established**: 2001

   **EIN#**: 87-0675404

   Organization’s Yearly Budget: [ ] Under $75,000  [X] $75,000 or over

   **Amount Requested**: $5,000

3. **ORGANIZATION – Describe your organization and its mission.**

   Eye Care 4 Kids is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization established for the exclusive purpose of promoting good vision and literacy. Our mission is to provide professional eye care to low-income, visually impaired children and families. Founded in 2001 by Joseph G. Carbone, Jan Carbone, and Dee W. Hadley, Eye Care 4 Kids provides vision screenings, eye exams and eye glasses for deserving youth whose parents don’t have the means to pay. We recognize the inherent link between vision and education, and are dedicated to giving all students the best chance at academic, social, and emotional success.

   Eye Care 4 Kids has steadily expanded over the past 16 years to answer demand. We now serve 30,000 patients every year at eight clinics in Utah, Nevada, New Jersey and Arizona, in addition to SEE-MORE, a fully-stocked mobile vision clinic that has served thousands of children in rural areas and Native American reservations in the Three Corners region since 2003. Our work in Las Vegas continues strong (opened 2012), with school-based clinics and a mobile unit that was booked five days a week through the 2016/17 school year. In 2015, we celebrated the ribbon-cutting for our new clinic at the Boys & Girls Club in New Jersey – the first vision care site of its kind in America. An Eye Care 4 Kids mobile clinic is now traveling to schools and Boys & Girls Clubs throughout the Phoenix area. International humanitarian aid is central to our work, with trips to Laos (Southeast Asia) in 2013 and Rwanda, Africa, in 2016.
4. PROJECT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Project Name:</strong> Eye Care 4 Kids: Catch the Vision (SEE-MORE)</th>
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<td><strong>New or Existing Project?</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Number of Women/Girls to be Served by the Project:</strong> 50</td>
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<td><strong>What Area(s) Are You Addressing with This Project?</strong></td>
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5. COMMUNITY NEED - Describe the community problem this project seeks to address.

Eye Care 4 Kids believes that every child in America who needs glasses should have them, and we are reaching out to families, without adequate resources in their own communities, and giving them the help they need to improve their children’s quality of life. In some areas, we are the only source for this fundamental healthcare.

The Vision Council of America has stated that **1 in every 4 children has a vision problem** that can interfere with learning and behavior. This number rises to almost 40% for children raised in poverty. There are many students, who are uninsured or underinsured. Many of these children don’t have access to professional vision care. They simply do not have resources for follow up. Untreated eye disease and disorders regularly lead to poor academic work, developmental delays and reduced overall quality of health. Early detection and treatment of eye problems for children should be a major public health goal. The earlier a vision problem is diagnosed and treated the less likely it is to have a negative impact on a child’s education and development.

According to the U.S. Census, 12% of Utahns live in poverty, a problem far more likely to affect women, children and minorities. Nearly half of students in Utah schools (48%) are eligible for free/reduced price lunches. Some youth don’t realize they have a vision problem until it’s identified by a school teacher or nurse. Early intervention helps as many as 8 of 10 children make significant developmental gains (Conditions of Children report, 2012). Through its clinics—including SEE-MORE, the vision mobile—Eye Care 4 Kids is helping women and children is addressing this critical community need, ensuring that all patients have proper access to vision correction.

6. PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

a. Describe the proposed project and why it’s compelling.

b. How will the requested funds be used?

Eye Care 4 Kids’ mobile vision clinic will make two special trips to the Three Corners region in 2018 to bring profession vision care services to underserved children. While we have a long history of serving this region, we will focus particularly on reaching young women and girls on these occasions, recognizing the importance of empowering them to develop as leaders early in their educational development. This starts with good health and the confidence that comes with clear vision.

Our 38-foot mobile eye doctor’s office on wheels, “SEE-MORE” is fully stocked with professional staff, optometrist, advanced equipment and a wall of eyeglasses. Our board-certified optometrists administer comprehensive eye screening that helps determine if chronic visual problems exist. Eye Care 4 Kids gives free eye glasses (frames with polycarbonate, scratch-resistant corrective lenses and UV coating, and case) or contact lenses to youth in need. Like a private practice, children needing glasses can select from a wall of frames with as many as 300 options. We have been working with the largest frame manufacturers to get...
the latest styles and sizes so they can choose their favorite pair without worrying about the cost. We foster their self-esteem and identity as bright, happy learners at an early age, by giving free glasses to underserved children that are equal in quality and appeal to those purchased by wealthier peers.

Glasses are made in the laboratory at the Eye Care 4 Kids headquarters in 2-3 weeks’ time. All of our eyeglasses include a shatterproof polycarbonate lenses that will keep the child’s eyes safe and protected while providing clear and comfortable vision. These lenses are typically 10 times more impact resistant than your standard plastic lenses. We deliver individual glasses and make adjustments, teaching students how to care for their lenses and to always put them on with two hands. The one-on-one attention helps patients feel comfortable and confident in our care.

Miracles happen every day at Eye Care 4 Kids, but this one started 15 years ago when Lisa Venegas noticed that her three-year-old daughter Arcelia was sitting inches away from the TV screen. She was referred to Eye Care 4 Kids and the optometrist determined that her vision was 20/600—she couldn’t see past her nose. Joseph fitted her for a new pair of glasses and they returned for routine care every year. Now 18, Arcelia has graduated high school and is ready to start college. Her mother attributes her success in school to her corrected vision. Joseph describes Eye Care 4 Kids’ newest “Youth Ambassador” as “Smart, Articulate, Committed.” When they re-united last month, he remembered the inquisitive little girl that reaffirmed his decision to mortgage his home and start Eye Care 4 Kids.

7. ACTION PLAN – Describe the following:
   a. Your organization’s capacity to implement the project.
   b. The steps you will take to implement this project.
   c. The expected outcomes (qualitative and quantitative).
   d. The method of assessment.

A. A fiscally responsible organization, the organization has grown over the past 16 years with increasing community support. SEE-MORE has served thousands of children in rural areas and Native American reservations in Utah since 2003. All patients receive the kind of personalized, high-quality experience they’d expect from a private practice. In addition to the experience and expertise of our Founder, our MDs are trained to see each child’s eye conditions in the context of other health issues. We recruit doctors who have the demeanor to treat pediatric patients and the skills to utilize advanced diagnostic equipment.

B. Every year, Eye Care 4 Kids receives requests from multiple school districts for children in desperate need of eye exams and eyewear. We plan to contact local school districts and community groups to identify the areas with greatest need. Referral forms, called Vision Vouchers, will then be distributed through our community partners. Youth are referred by concerned teachers and school nurses who have noticed those struggling to see the chalkboard, read proficiently, and complete homework. Dates will be set for SEE-MORE’s visit and follow-up care. Glasses will be made in the laboratory at our Salt Lake headquarters.

C. We expect to provide 100 children with free vision screenings, and those that need glasses will receive a free pair made to their exact prescription. Expressions of thanks and tears of joy have been expressed during previous trips to the Three Corners region, and we look forward to wonderful experiences in 2018.

D. Eye Care 4 Kids measures the impact of its service lines in both quantitative and qualitative terms. We track the following:

1. **Eye Exams and Glasses**: Administer eye exams to as many as 10,000 K-12 students during the 2017/18 academic year, giving free eye glasses to those with impairments. Initial treatment will give hope and build confidence in children who receive stylish eye-wear.

2. **Full Schedule**: Review the appointment schedule to determine the percentage of slots filled for the school year at our Midvale clinic, as well as special requests for the mobile. We aim to serve the
community at full capacity, often with appointments reserved 2-3 months in advance.

3. **Student Development:** Maintain open communication with teachers to evaluate any changes in student progress and achievement in their studies. As we’ve witnessed over the years, the attitude toward life and learning improves when recipients don’t have to struggle to read and engage; lessening frustration translates into good behavior in the classroom and on the playground. We aim to improve literacy and help students to love reading at an early age.

We will continue to share the stories of our patients, as they reflect the real-life impact of Eye Care 4 Kids. Eye Care 4 Kids helps turns things around for young people like Stephanie, a promising 9-year old with a vision problem who was doing poorly in school. After performing a comprehensive exam, we diagnosed her as having nearsightedness and acute astigmatism. It is no wonder that Stephanie was unable to see the teacher standing at the board in front of the room or her reading material. We made her a stylish pair of glasses and two weeks later, her teacher reported that Stephanie had caught up to grade level. Her vision and school problems could have been easily avoided with proper routine vision care.

8. **SUSTAINABILITY** – Provide information about how you will fund and continue to sustain this program beyond the grant.

SEE-MORE is funded by generous charitable contributions to Eye Care 4 Kids. A few of the donors supporting this effort are American Express, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Harris Simmons-Zions Bank, Hoops Vision, 1-800 CONTACTS, Lions Clubs, and Sorenson Legacy Foundation. We continue to fundraise year-round to sustain our work and will sustain the program after the grant has ended by securing new funds from a range of sources, including individuals, corporations, and foundations.

9. **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:** Please attach the following documents with the application.

   - [x] Current board member list.
   - [x] Letter from Board Chairperson expressing support for your application.
   - [x] IRS Verification Letter of tax exempt status and EIN#.
   - [x] Audited financial statement and IRS 990 form. *Note: If you cannot provide the audited financial statement or the IRS 990, please explain why.*
   - [x] Budget information: A complete project budget (not your organization’s budget) and a funding plan.

10. **SUBMITTED BY**

    - **Name:** Janet Lomax
    - **Title:** Eye Care 4 Kids Grant Writer (Utah)
    - **Date:** September 29, 2017