

For Immediate Release July 5, 2017

Contact: Harriet Goodheart Media Relations Coordinator 215-780-1487

The Eye Institute of Salus University Offers Vision Care in the Abington and Cheltenham School Districts

Elkins Park, Pa. – The Eye Institute (TEI) of Salus University brought its "Looking Out for Kids" vision care program to area elementary, middle school and high school students.

The "Looking Out for Kids" (LOFK) initiative provides vision care for under-insured and uninsured children in Philadelphia and the surrounding communities. Early diagnosis and treatment of vision problems in children is critical. One in four children suffers from visual impairment, which can adversely impact their school performance and impede their social development.

School nurses identified children who failed a vision screening and required follow-up care. Since March, LOFK provided 92 exams for students in the Abington and Cheltenham school districts and nearly three-quarters of those students (73 percent) needed a prescription for eyeglasses. Each student requiring glasses received two pairs – one for school and one for home. A total of 108 eyeglasses were distributed.

"The 'Looking Out for Kids' vision care program was a great experience for the students who were seen this year," said Alex Knab, nursing coordinator for the Cheltenham School District. "I am looking forward to continuing our relationship with Salus University and their Mobile Vision Van in the future."

Since its inception in 2007, the "Looking Out for Kids" program has brightened thousands of children's lives and enhanced their educational performance. A team from The Eye Institute including an optometrist, ophthalmic technician and optometry interns performed comprehensive eye exams in the Salus University Mobile Vision Care Unit at the Abington Junior High School, Abington Senior High School, Highland Elementary, Copper Beech Elementary, Roslyn Elementary, Willow Hill Elementary and Overlook Elementary in the Abington district, and at Myers Elementary, Wyncote Elementary and Cheltenham High School in the Cheltenham district.

For more information on the "Looking Out for Kids initiative, email lookingoutforkids@salus.edu

About Salus University

Salus University, founded as the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in 1919, today is a diversified, globally recognized professional academic center of learning that offers a wide range of degree programs in the professions of Optometry, Audiology, Physician Assistant, Public Health, Education and Rehabilitation for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Biomedicine, Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology. Salus operates four clinical facilities in the Philadelphia area that provide highly specialized vision, hearing and balance, and speech-language pathology services. The University has more than 1,100 students, including PhD candidates, and more than 12,500 alumni worldwide. For more information, please visit www.salus.edu.

About The Eye Institute (TEI):

The Eye Institute, since opening its doors in 1978, has been a valuable vision care resource for Philadelphia and all of the Delaware Valley. As the clinical practice of the Salus University Pennsylvania College of Optometry, TEI employs a multidisciplinary approach – with optometrists, ophthalmologists, opticians, optometric technicians, optometric interns (trainees) and other health care professionals working together to provide total vision care for nearly 50,000 patients annually. The Eye Institute has locations in Oak Lane, East Falls and Chestnut Hill.