



MAINE LIONS SIGHT & HEARING FOUNDATION

Serving the State of Maine since 1955

Community Outreach Hearing Assistance Clinics

The goal of having outreach clinics for Hearing Aid Assistance is to allow applicants to meet with a hearing aid specialist in or near their own community. This saves travel cost and time for hearing aid applicants that have been approved for payment by a Maine Lions Club or Maine Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation (MLSHF).

How to Get Started

A Lions Club or Zone may have several inquiries for hearing assistance, or they may advertise a community outreach Hearing Assistance Clinic and invite people to come get their hearing checked and find out if they qualify for Lions services. This may be part of a general advertisement about Lions Club's services in a local paper or newsletter, or specific to the clinic. You can also post information on social media, at a town hall, library, or other gathering location in your community.

The Club Clinic Coordinator will work with the MLSHF Hearing Specialist and agree on a time and location for the clinic and the Club Clinic Coordinator will make the arrangements for the location.

The Club Clinic Coordinator notifies area Lions Clubs and the Hearing Specialist to contact their applicants of the date, time, and location

The Club Clinic Chairperson prepares the clinic room (seating, tables, lighting, outlets to plug in equipment and if possible a private area away from the group for testing), welcomes the applicants and makes them feel comfortable, answers any questions, logs their name and city for future reporting, and when their turn comes up introduces them to the Hearing Specialist for testing or fitting of a hearing aid.

The Hearing Specialist will check the applicants' applications from the Clubs or MLSHF, collect all payments, and keep records of the transactions with the approved applicants. Applicants that don't qualify for Lions services can still receive information on affordable hearing assistance from the Hearing Specialist.

If the clinic is around a meal time it is customary for the Club Clinic Coordinator to provide a meal for the Hearing Specialist.

Once an applicant is approved and before they attend a Clinic, they should have their ears cleaned by their doctor or at a walk-in clinic.

If an applicant has had a hearing test, they should bring the results with them. Otherwise the Hearing Specialist will test them.

Community Based Hearing Clinic

A Lions Club or Zone could also do a community-based clinic. The Lions will advertise in a General Area, have people call that are interested in Hearing Assistance or they may already have Hearing Aids and would like them cleaned or serviced. Any Club or Zone interested in hosting a community-based clinic should contact the Hearing Specialist. It is important to ensure that you have enough community interest to make it worthwhile for all involved