EYE 🔦 See Clinic



Birth to Three Mobile Vision Clinic Events

By: Alan Pearson, OD PhD, Executive Director, Near Vision Institute Version: 07-06-22: Please contact Dr. Pearson for the latest version: <u>pearson@nviglobal.org</u>



What: We can perform basic vision exams, fit eyeglasses, and perform more detailed Functional Vision Evaluations for issues that impact learning, development, activities of daily living, or work. We intend to improve access to eye care in communities both rural and urban. This flier describes our services

for Birth to Three centers. For this age group we usually set up in an appropriately sized room. We carry the tools and techniques to examine any child in need. The emphasis of our work is functional vision assessments for eyeglasses, low vision, or intervention consultation to an interdisciplinary team. We make referrals to specialty clinics if there are eye health or other issues that cannot be evaluated or treated through our mobile clinic.

When: We are currently scheduling mobile vision events. We can visit schools, clinics, community centers, churches, or health fairs. These trips can be for one or more days.

Who: For a B-3 center we can examine infants as young as 6 months old. Our setup can provide services for children up to 18 years old, but we need to be alerted if older children are expected so we can plan accordingly.

Our Team: At minimum our attending team will consist of one optometrist and one staff (over 18). Additional staff/volunteers attend when available and/or needed.

How: The flow generally follows these steps

Preplanning: We establish an appropriate Memorandum of Understanding document with the host of the Mobile Vision Clinic event. We coordinate with the host prior to



the trip to determine the best plan for conducting the event. All B-3 events involve scheduling and parental completion of paperwork prior to their appointment (no walk-in availability). Our Patient Care Coordinators assist parents in getting ready for their appointment.

Event: The host provides a space that can accommodate the eye exam equipment. Usually this is a room of at least 150 square feet. It needs to be a dedicated space for 12835 Bel-Red Rd. STE 303, Bellevue, WA 98005 | 425-354-3998





the event, rather than shared with other activities. We arrive in the morning and it takes about 1 hour to set up. We have previously "triaged" the children we will see to make sure each child is appropriate for our clinic, has insurance eligibility, and we know what services (basic eye exam or functional consultation) is needed. The appropriate amount of time is put on the schedule, most appointments will be 30 minutes in length. We expect the parents/guardians to attend the evaluation. Other team members are welcome to attend. If a child needs eyeglasses they can choose from a selection that includes the Medicaid eligible frame/lens selection. We pack up and head home at the end of the event. We stay overnight in the community for multi day events.

Followup: With functional vision issues and eyeglasses for young children, there is typically a need for follow up once or twice in the year. Therefore, we try to schedule at least two events per year at each location. While a first visit may only allow for some basic services, at a follow up we can see a child for next level care and consultation.

Our Database: Data is securely stored digitally according to HIPAA standards. Contact information is provided to the patient/family if they have any questions or concerns once we have left the event. Our EYE Toolbox provides a patient/parent/professional portal for information and collaboration.

COST: This mobile vision clinic will see patients with Apple Health / Medicaid without any fees for services. Children under 18 are eligible for free eyeglasses. We have resources to serve uninsured patients. For individuals with private health insurance, there may be some fees involved including possible copays, coinsurance, and deductibles. Private pay is an option also.

SCHEDULING: We will consider any location in WA State. Step one in scheduling a mobile vision clinic event is to contact Dr. Alan Pearson, Executive Director of the Near Vision Institute at: pearson@nviglobal.org (425)-269-3169 (leave a message with contact details and I will return your call)



Near Vision Institute: is a non-profit corporation (501c3 pending) in WA State that was formed in 2021 to facilitate vision screenings and eye exams through our EYE See Clinics, and technology development for remote interventions for learning and development related vision dysfunctions. More information for each of these divisions can be found at the following websites:

Near Vision Institute: <u>www.NVI.global</u> EYE See Clinic: <u>www.EYESeeClinic.org</u>

NOTE: For people willing to travel to Bellevue Washington eye exams, Functional Vision Evaluations, and therapy services are currently available year round.