



DR. Robert H. Mathog Lions Hearing Centers



Dr. Robert Mathog dedicated much of his life to treating hearing loss and identifying affordable treatment options for Michigan residents. Until his death in October 2014, he served as professor and chair of the Department of Otolaryngology at Wayne State University and as President and Chair of our Lions Hearing Centers. Dr. Mathog was a staunch supporter and a champion of our cause, and he recognized that fund development and the building of long-term success.

Hearing loss is an extremely common, yet complex debilitation. Studies show that people with untreated hearing loss are much more likely to suffer from depression anxiety and unemployment, and they are less likely to participate in social activities.

Most Americans will experience problems with hearing at some point in their life, and for many financially stressed Michigan residents, our Lions Hearing Centers will be their only option for treatment.

Today, through our Lions Hearing Centers, we conduct hearing screenings for thousands of children and adults each year; we provide affordable hearing aids to those in need; and we help hearing impaired children and their families identify resources for help and support. We partner with many of the top hearing aid manufacturers in the United States, and our Michigan Lions Clubs and other non-profit organizations to deliver affordable hearing healthcare services across Michigan.

AFFORDABLE HEARING AIDS

The Lions Hearing Center of Michigan offers hearing aids to qualifying low-income individuals at large discounted rates. We provide many hearing aid options, including very affordable new production multi-channel digital hearing aids.

All applicants must be legal Michigan residents and be sponsored by a Michigan Lions Club or Lions District. Contact your local Lions Club or Lions District Governor or visit www.district10lions.org for more information.

If you are interested in a hearing aid(s) from the Lions Hearing Center, there are some steps to take:



Step #1: Applying for financial assistance

For those with low or modest income the Lions Hearing Center provides hearing aids at a significantly reduced price. An application for assistance can be obtained by contacting your local Lions club. Upon filling out the application and providing the necessary documents for review, you will be notified whether or not financial assistance has been approved.

Step #2: Hearing test and medical clearance

Anyone wanting to purchase a hearing aid will need a recent hearing test (within the past 6 months) and medical clearance (from a physician). If you have already obtained this, then you should include copies of this information with your initial application for financial assistance, so that this will not need to be repeated.

If you have not obtained this, then after your application is approved, you will be notified of a hearing aid specialist to contact in or near your area for an appointment for both a hearing test and/or medical clearance.

Step #3: Obtaining the hearing aid(s)

You have the option of purchasing either one or two hearing aids from the Lions Hearing Center. After your application has been approved, and a recent hearing test and medical clearance have been obtained, you will be provided the information to schedule your hearing aid consultation.

Models

The LHC (Lions Hearing Center) primarily offers hearing aids from the following manufacturers: MD Hearing Aids, Oticon, Phonak, Rexton, Starkey, Unitron and GN ReSound. Each manufacturer has different types of hearing aids at different costs, and with different capabilities.

Styles

CIC (Completely in the Canal):

This is the smallest type custom made hearing aid and is almost invisible in the ear. All the components are housed in a small case that fits far into the ear canal. This utilizes the ear's own natural sound-collecting design and offers convenient telephone usage.

However, these hearing aids are restricted to persons with ear canals large enough to accommodate the insertion depth of the instrument into the ear. Also, the CIC style uses a very small battery that requires good manual dexterity. This type of hearing aid is not suitable for persons with severe hearing losses.

ITC (In the Canal):

A little bigger than the CIC, the ITC hearing aids also fit far into the ear canal. Canal hearing aids use a slightly larger battery than the CIC style. This style is used for mild to moderate hearing losses.

ITE (In the Ear):

These hearing aids can be used for a wider range of hearing losses. Due to their larger size, ITEs can accommodate larger sound amplifiers and more features such as a telephone switch. They are also easier to handle.

BTE (Behind the Ear):

In BTE hearing aids, the electronics are housed in a case that fits behind the ear. Tubing and a custom made earmold direct the sound to the ear canal. Due to its robust design, this style is especially recommended for children. BTE hearing aids can provide more amplification than smaller devices due to the stronger amplifier and the larger battery. This style is available in several colors for hair and skin tone matching.



In November of 2000, the inauguration of the Hearing Center at the University Health Center in Detroit was held. In 2004, the Lions Clubs International Foundation approved the Lions Hearing Center as an official Lions organization and the Lions Hearing Center acquired a tax-exempt, 501© 3 status from the Internal Revenue Service, which it still holds today.

In 2008, the Lions Hearing Center began to expand its services to reach more people in need. Their services grew to include hearing screenings, educational programs, working with the deaf community, implementing outreach efforts throughout Michigan, and partnering with dozens of organizations to provide hearing care for all.

HEARING AID DOCTORS are needed in the Eastern Upper Peninsula area to participate in Lions of Michigan Service Foundation hearing aid project for low income individuals. If interested please contact us at lionsclubhearing@gmail.com.

District 10 Lions of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan Hearing Preservation Program:

For more information contact your local Lions Club, email lionsclubhearing@gmail.com or visit www.district10lions.org. Please provide your name and/or the name of the person you are inquiring for, along with complete address, phone number and email address, if possible. A District 10 Lions representative will contact you to discuss and sponsor you through the process.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

