

**2026 STATE CONVENTION REPORT**  
**VIRGINIA LIONS HEARING AID BANK FOUNDATION (DISTRICT 24-L),**  
**INCORPORATED**

Highlights of the Current Lions Year  
 Lion Mike McLaughlin

- Recent changes in the hearing aid industry, such as the ability to almost self-fit hearing devices over the internet, have reduced the need for traditional hearing aids, and thus for our services. But we still make a significant difference for many folks, including those who need but cannot afford hearing aids for school, for work, and for social activities.
- So far this Lions year we have received 38 referrals for hearing aids for individuals who need hearing aids but cannot afford them. This compares to 42 referrals during the Lions year July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, 33 referrals the prior year and 49 the year before that. The oldest referral was 88, the youngest was 7, and the average age of those we assisted was 67. Referrals came from the following service areas:

Lions Club	Referrals
Alexandria Host	2
Alexandria-Lincolnia	1
Arlington Clubs	4
Burke	1
Clifton	1
Culpeper Clubs	1
Fairfax Host	3
Falls Church-Annandale	4
Fredericksburg Host	4
Greater Falls Run	1
Leesburg	1
Manassas Host	1
Montclair	1
Mount Vernon Evening	1
Remington	3
Reston	2
Spotsylvania Courthouse 100	2
Stafford County	1
Staunton	1
Waynesboro	1
Westmoreland	1
Weyers Cave	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>38</b>

- We are assisted by a wonderful group of hearing aid professionals who refurbish used hearing aids and deliver them to those we assist, and who discount their fees to us. If you are considering where to take your personal business, please consider our partners. We are slowly adding providers in the western and southern regions of the District.

- Audiology Offices, LLC, Westmoreland
  - Blue Ridge Hearing Center, Harrisonburg and Woodstock
  - The Hearing Aid Place, Fredericksburg
  - Cosmetic Hearing Solutions, Annandale and Alexandria
  - Manassas Hearing Center, Manassas
  - Wagner Hearing Aid Centers, Culpeper, Staunton, Waynesboro, and Harrisonburg
- Not included in the list above are several long-time service providers who have stopped working with us for various reasons, many of which have to do with their changing practice. These include Arlington ENT Associates, Hearing Health Care Center of Manassas, Professional Hearing Aid Service (Reston), and Doctors Hearing Services (Springfield).
  - A number of Lions Clubs have supported the Hearing Aid Bank Foundation with their donations so far this Lions year, including:

<b>Club</b>	<b>Donation</b>
Aquia Harbour Host	\$400
Augusta	\$350
Bailey's Crossroads Host	\$100
Clifton	\$500
Falls Church-Annandale	\$500
Lake of the Woods	\$500
Manassas Host	\$300
Mason Neck	\$100
Montclair	\$150
Purcellville	\$500
Springfield-Franconia Host	\$1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,400</b>

- The HAB Foundation received several hundred used hearing aids for use in our program. Most of these came through the Northern Virginia Eyeglass Recycling Center, but others were mailed to us or donated at one of our hearing aid providers. We are grateful for this support.
- An Eagle Scout project by a young man who has a cochlear implant was a highlight this year. Scout Cooper Thesmar organized a hearing aid collection drive that resulted in more than 600 hearing aids being collected. Cooper brought the hearing aids and 10 volunteers to a local church in late February to go through the donated aids and sort them into groups for distribution to hearing aid providers. As a result of Cooper's Eagle Scout project we have more used hearing aids in inventory than ever before.