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ESSILOR VISION FOUNDATION EXPANDS REACH OVER NEXT THREE YEARS

Foundation Sets Goal to Donate 100,000 Pairs of Glasses to Children in Need

DALLAS – Jan. 8, 2013 – Wrapping up a successful 2012, the Essilor Vision Foundation is looking to the future with the recent addition of programs in 20 states and more than 140 cities— setting the goal of donating at least 100,000 pairs of glasses to children in need over the next three years in the U.S. Through programs such as Adopt-a-School, Kids Vision for Life and a new mobile vision clinic, the Foundation provides vision screening, eye exams and eyeglasses to children from low-income families across America.

Nearly 30 million children in the United States alone need glasses, and 1 in 4 children in the U.S. have a vision problem significant enough to affect learning. Since its inception in September 2008, and through the support of gracious volunteers and partners, the Foundation has completed more than 110,000 screenings and dispensed more than 28,000 pairs of glasses to children in need.

“We are ecstatic about the amount of support we’ve received from our partners and volunteers, which has enabled us to expand our presence and reach throughout the country,” said Stephen Shawler, president of Essilor Vision Foundation. “Ultimately, the Foundation continues to strive daily to eliminate poor vision and its lifelong consequences.”

In the coming years, the Essilor Vision Foundation will also expand its global presence with the implementation of similar foundations in various countries across the world. In 2013, the

Foundation will partner in South Korea and will kick-off the program there in late January by participating in the Special Olympics World Games in Pyeong Chang, South Korea.

To make a donation or to learn more about the Essilor Vision Foundation and its programs, including details of upcoming events, tips for families and vision facts, please visit essilorvisionfoundation.org.

About Essilor Vision Foundation

Essilor Vision Foundation is a public non-profit charity established by Dallas-based Essilor of America, the leading manufacturer of optical lenses in the United States. We are a 501 (c) (3) public charity organized with a mission to "eliminate poor vision and its lifelong consequences."

We strive to give children a brighter future by helping them see the world more clearly. Our programs focus on improving the quality of school vision screenings so fewer children slip through the cracks. We provide free vision screenings, eye exams and eyeglasses to children who would not get them otherwise. We also work to educate parents and communities about the importance of children's vision care and the role it plays in literacy, society and the economy. To learn more or to donate, visit Essilor Vision Foundation at www.essilorvisionfoundation.org. Engage with us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

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