



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Kristan Willingham  
Essilor of America  
214.496.4463  
kristan.willingham@essilorusa.com

**ESSILOR VISION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES NEW POSITIONS**

*New Team Members Support Continued Growth and Expansion in the U.S.*

**DALLAS – March 15, 2013** – The Essilor Vision Foundation announced today several staffing changes to help support the continued growth and outreach of the organization, including the retirement of Audrey Reed, a great asset and visionary for the Foundation. Reed has been involved with the organization since its inception and was instrumental in its success and growth. She was also named a finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® Award in 2010.

Diane Gillis joins as director of programs and employee engagement and will succeed Reed. Gillis, who joined Essilor in 1992, will be responsible for delivering the overall strategy for targeted programs and Foundation engagement.

“Audrey’s contributions to the Foundation through her involvement in projects such as our partnership with Special Olympics have left a lasting legacy—we will always be grateful for her dedication,” said Stephen Shawler, president of Essilor Vision Foundation. “As Diane joins our team, we look forward to learning from her industry expertise and passion.”

Also joining the Foundation team is Andrea Haymore and Lindsey Weldon. As operations manager, Haymore will be responsible for the coordination and planning of back office functions, training programs and support for current and future Essilor Vision Foundation programs. As development and donor relations manager, Weldon will focus on development, communication and fundraising efforts.

Additionally, the Foundation is adding two new board members this year, and hopes to make an announcement this summer.

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](http://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](http://www.essilorvisionfoundation.org). Engage with us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

###