# How is the Major Project Administered?

- Major decisions are made by a seven member Board of Trustees, appointed by the Past Grand Exalted Rulers.
- Day-to-day operations are overseen by an Executive Director, serving at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.
- Supervision of the Therapy and Screening Programs is conducted by the Director of Professional Services and Team Leaders.

# How is the Major Project Supported?

- 92% of every donated dollar supports the children directly.
- \$1.25 of annual dues assessment is earmarked for the Major Project.
- All types of fund raisers in the name of the Major Project provide support.
- The Piggy Bank donations are one of the largest sources of income to fund the annual budget.
- Participation in the Legacy Giving / Bequests and Living Trusts will give long-range support.

All Donations to the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project are Tax Deductible.



# Growing & Serving Since 1950

In 1949, through the inspiration and dedicated guidance of L.A. "Fay" Lewis, PGER, the first proposal was made.

In 1950, our first Mobile Therapy vehicle began operation in Eureka.

Our program expanded to Hawaii in 1965, with Speech-Language Pathology Services. In the same year, our Preschool Vision Screening Program began in Orange County, California.

In 1981 we proudly initiated our Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities.

In 1991, a "Plan for the Future" was created with the Bequests and Living Trusts (BLT) Legacy Fund.

In 2002 the Elks Vision Care program was established.

In the years that have followed, we have continued to grow our "Program for Children with Disabilities" and the future is very bright!



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# California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. Program for Children with Disabilities



- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech-Language Therapy
- Preschool Vision Screening
- Scholarships for Students
   with Disabilities
- Elks Vision Care Program

#### **What is the Major Project?**

- Skilled and experienced Speech-Language
   Pathologists, Occupational Therapists and Physical
   Therapists providing in-home evaluations and
   treatment.
- Certified Vision Screeners providing vision screening for preschool children.
- Vision Care Program providing emergency financial assistance.
- College Scholarships for students with disabilities.



## **Undergraduate Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities**

Since 1981 the Elks have provided financial assistance to students with disabilities wishing to further their education.

This scholarship program is a financial needs-based and academic-use scholarship. It is intended for undergraduate work at an accredited community college, four-year college, university, or licensed vocational school. The funds cover academic expenses only, which includes tuition, books, lab fees, and on-campus room and board.

Individuals applying must be United States citizens and residents of California or Hawaii; have a physical impairment, neurological impairment, visual impairment, hearing impairment, and or speech-language disorder; and be a senior in high school, a high school graduate, or have passed the General Educational Development (GED) Examination or the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE).

Scholarship applications can be found on the Elks Website at: <a href="https://www.chea-elks.org/youth-activities/scholarships">www.chea-elks.org/youth-activities/scholarships</a>.

#### **Therapy Services**

Therapy services conducted by Pediatric Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists and Speech-Language Pathologists.

#### **Eligibility Requirements for Therapy Services**

- The child who would benefit from home-based therapy services. This is determined by the Major Project therapist after evaluating the child and/or review of past reports and recommendations.
- The child who is not receiving, nor is eligible to receive Therapy services from any other agency or professional.
- The child is younger than 18 years of age.
- A parent is required to be actively involved and follow through with home program activities / suggestions made by the therapist.
- The environment in which service will be provided must be safe and conducive to meet therapy goals.

#### **Location of Therapy Services**

• Therapy service take place at the child's home or at a location that is mutually agreed upon.

#### Fees for Therapy Services

 There is no fee for these services. The program is funded entirely by the generous donations of members and friends of the California-Hawaii Elks Association. No government funding is accepted, and the program remains autonomous.

#### How to refer for Therapy Services

- Therapy services may be requested by contacting the Major Project office in Fresno.
- Children can be referred to the program by a number of people; i.e., parents, Elk Members, teachers, etc.

#### **Preschool Vision Screening**

Vision Screening is conducted by Certified Vision Screeners. The pediatric vision screener will:

- Assess visual acuity and external eye health.
- Evaluate the ability of the two eyes to work together.
- Observe and evaluate the ability of the eye muscles to follow, fixate and maintain ocular vision.
- Children who need further evaluation will be given a referral letter to take to an eye specialist of their choice. Follow-up is an essential component.

#### **Eligibility Requirements for Vision Screening**

- Children from preschool through third grade.
- A vision screening program is not provided by any other agency or source.
- Require to obtain written parent permission for each child to be screened.
- The environment in which service will be conducted must be safe and conducive to providing the screening.

#### **Location of Vision Screening Services**

Children are usually screened at pre-schools and daycare centers. Upon request, an "open" screening may be held at a Elks Lodge site.

#### Fees for Vision Screening Services

There is no fee for this service. The program is funded entirely by the generous donations of members and friends of the California-Hawaii Elks Association. No government funding is accepted, and the program remains autonomous.

#### **How to Obtain Vision Screening Services**

Requests for screenings may be made directly by contacting the Major Project office in Fresno.