

**NORTHEAST
SIGHT SERVICES**

— Since 1918 —

OUR VISION IS CLEAR:
SIGHT LOSS SUPPORT & PREVENTION™

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



SEEING THE
POSSIBILITIES



NORTHEAST SIGHT SERVICES

— Since 1918 —

OUR VISION IS CLEAR:
SIGHT LOSS SUPPORT & PREVENTION™

As we reflect on 2024, one thing is abundantly clear—**we could not have done this without you.** Your generosity, compassion, and unwavering support have made a profound impact on Northeast Sight Services and the individuals we serve.

Because of you, children received life-changing vision screenings, individuals facing vision loss found resources and independence, and our community as a whole became a brighter place for those with visual impairments.

Your belief in our mission and your willingness to see the possibilities within our organization fuel our future impact. With your support, we are not only meeting the needs of today but also building a stronger, more innovative future – one where we can continue to detect vision issues early, ensure access to critical care, and empower individuals with the tools they need to thrive.

Every dollar donated, every volunteer hour given, and every partnership formed allows us to grow, evolve, and expand our reach to those who need us most. Your support is the foundation on which we will continue to build, ensuring that no one in our community faces vision loss alone.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for believing in what we do and for making such a tremendous impact. Together, we are changing lives.

The mission of the Northeast Sight Services is to help blind and visually impaired individuals achieve the best possible quality of life by providing compassionate services and to prevent vision loss through education and early detection for people of all ages.

Support Services

- Initial Evaluation and Referral
- In-Home Independent Living Support
- Educational and Social Events
- Vision Rehabilitation Therapy
- Assistive Technology
- Low Vision Clinic/Vision Resource Center

InSight Kids Club of NEPA

- Camp Sight
- Transitioning to Independence
- Monthly Children's Programs



Prevention of Blindness

- Children's Vision Screenings
- Eye Health & Safety Education Programs
- Marilyn Moore Maslow Gift of Sight
 - Gift of Sight: Basic Eye Exam
 - Low Cost Prescription Eyeglasses

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At Northeast Sight Services, we believe that vision loss should never limit a person's ability to live fully and independently.

This year, through our wide range of services, we helped more individuals navigate daily life confidently—whether providing essential vision screenings for children, independent living support for adults, or specialized training for those adapting to vision loss.

This is all thanks to you!

SUPPORT SERVICES

Once again, we doubled our Independent In-Home Living Support visits, **delivering over 1,000 visits to more than 100 clients.** These essential services assist individuals with everyday tasks such as balancing checkbooks, managing correspondence, and filing applications.

Your support of this critical service, empowers our clients to maintain their independence and continue living safely in their own homes.



We also expanded our Vision Rehabilitation Therapy (VRT) services, reaching over 50 clients. Through personalized strategies, we help individuals maximize or compensate for diminished vision, fostering independence and self-confidence. This tailored approach includes goal setting, training with assistive devices, and skill-building exercises.



Additionally, our **Assistive Technology training program saw significant growth, providing nearly 50 specialized lessons to more than 25 clients—**helping them navigate technology with greater ease and confidence.



Keep our clients living fully and independently - support today at <https://cbo.io/d/northeastsight> or scanning the QR Code.

PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

One of our most impactful programs continues to thrive year after year— our Children's Vision Screenings. **We screened nearly 4,500 children** to help detect potential vision and eye health issues, often before any symptoms appear.



We screened over 1,000 children for color blindness—an essential yet often overlooked service we provide. While there is no cure for color blindness, early detection allows parents and teachers to create visual cues that foster a more supportive learning environment.



This year, we increased our Eye Health and Safety programs, **educating almost 650 children** on age-appropriate information and tools they can use to help prevent blindness.



Thanks to the generosity of individuals like you these Children's Vision Screenings and Eye Health and Safety Programs are offered completely free of charge. Your support ensures that children in daycares, preschools, and at kindergarten registration events receive these critical services, helping set them up for success in and out of the classroom.

Keep supporting our Children's Vision Screening Program by visiting <https://cbo.io/d/northeastsight> or scanning the QR Code here.

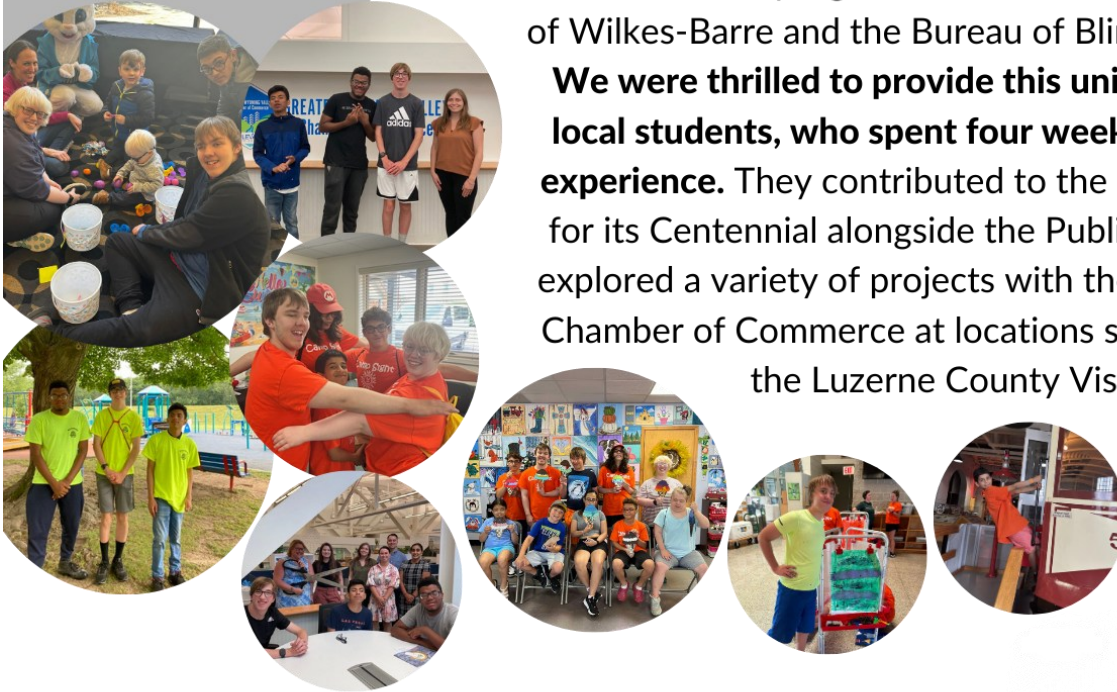




The InSight Kids Club of NEPA had another incredible year, with approximately **50 children participating in eight exciting monthly programs and thirteen fun-filled Summer with InSight/Camp Sight days**—including an unforgettable trip to see Harry Potter on Broadway!

Our MY Work program was a collaborative effort with the City of Wilkes-Barre and the Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services.

We were thrilled to provide this unique opportunity to three local students, who spent four weeks gaining hands-on work experience. They contributed to the rejuvenation of Kirby Park for its Centennial alongside the Public Works Department and explored a variety of projects with the Greater Wyoming Valley Chamber of Commerce at locations such as DiscoverNEPA and the Luzerne County Visitors Bureau.



Spotlight on Shep Pawling

For decades, Shep Pawling has been a steadfast supporter of Northeast Sight Services, helping to ensure that our mission thrives in the community. His journey with Northeast Sight Services began in the 1970s when he was invited to join the Board of Directors. From that moment on, he saw firsthand the life-changing impact of our programs and services.

“It’s always been gratifying to financially support their work,” Shep shares. “The continuation of this first-class, well-run nonprofit inspires me to always include Northeast Sight in my annual giving and special projects—one of those being the Camp Sight program run every summer.”

Shep’s dedication reflects his deep belief in the power of giving. “Giving is a very personal thing,” he says, “but if you’re considering a caring local organization with a talented staff and board and a sustainable history, Northeast Sight might be where you’d like to share your generosity.”

We are grateful for Shep’s commitment and for donors like him who make our work possible. Thank you, Shep, for your unwavering support!



Share your generosity with Northeast Sight Services by visiting <https://cbo.io/d/northeastsight> or scanning the QR Code here.



Spotlight on Chris and Tom Pugh

At Northeast Sight Services, we are incredibly grateful for the generosity and support of our donors. We are honored to spotlight Chris and Tom Pugh, whose dedication to our mission has impacted the lives of individuals with visual impairments in our community.

Chris and Tom have always recognized the vital role that Northeast Sight Services plays in providing essential resources, education, and support. Their contributions have helped us expand our programs, ensuring that those who are blind or visually impaired receive the services they need to lead independent and fulfilling lives.

"We believe in the mission of Northeast Sight Services and the incredible work they do to empower individuals with visual impairments," said Tom Pugh. "It is a privilege to support an organization that makes such a meaningful difference. We respect the need and the agency's excellent work in meeting that need. We feel it should be supported."

Tom Pugh shared his perspective on supporting nonprofit organizations: "We understand the needs of not-for-profit agencies... they have to have community support to keep services going. I was asked by friends to serve on the old Blind Association Board. They were people I respected and who had helped me, so I accepted."

Among the many impactful programs at Northeast Sight Services, Chris and Tom have a special appreciation for those serving children. "Our favorite programs are the ones for children – we've been supporting the Camp Sight program and the InSight Kids Club of NEPA for many years."

Looking ahead, the Pughs are eager to see continued growth in these vital programs. "We would like to see the program continue to grow. And, bigger is better in any service these days. It means you survive. I told Sara to measure the risk in any growth. If failure wouldn't put you out of business, then do it."

Chris and Tom emphasize the importance of ongoing community contributions to sustain these essential services. "Continued support is required because the need continues," they affirmed. "If people are considering giving, every dollar counts. It is a superb agency, well run, and deserves community support. People think it always has to be big money and don't think their gifts will mean much. Not true. Give what you can afford."

In addition to their own philanthropy, Chris and Tom take great pride in knowing that their children also support Northeast Sight Services – with their son, Matt, serving on the Board of Directors. "We are very thankful that our children support as well," they said. "It means a lot to see the next generation continuing to give back and uphold these important values."

The Pugh's commitment to making a difference is truly inspiring, and we are fortunate to count them among our most dedicated supporters. Thank you, Chris and Tom, for your kindness, generosity, and commitment to transforming lives.



Spotlight on our Incredible Donors

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Shep Pawling
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"Northeast Sight Services plays a vital role in enriching the lives of individuals with vision loss, equipping them with the tools and support they need to lead fulfilling lives. Serving as a board member allows me to give back in a meaningful way, ensuring that our community continues to benefit from these essential resources."

Supporting this mission isn't just about providing assistance – it's about transforming lives. The gift of sight is so precious, and through the incredible work of Northeast Sight Services, we witness its impact firsthand every day."

**-Tara and Gary Lambert
Wyoming**

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"Northeast Sight Services has an incredible impact on our local schools! Their Children's Vision Screening Program is a game-changer for all, especially for students with communication differences.

By detecting vision issues early, they help ensure that every child gets the support they need to learn, grow, and thrive.

And their impact doesn't stop there! Camp Sight is a truly special place where children with visual impairments can build confidence, develop new skills, and create unforgettable memories in a fun and supportive environment.

Thank you, Northeast Sight Services, for making a difference in the lives of so many children!"

**-Kate and John Krispin
Harvey's Lake**



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"Northeast Sight Services is a pillar of hope for our community, providing compassionate support and essential services to those who are blind or visually impaired. Their dedication to enhancing the quality of life through education, early detection, and comprehensive care is truly inspiring. I wholeheartedly support their mission because they empower individuals to live independently and with dignity, making a profound difference in the lives of so many."

-Stacey Kile, Forty Fort

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Northeast Sight Services makes every possible attempt to recognize our donors with the utmost accuracy, but no one is perfect. We apologize for any errors or omissions that might have occurred in acknowledging our priceless donors. If, for some reason, there is an error, omission or you would simply like to be listed differently, please contact Amy Feldman at 570-693-3555 x223 or at amy@northeastsight.org.

GRAND OPENING WAYNE COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE

918 CHURCH STREET HONESDALE

Northeast Sight Services has been proudly serving Pike and Wayne counties for over a decade, and we are thrilled to take the next step in expanding our presence with a dedicated office space.

A heartfelt thank you to our dear friends at the Wayne County Community Foundation for providing us with this centrally located home in Honesdale. Your generosity allows us to better serve the community and reach even more individuals in need.

On Wednesday, May 1st, we celebrated this milestone with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, welcoming over 50 guests to our new space. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who joined us to show their support and learn more about our programs and services. Your warm welcome made us feel right at home, and we couldn't be more thankful.



11TH ANNUAL CHIP IN FOR SIGHT GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 11th Annual Chip in for Sight Golf Tournament teed off on Monday, June 15th, at Wyoming Valley Country Club under a blazing summer sun.

With temperatures soaring into the high 80s, it was a true scorcher on the course—but that didn't stop our golfers from having an incredible time for a great cause.

Thanks to their enthusiasm and generosity, we raised nearly \$45,000 to support the vital programs and services of Northeast Sight Services.

A heartfelt thank you to our Presenting Sponsor, Ken Pollock Auto Group, as well as all of our amazing sponsors, dedicated volunteers, and passionate golfers. Your support makes this event the tremendous success it is year after year!

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO OUR COMMITTEE!!

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Ali Zurawski



We are thrilled to share that Northeast Sight Services was once again chosen as one of the five beneficiaries of the 2nd Annual Wyoming Valley Run, an incredible 10-mile inclusive road race!

THE WYOMING VALLEY RUN

On Sunday, September 1st, nearly 1,000 participants—including some of our very own staff—took off from downtown Pittston, making their way down Wyoming Avenue, through Exeter, Wyoming, Forty Fort, and Kingston before crossing the finish line at Public Square in Wilkes-Barre.

A highlight of the race was seeing our building in Exeter serve as a water station, staffed by our amazing team and volunteers!

It was truly an unforgettable day, and we are beyond grateful to be part of this inspiring event. Mark your calendars for next year's race -we can't wait to do it all again!



ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER AND AUCTION

On Wednesday, October 23rd, we hosted our Annual Awards Dinner at the beautiful Woodlands Resort, and it was truly one of the most memorable nights of the year for our organization. This special evening allowed us to showcase all of our programs, celebrating the incredible impact we make—all made possible by your generous support.

This year was particularly extraordinary, as we raised over \$120,000 to directly benefit our programs and services! The event was a powerful testament to the life-changing work we do and a heartfelt tribute to the inspiring individuals and organizations we had the honor of recognizing.

PPL Electric Utilities

recipient of the Marion Pollock Community Partnership Award,
sponsored by McCarthy Tire Service

DiscoverNEPA

recipient of the Distinguished Community Service Award,
sponsored by Dr. Brian O'Donnell/New Era Eye Care

Lissa Bryan-Smith

recipient of the Golden Anna Cervenak Community Impact Award,
sponsored by Community Bank, NA

Diane Yakimowicz

recipient of the Arline Phillips Achievement Award,
sponsored by Eye Care Specialists

**Thank you to
Ali Zurawski for
Chairing this Amazing
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Spotlight on Connie and Durrelle Scott

For Connie and Dr. Durrelle Scott, the mission of Northeast Sight Services is deeply personal. From an early age, Connie understood the profound value of vision—having worn thick glasses as a child and now relying on contacts, she gained a deep appreciation for how precious sight truly is. Her involvement with Northeast Sight Services has only strengthened that understanding over the years.

Dr. Durrelle Scott has also witnessed firsthand the immense challenges that aging individuals with vision impairments face. He values the support Northeast Sight Services provides, ensuring that those experiencing vision loss never have to navigate it alone. This shared appreciation for the agency's mission continues to inspire their giving.

Connie's journey with Northeast Sight Services began in the early 1990s when she was encouraged to join what was then known as the Blind Association. The agency was seeking younger women to serve on its working board, which had historically been composed primarily of men. Seeing an opportunity to contribute in a meaningful way, Connie joined in 1994 and has been a dedicated advocate ever since.

Among the many vital programs Northeast Sight Services offers, one that is especially close to their hearts is the Children's Vision Screening Program. Connie and Durrelle understand the importance of early detection when it comes to eye health. "Many young children—and their parents—may not even realize a problem exists," says Durrelle. "This program helps identify potential vision issues early on, giving children the opportunity to receive the care they need for a brighter future."

Looking ahead, the Scotts hope to see Northeast Sight Services continue to expand its programs, recognizing the undeniable need for vision support services in the community. "Our continued support is driven by a desire to see growth and awareness about the many ways Northeast Sight Services helps those with vision impairments," they share. "Beyond just medical assistance, they provide an essential social connection that is often overlooked. I've seen firsthand how their involvement improves quality of life, fostering independence and confidence for those they serve."

Connie offers a powerful reminder: "Close your eyes and try to navigate your home as if you were living with vision loss. It's a humbling exercise that highlights just how challenging daily life can be for those with impaired sight."

Northeast Sight Services is deeply grateful for the support of Connie and Durrelle Scott. "Having served the community since 1918, Northeast Sight Services is an organization we deeply believe in," says Connie. "We hope more people consider them when exploring charitable giving."

If you want to consider supporting Northeast Sight Services, visit <https://cbo.io/d/northeastsight> or scan the QR Code here.



Spotlight on our In Kind Donors

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Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins

Wyoming County Chamber
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Wyoming Valley Beverage

Wyoming Valley Country Club

Derek Zambino

Ali and Brian Zurawski



If you or your organization has an in kind gift they would like to contribute, please call Amy at 570-693-3555 x223 or email amy@northeatsight.org.

Spotlight on New Donors

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Spotlight on Eilene Kaska

Northeast Sight Services lost a wonderful and dear friend in December 2024 as Eilene Kaska - the founder and pioneer of what is now our Prevention of Blindness Program - passed away.

Eilene's legacy lives on through the work of our organization, as (because of her efforts) we screen the vision of thousands of children each year throughout our local region.

In 1971, Eilene Kaska recognized the vital need for vision screenings for children entering kindergarten, leading to the launch of our Children's Vision Screening program. She was a trailblazer in early intervention vision care and also established our Eye Health and Safety Education Program.

Eilene realized that young children needed Vision Screenings at this age (under 5) because it is a critical developmental period where many eye problems can develop without noticeable symptoms, and if left untreated, can lead to permanent vision loss. Therefore, early detection through screening allows for timely intervention and optimal vision development.

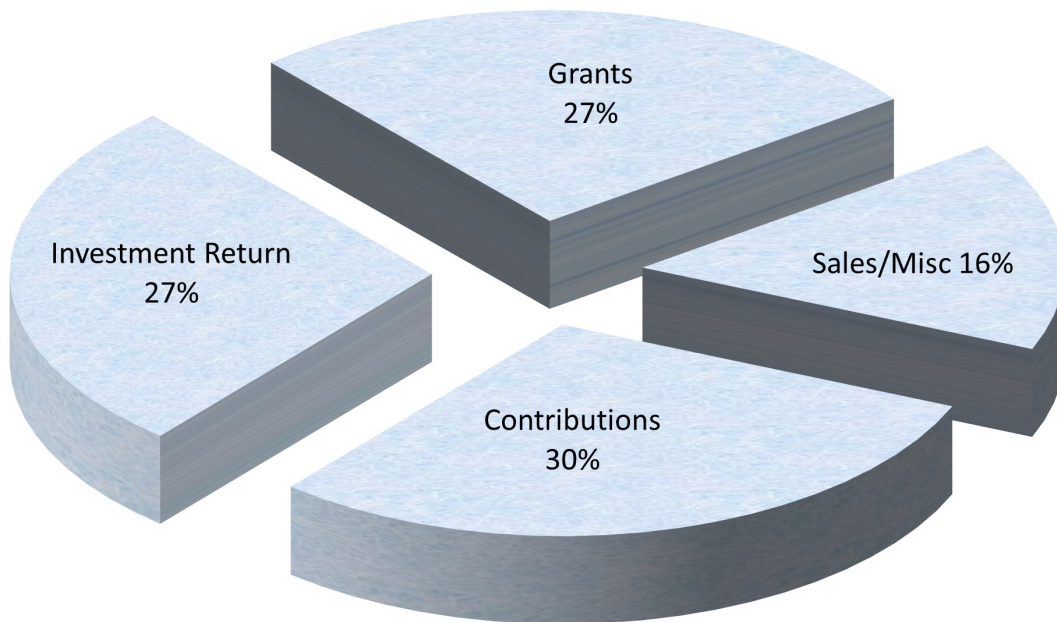
For over 50 years, this program has evolved - from the equipment used to the locations served. This essential service has touched the lives of so many, screening hundreds of thousands of children in NEPA - saving the sight of so many.

Eilene was a true visionary, understanding the critical impact these screenings would have on young children. We are honored to carry forward her legacy today.

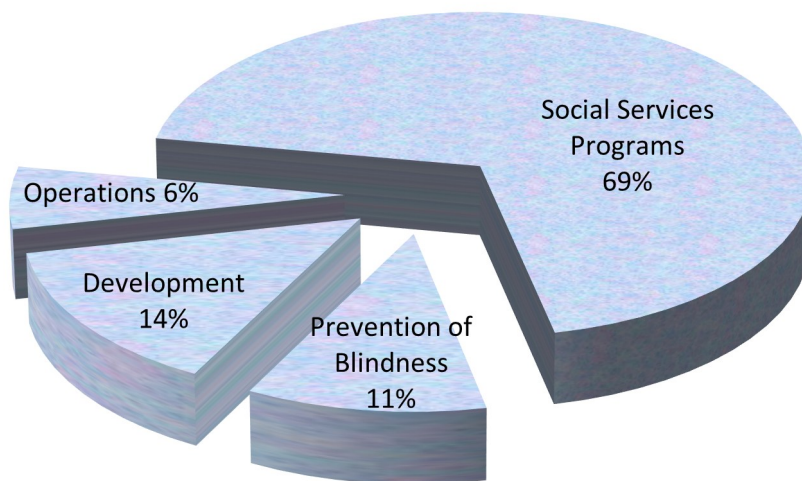
If you want to help continue the incredible impact of Eilene's legacy and support our Children's Vision Screening Program - you can make a gift today at <https://cbo.io/d/northeastsight> or scan the QR Code here.



Revenue 2024
\$867,615



Expenses 2024
\$867,095



**Revenues and Expenses estimated, pending 2024 Year-End Audit*



Vision Forever

The Second Sight Legacy Society has been established to ensure that the programs and services provided by Northeast Sight Services will continue in perpetuity in Northeastern Pennsylvania. A gift through the Legacy Society will be invested with Northeast Sight Services' professionally managed endowment. The greatest benefit of belonging to the Legacy Society is the satisfaction in knowing that your long-range plans will help future generations that may require Northeast Sight Services' life-changing services. We are so proud to list all of those

Second Sight Members

Jeanette Akers	Hazel Dougherty	Caroline Hauze	Joseph Leyba	Gertrude Prynne
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To become a member of the Legacy Society or to obtain more information, please contact us at (570) 693-3555 ext. 223 or at amy@northeastsight.org.



NORTHEAST SIGHT SERVICES

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OUR VISION IS CLEAR:
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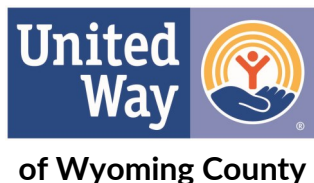
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