



# Clear Perspectives

The monthly newsletter from Beauty of Sight

February 2025 | VOL 2

## BEAUTY OF SIGHT FEATURED AT THE EUROPEAN EYE BANK ASSOCIATION MEETING



In January 2025, Dr. Marina Chatzea presented at the European Eye Bank Association Meeting. Her presentation, “Starting an Eye Bank from Scratch,” highlighted the remarkable journey of establishing Greece’s first-ever eye bank, a significant milestone in the country’s healthcare system.

What made Dr. Chatzea's presentation particularly meaningful was her acknowledgment of the invaluable support and training she received from Beauty of Sight. During a transformative three-month fellowship with our organization, Dr. Chatzea closely collaborated with both our technical and administrative teams, gaining hands-on expertise in key areas such as DMEK (Descemet Membrane Endothelial Keratoplasty) and DSAEK (Descemet Stripping Automated Endothelial Keratoplasty) processing, as well as in advanced tissue evaluation techniques. This immersive experience equipped Dr. Chatzea with the knowledge and skills to launch Greece’s eye bank successfully.

Since returning to Greece, Dr. Chatzea has played a pivotal role in successfully transplanting over 40 corneal tissues processed by the Athens Eye Bank. We take immense pride in her achievements and are honored to have contributed, however modestly, to this significant milestone.

At Beauty of Sight, we are deeply committed to fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing to advance global eye care. Dr. Chatzea's inspiring journey highlights the profound impact we can achieve together in transforming lives. We congratulate her on her exceptional work and eagerly anticipate the continued success of our collaboration with the Athens Eye Bank.

---

## BEAUTY OF SIGHT CELEBRATES NATIONAL DONOR DAY WITH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



In honor of National Donor Day this February, Beauty of Sight and Bio Tissue / Sharing Miracles hosted a donor drive on February 11th. The event featured a blood donation bus, a bone marrow donation table, and a Beauty of Sight Donate Life Florida registration station. Throughout the day, we had the privilege of educating attendees on the critical need for donors and the profound impact of registering as an organ, eye, and tissue donor.

In addition to the donor drive, on February 14th, Beauty of Sight participated in St. Mary’s Medical Center Donor Day, collaborating with Life Alliance and Legacy Donor Services. We interacted with a group of nurse managers and charge nurses from St. Mary’s and Good Samaritan Medical Centers, sharing crucial information about donation and its life-changing effects. Our team also visited various hospital units to express gratitude for their commitment to reporting cardiac deaths. This essential step played a significant role in restoring sight in the South Florida community throughout 2024.

We are grateful for the opportunity to raise awareness and foster meaningful conversations about donation. Every registration and every conversation brings us one step closer to helping those in need.

---

### MD 35 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CHALLENGE ACHIEVED



**LIONS OF MULTIPLE DISTRICT 35 RAISE \$500,000 FOR BEAUTY OF SIGHT’S NEW FACILITY!**

The Lions of Multiple District 35 have taken an extraordinary step forward in the mission to end blindness. With immense pride and excitement, we announce that through their generous efforts, we have raised \$500,000 to construct Beauty of Sight's new building! This is a monumental milestone in our fundraising campaign, and we are deeply grateful for the Lions' continued support, which dates back to the founding of our organization over 60 years ago.

However, while this is a tremendous achievement, our work is far from finished. The ultimate goal of this campaign is to raise \$8 million, which will allow us to build a state-of-the-art facility that will significantly expand our community services and accelerate vital research. This new building will be a beacon of hope, supporting our mission to develop groundbreaking treatments and cures for ocular diseases. We are working toward a future where blindness is no longer a reality for anyone, and this new facility will play a critical role in achieving that vision.

We are grateful for the generosity and passion of the Lions of MD35 and are excited about our progress so far. Together, we can make a lasting impact and bring us closer to a world without blindness. **Make a donation today** and help us build a brighter future. Thank you for your continued support!

[DONATE NOW](#)

---



**We would love to share your story**

If you are the recipient of a cornea or have a story of a donor that you would like to share, please let us know. Email [ddfrancisco@med.miami.edu](mailto:ddfrancisco@med.miami.edu) or use the QR code



---



**When is your *Birth*day?**

Choose Beauty of Sight  
As your charity on Facebook Fundraiser

