



EYE HEALTH SERVICES: Expert Eye Care Close to Home

By Erica Ford

In 1971, five ophthalmologists opened Eye Health Services with the goal of bringing first-rate eye care to the South Shore. Eye Health Services has since become the area's premier practice, with 20 ophthalmologists, nine office locations and six optical shops.

All of Eye Health Services' physicians are board certified and come from the finest training programs in the nation, and represent the full array of subspecialty eye care. Always at the forefront of innovation, it was the first eye clinic in New England to open an ambulatory surgery center. It offers two surgical centers and performs thousands of surgical procedures annually, including state-of-the-art cataract procedures.

"We offer a personalized experience, while offering the highest level of expertise, closer to home" says Chief Financial Officer, Shawn King. "Most of our patients are repeat visitors, because they receive great care. We are well-known in the community and proud to provide our vital services and outreach programs on the Cape and South Shore."

You don't have to travel far to get world class eye care. Eye Health Services' ophthalmologists have subspecialty training in glaucoma, retina, cornea, pediatric ophthalmology, adult strabismus, neuro-ophthalmology, oculoplastics, reconstructive and cosmetic eye surgery. An ophthalmologist — an eye doctor and surgeon who graduated from medical school — is qualified to provide the full range of eye care, from treating eye diseases to performing surgery to prescribing eyeglasses that can correct vision. Eyes are not only the window to your world, but also a "window into the state of your health," says Darlene Winn, Director of Operations. Brain tumors, diabetes, cancers, rheumatoid arthritis, hypertension, autoimmune or thyroid disease all have symptoms that may present themselves through an ocular finding. Eye Health Services' preeminent ophthalmologists have the expertise to detect and treat potential systemic conditions that may be affecting not only your vision, but your overall health.

In addition to its leading physicians, Eye Health Services is renowned for its emergency services. A commitment to providing same day eye care is one of the tenets on which the practice was founded fifty years ago, and that commitment has not wavered even during the coronavirus surge. The Weymouth and Yarmouth locations stayed open for emergency cases, helping to keep patients out of crowded hospitals emergency rooms.



At the start of the pandemic lockdown, when governmental orders prohibited any routine eye care or elective eye surgeries, Eye Health Services immediately created a task force and devised ways to best serve its many valued patients during the crisis. It began Telehealth appointments, which is a safe and reassuring way to check on patients with chronic conditions and help those not comfortable coming into the office. Mask wearing, physical distancing, temperature checking and sanitization procedures were all enacted. Breath shields were placed on the equipment, and patients could wait in the parking lot instead of the waiting room.

Now, all nine of Eye Health Services' offices are open again and providing their full range of services. Physicians and patients alike feel protected by the comprehensive safety protocol. "We get such positive feedback from people telling us they are impressed with the measures we take and how conscientious the whole staff is," says Darlene Winn. "We take the position that any patient walking in may have had exposure to Covid-19 and implement our procedures accordingly. It's heartening to see the incredible support of our staff and our patients as we navigate this unprecedented pandemic together."

Eye Health Services is proud of its track record at providing unparalleled, dedicated care to the South Shore and Cape Cod communities for half a century. "The most rewarding part of our job is getting to know our patients over the years," says Maureen Flaherty, Weymouth Office Manager. "We treat the whole family, from infants to seniors, for routine eye exams or for more specialized care." Eye exams are important for every age, from pediatric strabismus, to eye conditions such as cataracts and macular degeneration. Advanced treatment for dry eyes, diabetic retinopathy or reconstruction due to trauma or disease all are received close to home, without the travel into Boston.

With six optical shop locations, it's convenient and easy to get your eyewear, whether you need glasses for an infant, sports glasses, contacts, progressive lenses or simple bifocals. The optical shops even have visual aids beyond eyeglasses. Eye Health Services offers the latest lens technology, including specialty lenses and contacts for dry eyes and brand names in sunglasses.

"It is my honor and pleasure to serve the eyewear needs of the communities," says Beth Gilbert, Optical Manager. "While we see new faces every day, many of you have grown up with us at Eye Health Services and continue to put your trust in us to provide expert advice, products and services. Be assured we will continue to always look out for you and your families' vision needs with the care you have come to expect."

Come in and choose from the vast selection of eyeglass frames that fit every budget, from affordable to extravagant. The licensed optical staff guides you through the process of accurately sizing and selecting frames, taking into consideration appropriate lens fit, comfort, daily use, safety requirements and allergies to materials.

Eye Health Services' nine locations are fully open: Weymouth, East Bridgewater, Pembroke, Yarmouth, Dorchester, Quincy, Easton, Milton and Plymouth. They accept a full breadth of insurance plans, including Mass Health. They have just welcomed two new doctors, a retinal specialist and a glaucoma specialist, to the practice. Visit their website at www.eyehhealthservices.com or call any of their convenient offices at 877.331.3937. **SSM**

Learn more about the differences between types of eye care providers and their specialties in the video found on our website at www.eyehhealthservices.com/about

