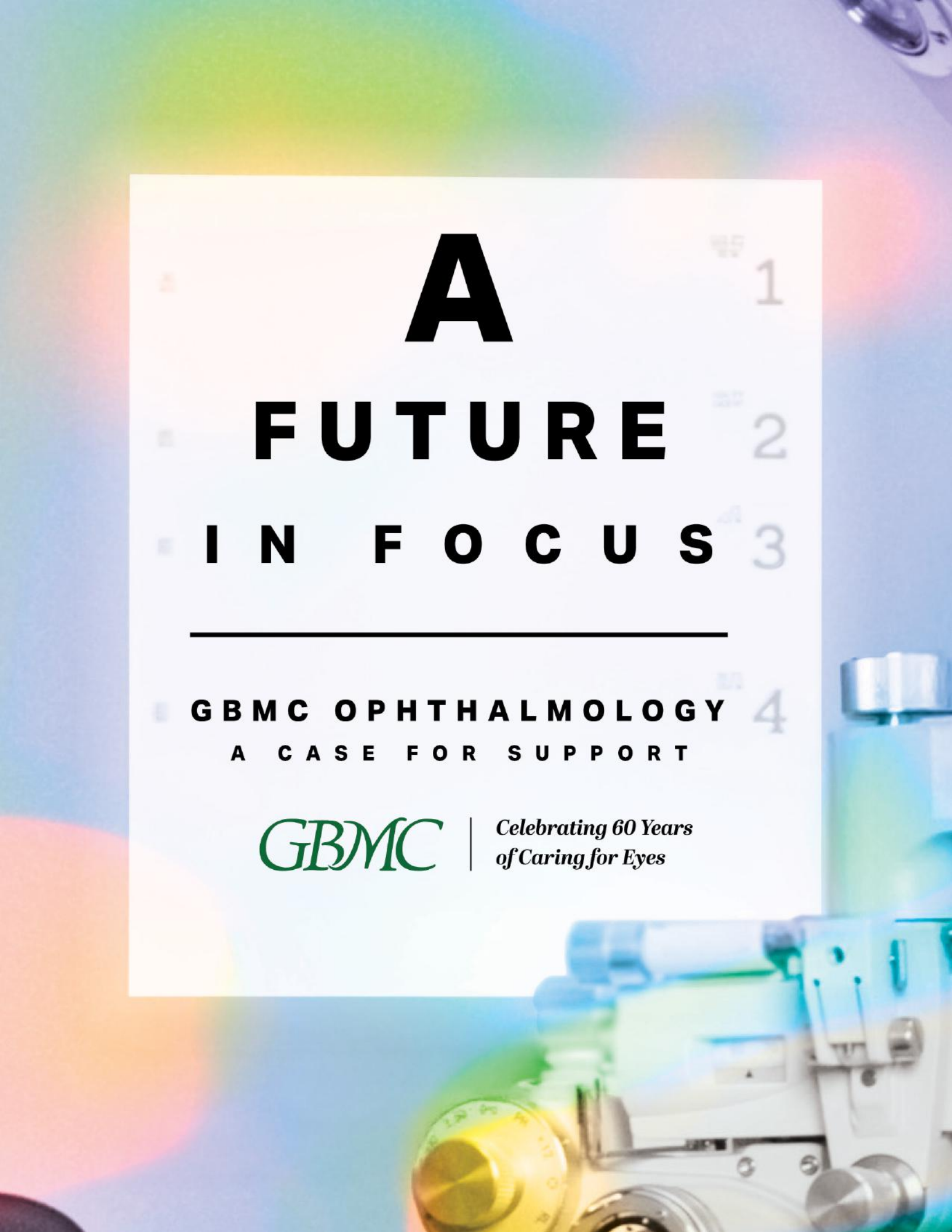




A FUTURE IN FOCUS

GBMC OPHTHALMOLOGY
A CASE FOR SUPPORT

GBMC

*Celebrating 60 Years
of Caring for Eyes*

The Legacy of Vision

For 60 years, GBMC has stood beside our community during life's most profound moments—welcoming new life, comforting in illness, and celebrating milestones. At the heart of these moments is our commitment to patient-centered, high-quality care.



GBMC's story began with the merger of the Presbyterian Eye, Ear & Throat Charity Hospital (PEETCH), and the Hospital for the Women of Maryland.

Eye care is not just a service we provide—it's woven into our foundation. From day one, ophthalmology has been central to our mission. As we celebrate our 60th anniversary, we look forward with clarity and purpose. The next bold step in our journey: **a revitalized Ophthalmology Department in the new Founders Pavilion.**



Generations of donors have sustained the legacy of our founding institutions, investing over \$81 million in lifetime giving. These gifts—from the Board of Lady Managers, Women's Hospital Foundation, Milton J. Dance Jr. Endowment, GBMC Volunteer Auxiliary, GBMC Ophthalmology Educational Foundation, and John J. Mitchell Jr. Charitable Trust—have fueled innovation, expanded access, and built a strong foundation for future growth.

Now, we build the future.

Visionaries of GBMC Ophthalmology

The GBMC Ophthalmology Department thrives because of pioneers whose vision transformed care in Baltimore and beyond:



Dr. Richard E. Hoover, pictured here examining a young patient, created the "Hoover Method" for safe mobility for visually impaired patients in 1944, which remains the standard today.

Dr. Richard Hoover—
Inventor of the white cane method and founding Chairman of GBMC Ophthalmology. His work transformed mobility for visually impaired individuals worldwide.



Dr. Robert B. Welch—Internationally recognized retina specialist whose leadership expanded the department's national reputation.



Dr. Charles "Pat" Wilkinson—Innovator in retinal detachment surgery and surgical techniques, dedicated to training the next generation and past President of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and American Ophthalmological Society.



Dr. Gregory Sophocleus—Served as Interim Chair following Dr. Hoover's passing, providing steady leadership and mentoring young ophthalmologists during a pivotal transition for the department.



Dr. James S. Kelley—Innovator in fluorescein angiography and lifelong mentor of residents.



Dr. George Duncan—Cataract and oculoplastic surgeon and extraordinary GBMC faculty member who trained generations of specialists and ensured a lasting legacy through mentorship.

Their innovations, mentorship, and commitment to excellence shaped GBMC's Ophthalmology Department and established a standard of care that continues to guide us today.



Time to Refocus: The Urgent Need

GBMC Ophthalmology is a thriving, patient-centered practice, delivering comprehensive care across the lifespan:

- Advanced cataract surgery
- Comprehensive pediatric ophthalmology, including strabismus care
- Oculoplastic surgery
- Adult strabismus and double vision care
- NICU consultations for premature infants
- Community outreach to underserved neighborhoods
- Low vision care through the Richard E. Hoover Rehabilitation Low Vision Services

Despite these achievements, our facilities lag behind. Designed for a small resident clinic with two attending physicians, our fifth-floor space now serves a total of 17 ophthalmologists, optometrists, and orthoptists. Equipment is spread across distant rooms, creating delays and inefficiencies. Vulnerable patients—pediatric, low vision, and mobility-impaired—are treated in spaces not designed specifically for their needs.

Challenges Coming **into Focus**

The future brings new challenges—and opportunities.

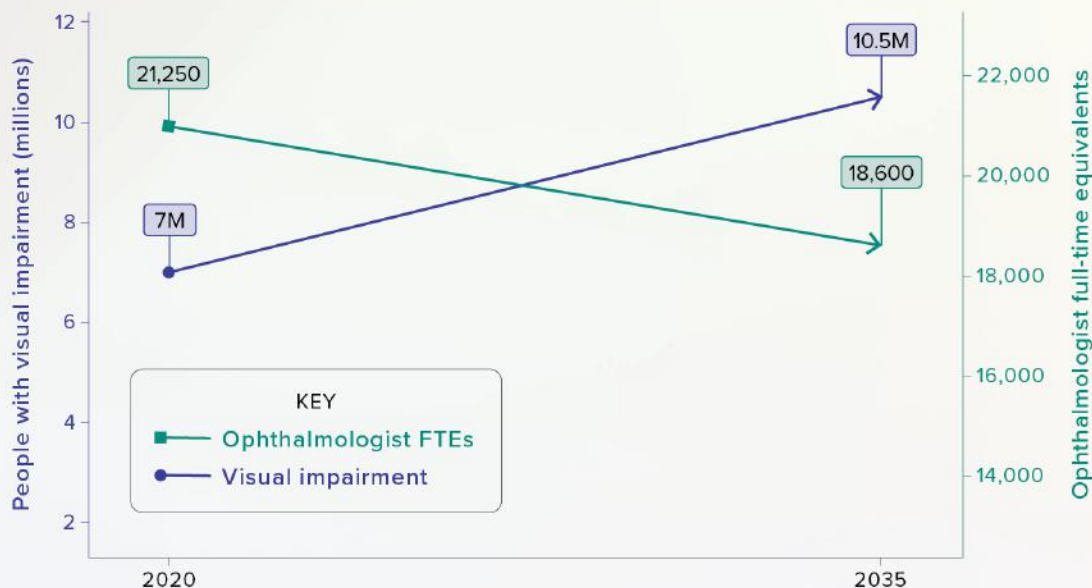
By 2035, the U.S. will face a 30% shortage of ophthalmologists, especially in non-urban areas. To address this gap, GBMC launched a physician-led team model that brings together ophthalmologists, optometrists, and orthoptists—boosting staffing availability and training future specialists.

Still, to meet rising demand, we must expand capacity and modernize our facilities now.

- **Diabetic Retinopathy:** Cases are forecasted to rise from 5.5 million in 2005 to approximately 12.5 million by 2035. With early detection and treatment, up to 90% of related blindness can be prevented.
- **Cataracts:** Projected to affect approximately 40 million Americans by 2035, up from 24 million in 2010.
- **Glaucoma:** By 2035, an estimated 5.6 million will require care.
- **Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD):** Projected to affect ~10.9 million Americans by 2035.
- **Overall Visual Impairment:** Likely to climb to ~1.5 times 2020 levels by 2035.
- **Ophthalmologist Shortage:** forecasted ~30% deficit by 2035.

As the population ages, the most common conditions we treat—cataracts and diabetic retinopathy—will drive the greatest need for care. Restoring sight with cataract surgery and preventing blindness through regular diabetic eye exams are critical services that demand this expansion of the Department of Ophthalmology.

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT VS. FORECASTED OPHTHALMOLOGIST SHORTAGE (2020 + 2035)



Through the Eyes of a **Leader**



Mary Louise Z. Collins, MD

Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology
Director, Health Partners Specialty Practices
Chief Academic Officer

Dr. Mary Louise Z. Collins has served as Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology at GBMC since 2016 and holds the Wilkinson-Welch-Hoover Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology. She is also Chief Academic Officer for the health system and Medical Director for Specialty Practices for GBMC Health Partners. GBMC's first pediatric ophthalmologist, Dr. Collins specializes in comprehensive pediatric ophthalmology and adult strabismus and maintains a robust clinical practice.

Born and raised in Washington, DC, Dr. Collins earned her B.S. and M.S. from the University of Maryland and her M.D. from Georgetown University School of Medicine. She completed her internship at Union Memorial Hospital, her ophthalmology residency at Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia, and a fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, DC.

Since joining GBMC's full-time faculty in 1993, Dr. Collins has served as Director of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus and Director of Resident Education. She held academic appointments at Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland. A dedicated educator, she considers teaching and service to the medical profession as important adjuncts to pure clinical practice. She is a four-time recipient of the GBMC Resident Teaching Award and received the 2017 University of Maryland Resident Teaching Award.

She has served on the Board of Trustees of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, is Past-President of the Maryland Society for Eye Physicians and Surgeons and is a past member of the National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health.

Dr. Collins has led numerous community outreach initiatives, including vision screening and exams for underserved children in Baltimore City, earning her the Knight of the Blind award from a local Lions Club. Following a tradition started by Dr. Hoover, Dr. Collins served as the ophthalmology consultant to the Maryland School for the Blind for 25 years. Under her leadership, the department has raised funds from the John J. Mitchell Jr. Charitable Trust to provide screenings, eye care, treatment, and glasses for the men and women of Helping Up Mission, and to expand vision care access for patients of GBMC's Jonestown primary care practice.

Meet the Team Behind the Lens

Our multidisciplinary team is not only caring for today's patients, but they are also shaping the future of ophthalmic care. Remarkably, the team includes two father-daughter duos—Dr. George Duncan and his daughter, Dr. Katie Duncan (pictured), as well as Dr. Daniel Bregman and his daughter, Dr. Jana Friedman—highlighting a generational dedication to medicine, practiced the GBMC way, that is truly unique. Through mentorship, advanced training, and hands-on surgical education, they are ensuring that the next generation of ophthalmologists, optometrists, and orthoptists carry forward GBMC's tradition of excellence. The team delivers exceptional care across the specialty, ensuring patients of all ages and needs have access to the absolute best ophthalmic and vision care.



GBMC Ophthalmology combines a **multidisciplinary team** with **cutting-edge care**:

— **Pediatric Ophthalmology:** Children and adolescents with strabismus, amblyopia, and other conditions receive expert, age-appropriate care.



Mary Louise Z. Collins, MD
Chairman, Department of
Ophthalmology



Allison Jensen, MD
Director, Pediatric
Ophthalmology
and Strabismus



Jana Friedman, MD

— **Comprehensive & Cataract Surgery:** Advanced surgery restores clarity and independence for patients of all ages.



Tanvi M. Shah, MD

Beyond our employed providers, our team includes subspecialists in retina, cornea, glaucoma, and neuro-ophthalmology who practice in the community and work closely with GBMC Health Partners physicians. This model ensures that every patient—regardless of where they enter our system—benefits from the combined expertise of leading specialists, working together to deliver the highest quality care for our community.

— **Comprehensive & Cataract and Oculoplastic Surgery:** Advanced cataract surgery to restore vision and oculoplastic surgery to restore function and appearance for eyelid, tear duct, and orbital conditions.



Francis (Lawson) Grumbine, MD
Department of Ophthalmology
Advisory Committee Chair



Katherine E. Duncan, MD
Lead Physician, GBMC Health Partners
Eye Center at Joppa Road, Director,
Ophthalmology Residency Program

— **Comprehensive Medical Ophthalmology:** Expert diagnosis and treatment for a wide range of eye conditions, providing ongoing care to protect vision at every stage of life.



George Duncan, MD



Daniel Bregman, MD

— **Optometry:** Integrated primary eye care ensures routine preventive and contact lens care.



Elizabeth B. McGinn, OD
Director of Contact Lens
Service and Optical Shop



Martin J. McGinn, OD



Mark Foley, OD

— **Orthoptics:** Unique GBMC service which treats patients with double vision and in coordination with the strabismus surgeons for patients who require surgical intervention. Only orthoptic training program in the Mid-Atlantic region for an understaffed specialty.



Cheryl McCarus, CO, COMT, OSA
Senior Orthoptist



Maureen Flanagan, BA, CO COA
Orthoptist, Program Director Orthoptic
Fellowship Program at GBMC



Gail Meil, CO, COT



William Poling, CO, COA

— **Richard E. Hoover Low Vision Rehabilitation Services:** Enables patients with significant vision loss to live safely, independently, and confidently.



Janet S. Sunness, MD
Medical Director,
Hoover Low Vision



Michelle Bianchi, OTR/L, CLVT

Eye on the **Future**

GBMC Ophthalmology is a training ground for the next generation of eye care leaders. Our partnership with the ophthalmology residency program at the University of Maryland ensures ophthalmology residents gain rigorous clinical education, advanced surgical experience, and mentorship from nationally recognized faculty.

Residents don't just observe—they receive hands-on training across every subspecialty, from pediatric ophthalmology to low vision rehabilitation. The orthoptic fellowship program, unique in the mid-Atlantic, graduates one fellow each year. With demand for ophthalmic technicians rising, the department also serves as a hub for preparing certified technicians.

The presence of these residents and students energizes our department, enhances patient care, and ensures a pipeline of skilled, compassionate ophthalmologists, orthoptists, and technicians for the future.

“

My time as a GBMC resident was transformative. It shaped my skills and my approach to patient care.”

—Dr. Sonny Goel



Resident assisting Dr. Friedman to learn eye muscle surgery techniques.

Sharper Vision, **Brighter Lives**

Vision is more than sight—it's independence, confidence, and connection. Every day, GBMC restores these gifts:



Dear Dr. Friedman,

You brought us comfort and guidance during difficult moments. We appreciate how comfortable you made us feel and how willing you were to educate us on our son's condition. You mentioned once to stop thanking you—that you were just doing your job—which is true. However, not everyone does their job with empathy and kindness. It means the world to us.

With gratitude,
Kelsey, Ian, and Stephen

Thank You

Dr. Mary Louise Collins,

Thank you for taking care of me for the past 13 years, since I was in the NICU. Because you caught things early, I can see clearly. I realize how lucky I am to have you as a doctor. Thank you for watching me since I was a baby to make sure that I had the best chance for healthy sight. Thank you for also taking care of my sisters and for really caring about them.

Your grateful patient who sees 20/20, Christian B (26-week preemie, 13 years old)

Dear Dr. Collins,

Thank you for sharing your skill and compassion with me and my wife. Before two weeks ago I could not have written this card.

— Tim

In Sight: **A New Home for Excellence**

For today's needs and tomorrow's challenges, GBMC seeks \$6 million in philanthropic support to:

- **Renovate** the second floor into a state-of-the-art ophthalmology suite
- **Transform** the Eye Center to incorporate the latest innovative technology including diagnostic and therapeutic advances to optimize patient care
- **Improve** access with a two-story parking structure
- **Create** a modern, healing environment for patients of all ages
- **Honor** our institutional legacy with a recognition wall and dynamic historical timeline



In Clear View: **A Brighter Tomorrow**

This renovation is more than bricks and mortar—it's a promise. A promise to honor our founders, expand access to care, and ensure no one is left in the dark.

With your support, we will bring a brighter future for Ophthalmology at GBMC into focus.

Together, for every patient, every family, and every moment in sight.



GBMC Philanthropy

443.849.2773 | philanthropy@gbmc.org

6701 N. Charles Street
Towson, MD 21204