



PRESS RELEASE

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MINNESOTA ADULT AND TEEN CHALLENGE AWARDED GRANT TO FUND COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Nominated by Apple Valley Eye Care, the charity receives \$2,500 from ABB Optical Group

MINNEAPOLIS – ABB Optical Group, a leading national provider of optical products, services and business solutions for the eye care industry, is pleased to announce that Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge in Minneapolis has received a \$2,500 grant through the company’s Sixth Annual ABB Cares program, which recognizes and celebrates outstanding non-profit organizations throughout the country.

Nominated by [Apple Valley Eye Care](#) in Apple Valley, [Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge](#) is dedicated to assisting teens and adults in gaining freedom from drug and alcohol addictions and other life controlling problems by addressing their physical, emotional and spiritual needs. The organization will receive a \$2,500 ABB Cares grant to fund the Minnesota Adult and Teen College Scholarship Program.

According to the organization, there are an estimated 540,000 Minnesotans struggling with drug/alcohol dependence and abuse and only 10% of those individuals will get the services needed to address their addictions. Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge, the largest residential treatment and recovery program in Minnesota, is structured around four pillars of success: prevention, licensed short-term recovery, long-term recovery and aftercare. Aftercare is a major pillar because it ensures that each client has established a new and healthy community through mentors, safe and affordable housing and job skills essential for success to help them stay on track. This pillar includes the Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge Scholarship Program, which aims at assisting graduates in pursuing their educational goals. Two scholarship funds are available, one for those pursuing a trade or technical degree and another for those pursuing a four-year college degree.

“I have been personally impacted by the amazing work that Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge does because my 20-year-old son is a current client in a 13-month program,” said Dr. Patrick Wellik of Apple Valley Eye Care. “Now eight months in, my son is a completely different person from the day he entered the program. This organization is near and dear to my heart, and I am thrilled that they are being recognized for the life-changing work that they do.”



ABB Cares recognizes charities that have been nominated by eye care professionals across the country for exceptional programming and community impact. Other 2019 grant recipients are: BIO Girls in Fargo, North Dakota; Lakeshore Food 4 Kids in Ludington, Michigan; It's a Sensory World in Farmers Branch, Texas; Sandy Feet Initiative in Mission Viejo, California; The Camphill School in Glenmoore, Pennsylvania; and Vision is Priceless in Jacksonville, Florida.

“There is no doubt that Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge is saving lives and making a positive impact on the community,” said ABB Optical Group Chief Executive Officer Tom Burke. “We applaud Dr. Wellik for sharing his personal story and thank him for bringing such an important cause to our attention.”

For more information about Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge, visit mntc.org. For more information about ABB Optical Group, visit abboptical.com.

About Apple Valley Eye Care

Apple Valley Eye Care has been a part of the Twin Cities landscape since 1978. A practice opened on the philosophy of providing quality eye care services utilizing state of the art technology with a heavy dose of Minnesota nice. Doctors Wellik, Haverly and Anderson and Wedeking are dedicated to providing excellence in comprehensive patient care, clinical education, diagnostic techniques, contact lens fittings and optical services. The experienced optometric staff of seasoned professionals are available to assist with glasses, contact lenses and specialty eyewear needs. For more information, call 952-432-0680 or visit aveyecare.com.

About ABB Optical Group

ABB Optical Group is a leading provider of optical products, services and business solutions in the eye care industry. ABB operates through three business pillars: ABB Contact Lens, ABB Labs and ABB Business Solutions. ABB is focused on the future of eye care professionals, helping them succeed by making practices more efficient and assisting providers to effectively navigate market changes. Visit abboptical.com for more information.

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