FEATURED TOP STORY SPOTLIGHT

Visually impaired Florence students receive vision aids

Staff reports – Emmy Ribero - Apr 4, 2026

FLORENCE, S.C. -- Eight visually impaired students in the Florence area, including Gabby Howard, received vision aids from Sight Savers America.

"These high-tech vision aids will be life-changing, allowing each child to make the most of his or her vision," according to Sight Savers America.

Some of the devices dramatically enhance contrast and magnify objects up to 118 times and will open up a new world of opportunity, allowing them to read, write, do homework or crafts, and even see their loved ones' faces clearly.

Sight Savers America trained each child on the functions and capabilities of their new equipment.

The devices can range in cost from $550-$4,500 and are not covered by any type of medical insurance. They were funded by the Honda USA Foundation, PowerEd and the philanthropy of the SC Student Loan Corporation and Vispero.

Sight Savers America will provide extensive follow-up, maintain and repair the equipment as needed, and collect information to assess the impact of the devices on the children's activities and quality of life.

Sight Savers America is a nonprofit that facilitates eye care and provides high-tech assistive technology.

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