

## **PROTECT YOUR EYES**

As we get older, it's normal for our vision to change. There are steps you can take to preserve your eyesight and improve your vision.

## TIPS FOR PROTECTING YOUR EYES

- > Adults 65 and older should have an eye exam at least once a year
- > Find out if you are at higher risk for eye diseases (be aware of your family's health history)
- > Have regular physical exams to check for diabetes and high blood pressure
- > Watch for changes in vision (blurred vision, vision loss, dark spots) and notify a healthcare professional
- > Exercise more frequently
- Protect your eyes from harmful UV light
- > Eat a healthy and balanced diet
- > Don't smoke

## Adults aged 65+ are at a higher risk for a number of eye conditions that can threaten your sight, including:

**Cataracts:** Distorted or cloudy vision caused by the lens inside the eye losing its transparency over time.

**Macular Degeneration:** A disease that results in degenerative changes to your central vision and is a leading cause of vision loss among older adults.

**Glaucoma:** Caused by elevated pressure within the eye and can lead to serious vision loss if not detected and treated at an early stage.

**Low vision:** Very limited sight that, without treatment, interferes with a person's daily activities.

Maintaining a healthy lifestyle and having regular eye exams may help to optimize your eye health.

