

Univision – March 5th, Vision story transcription
03.31.08

Open

Woman (Lucy Uribe):

There are times when kids have trouble studying... and the result was that they needed eye glasses... and their grades go up.

Males VO:

Low income kids see life in a new way...

--- Repeat ---

Anchor - Male on camera:

To live in extreme poverty and not have access to medical check-ups is threatening the academic future of Latino children in our region. Hiram Soto tells us about the problem and the possible solutions...

Hiram Soto (reporter):

For many of the students of Monarch School in downtown San Diego, today was the first time they got their eyes checked. The check ups are important since both health providers and educators agree that bad eyesight may cause low academic development.

Woman (Lucy Uribe):

There are times when kids have trouble studying... and the result was that they needed eye glasses... and their grades go up.

Hiram Soto (reporter):

Maria Campos was one of those students. She could not see far away, but was able to get glasses thanks to this program sponsored by the California Optometric Association.

Maria Campos (student):

They helped me get glasses because I couldn't see far away...

Hiram Soto (reporter on camera):

Many of these students receive the \$400 to \$500 necessary for an appointment with a doctor and to cover the costs that they need for eyeglasses.

Sean South (COA Representative):

...So it's a very good savings... and these are the kids that don't have the resources and would not have eyeglasses if it were not for this program.

Experts say that kids with bad vision exhibit three characteristics:

They don't want to read or write; it takes them 2 hours to do work that should take them a half an hour; they read and write, but they get headaches.

Many times kids don't know they have vision problems.

Kids think it's normal to see blurry at a distance; it's normal to see double.

Kids don't know that it's not normal

Hiram Soto (reporter):

Low income parents that suspect their children may have vision problems may call the California Vision Project at 1-800-877-5738 for a free check-up and free eye glasses or at low cost.

Hiram Soto – Noticias, Univision 17 ...