



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **EMC Health Foundation Launches a Free Hearing Aid Program for Seniors Starting July 1.**

The impact of hearing loss on anyone is tough. Still, as we grow older, it can be devastating. According to the National Council on Aging, hearing loss impacts 1 in 3 people ages 65-74 and nearly half of those 75 and older.

With those statistics in mind, the EMC Health Foundation is partnering with Costco and the Turlock Chamber of Commerce Foundation to offer free hearing tests and hearing aids to qualifying seniors.

“As we all know, growing old is not for sissies, so helping ensure people age gracefully and remain healthy and independent is a priority of our foundation,” said Jeffrey Lewis, President and CEO of the EMC Health Foundation. The last time we launched this program, more than 90 seniors received free hearing tests and hearing aids. Our goal is to continue helping as many seniors as possible.”

## **Which communities are eligible?**

Anyone 55 and older living in these communities:

<b>95301</b> – Atwater, Buhach	<b>95303</b> – Ballico	<b>95307</b> – Ceres
<b>95313</b> – Crows Landing	<b>95315</b> – Delhi	<b>95316</b> – Denair, Montpelier
<b>95322</b> – Gustine, Santa Nella	<b>95324</b> – Hilmar, Irwin	<b>95326</b> – Hughson
<b>95328</b> – Keyes	<b>95334</b> – Livingston, Arena	<b>95360</b> – Newman, Hills Ferry
<b>95363</b> – Patterson, Diablo Grande, Grayson, Westley	<b>95374</b> – Stevinson	<b>95380-95381-95382</b> – Turlock, Cortez
<b>95358</b> – West Modesto, Bret Harte, Riverpark	<b>95388</b> – Winton, Cressey	

## **Is this program free?**

Yes, the EMC Health Foundation is using its charitable funds to support this program.

## **Are there income requirements?**

Individuals and families should not have a household income greater than 500% of the federal poverty level. Please see the chart below:

### **Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2025 Monthly Income**

<b>Size of Family</b>	<b>500% of the federal poverty level</b>
1	<b>\$6,520</b>
2	<b>\$8,812</b>
3	<b>\$11,104</b>
4	<b>\$13,395</b>

## **How do I sign up for the program?**

1. Contact the Turlock Chamber Foundation office at 209-632-2221 and ask for the hearing aid coordinator, who will take down all your information. Regardless of how you sign up, you must come to the Turlock Chamber Foundation office and pick up the form you take to Costco for your free hearing aid test and Costco gift card.

### **What if I have questions?**

Call Allie Jeffery, Executive Director of the Turlock Chamber Foundation, at 209-632-2221

“Hearing aids can help seniors in their battle against loneliness and isolation. However, the compound impact can be devastating if you cannot hear and have other health challenges,” Lewis said.

Added Jeffery: “This partnership represents an important step in expanding service lines to meet critical needs in the community. By leveraging diversified funding sources like grants, we can fill longstanding gaps in access -- such as hearing care for our seniors -- and ensure that more members of our community are supported with dignity and compassion.”

**About EMC Health Foundation (EMCHF):** The EMC Health Foundation was created to promote and expand care for people in our community. It strives to address their spiritual, physical, and psychosocial health.

**About Turlock Chamber Foundation:** The Turlock Chamber Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the economic vitality and overall well-being of the Turlock community. Through strategic partnerships, educational initiatives, and community-driven programs, the foundation works to enhance quality of life, empower local businesses, and address critical social needs.