

**DR. JAMES McMANUS & DR. JASON DARLINGTON CONTINUE THE TRADITION OF THE CHRISTMAS CATARACT**

*In the spirit of the Holiday season, Dr. James McManus & Dr. Jason Darlington seek to give the gift of sight to two individuals in need.*



James N. McManus, M.D., Board Certified Ophthalmologist and Cataract Specialist at The Eye Institute for Medicine & Surgery, and his colleague, Jason K. Darlington M.D., want to give a very special gift to two residents of Brevard County this Christmas season: **the precious gift of sight.**

Dr. McManus and Dr. Darlington will be continuing the tradition known as "The Christmas Cataract," which Dr. McManus describes as, "a happy ending waiting for your story." Dr. McManus wants to encourage Brevard County residents who may be experiencing vision loss due to cataracts, who are uninsured and in need, to visit his website, **TheChristmasCataract.com**. There are instructions on the website explaining how an individual or their loved one can share a photo and their story describing how vision loss has impacted their life and how they believe their life could improve if their vision was restored.

"Poor vision associated with cataracts can have a profound effect on all aspects of a person's life," according to Dr. McManus. "It can prevent a person from working, from taking care of loved ones who depend on them, or even performing daily activities that most of us take for granted."

Cataracts are a clouding of the natural, clear lens inside the eye. "Cataracts are usually age related but may occur due to heredity, the presence of certain systemic illnesses, the use of certain medications, trauma, or other factors," explains Dr. Darlington.

For a period of time changes in one's eyeglass prescription may improve vision to an acceptable level. However, once a cataract progresses past a certain point, vision and a person's ability to do the things they need to do on a daily basis begin to become compromised. At this point surgery is usually the only viable option to improve vision.

Dr. McManus and Dr. Darlington are pleased to continue this sight restoring program and hope to continue it for many years to come. "Brevard County has been a wonderful place to live, to raise a family and to practice medicine. I want to give back to the community that has been so good to my family and me," states Dr. McManus.

Unfortunately, not everyone who submits their story will be eligible for the surgery due to such factors as the presence of other eye conditions or a health status that would indicate a contraindication to outpatient surgery. Dr. McManus and Dr. Darlington will review all the entries and carefully determine the individuals most likely to benefit from cataract surgery. Happy Holidays and good health from the Physicians and Staff of The Eye Institute for Medicine & Surgery.

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