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# With Bioptics, Aaliyah Sees Her Future

At 16-years-old, Aaliyah was **suddenly navigating a new reality** – vision loss due to complications from lupus. Afraid and unsure how this would impact her future, she connected with Cleveland Sight Center (CSC) for guidance.

**"I was very hesitant coming here at first,"** Aaliyah reflects.

**"Then I started coming more and more and I realized this really is like my own little family."**

At CSC, Aaliyah was introduced to a range of assistive technologies to maximize her remaining vision, including bioptics – specialized glasses customized to enhance functional vision. Thanks to financial assistance funded in part by **The Nicole Kahn Endowment Fund for Assistive Technology**, Aaliyah received her bioptics – **valued at around \$2,000** – at no cost to her and her family.



Aaliyah using her bioptics to read



**"The bioptics give me vision I didn't think I had anymore."**

**After becoming the first visually impaired student to complete the phlebotomy and medical assisting program at her high school**, Aaliyah is now a full-time college student studying nursing. She is learning how to use her bioptics and other assistive technologies to meet the demands of a rigorous program.

**"I am very grateful because these tools challenge me to keep going and doing what people say I can't,"** Aaliyah shares. **"Without donor support, I feel like I would've given up on myself. These tools are the answers to me being successful."**