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## EMC Health Foundation and United Samaritans Foundation Announce Free Hearing Tests and Aids for Seniors at COSTCO

Over 5 percent of the world's population requires rehabilitation (hearing aids or treatment) to address their disabling hearing loss. Disabling hearing loss refers to hearing loss greater than 35 decibels in the better-hearing ear.

Over thirty percent of people over age 65 experience hearing loss, while over forty percent of people over 75 have hearing loss.

Our hearing dramatically impacts our overall health. In addition, hearing loss can affect a person's educational and job opportunities due to impaired communication. Social withdrawal is expected due to reduced access to services and difficulty communicating with others.

Multiple studies have shown a link between hearing loss and dementia in older adults, with people who have hearing loss being more likely to develop dementia than those without:

- Mild Hearing Loss: Doubles the risk
- Moderate Hearing Loss: Triples the risk
- Severe Hearing Loss: Five times the risk

According to Jeffrey Lewis, President and CEO of the EMC Health Foundation, "Our goal is to increase access to hearing services and rehabilitation devices, removing the cost barrier to care and improving long-term health and mental health outcomes of seniors 55 and older. A partnership with USF and COSTCO will guarantee quality hearings and access to people through our partnership with COSTCO."

### How it works:

**Call** the United Samaritans Foundation at (209) 668-4853 to schedule an appointment and receive a voucher

**Free hearing tests** will be conducted at the Turlock Costco, 2955 N. Tegner Road

**3** If prescribed, **free hearing aids** will be ordered

## Who is eligible:

Uninsured adults 55 and older

Adults with employer-provided insurance 55 and older

People enrolled in Medicare

You must live in one of the following zip codes:

## Eligible Zip Codes

\*Patients must live in one of these zip codes:

95328 - Keyes

95334 - Livingston, Arena

95360 - Newman, Hills Ferry 95363 - Patterson, Diablo Grande, Grayson/Westley

95374 - Stevinson

95380-95382 - Turlock, Cortez 95358 - West Modesto/Bret Harte 95388 - Winton,  
Cressey

95301 - Atwater, Buhach

95303 - Ballico

95307 - Ceres

95313 - Crows Landing

95315 - Delhi

95316 - Denair, Montpelier 95322 - Gustine, Santa Nella 95324 - Hilmar, Irwin

95326 - Hughson

**You do not need to be a Costco member to participate in this program. And remember, all of these services are free.**