

SHARPENING OUR FOCUS

In 2010-2011, the Center for Vision Loss continued to sharpen its focus while providing programs and services that promoted the independence of individuals who are blind and visually impaired. The Board of Directors further studied agency operations following the January 1, 2010, consolidation of the Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired in Lehigh County and Visual Impairment & Blindness Services of Northampton and Monroe Counties. In Spring, 2011, the Board approved additional staffing and program changes designed to stabilize and improve the fiscal viability of the agency without affecting core services.

After an extensive self-study and outside review process, the Center for Vision Loss, a member of the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind, was also pleased to receive a five-year accreditation from the National Accreditation Council for Blind and Low Vision Services (NAC). The NAC is the only independent accrediting agency in its category and develops standards to promote effective sound and publicly accountable programs of service that help blind and visually impaired children and adults achieve their full potential.

Through the efforts of our staff and volunteers and with the support of our friends and contributors in the community, the Center for Vision Loss is able to “look beyond vision” to help people live an independent life, preserve their sight and enhance their remaining vision. Our efforts summarized in this Annual Report reflect service statistics and other important information as they were recorded on June 30, 2011. During this year, Center for Vision Loss touched the lives of 10,598 people.

David A. Pike and Robert Ricci
Board Co-Presidents

Douglas A. Yingling
Executive Director



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

LIVE...

VISION REHABILITATION SERVICES

The Center for Vision Loss is the region's only non-profit agency dedicated to improving the lives of people affected by severe vision loss. Often this loss of vision is accompanied by many emotions and uncertainties—how will I get to the doctor, do my banking, go grocery shopping or live in my own home if I can't see well? The agency's vision rehabilitation services help restore each person's independence and quality of life to the greatest extent possible. Programs include education, direct support services such as reading mail and writing checks, door-through-door Escorted Transportation to essential appointments, lifeskills education, referrals for Orientation and Mobility and Vision Rehabilitation training, support groups and socialization activities.

CUSTOMER SERVICES

1,340 Customers

ESCORTED TRANSPORTATION

226 Customers

ENHANCE...

LOW VISION SERVICES

Low vision is the sight remaining after a person's vision can no longer be corrected. Anthony Silvetti, DO, Director of our Low Vision Clinic, conducts special low vision exams to evaluate the level of a customer's remaining vision. He then asks how they wish to use their remaining sight. The answer guides Dr. Silvetti to suggest various kinds of adaptive technology that can maximize independent functioning. Equipment such as hand-held magnifiers, electronic and digital magnification devices, TV glasses and sun lenses are often helpful to restore functional ability in a variety of ways. The agency's Vision Aids Store carries many of these devices and other items to enhance vision.

LOW VISION SERVICES

82 Customers



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

PRESERVE...

VISION SCREENINGS

Conducted at pre-schools, day care centers and schools, vision screenings identify eye problems in children as soon as possible and help them improve their readiness for school. Spot, a new state-of-the art vision screening technology powered by PediaVision, was added this year to make screenings more efficient and available to children as young as 6 months old. Adults are also screened at health fairs and other community venues. The agency is a member of the St. Luke's Partnership for a Healthy Community: Vision Initiative.

VISION SCREENINGS

4,491 Children and Adults

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Presentations about eye health and eye safety are offered for business and community groups at health fairs and other locations. "C. Well Bunny Goes to School," an interactive program, is a popular way to introduce little learners to the importance of their eyes and good vision.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

3,592 Children and Adults

VISION HELP

Individuals who are un/underinsured often cannot afford to focus on making corrected vision a priority in their lives-their limited funds must be used to buy food, pay the rent or mortgage, or seek critical medical attention. Kristen Roseman, OD, directed the agency's two Eye Care Clinics which provided top quality, low cost eye exams and glasses for children and adults who are low income or have no health care insurance or vision coverage.

EYE CARE CLINICS

1,093 Customers

Photo courtesy of The Express-Times



FOCUSING ON OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Contributors make the services and programs of the Center for Vision Loss possible. Because their generosity brings light into the work of our agency, we honor them with the colors of the visible light spectrum—the light we see with our eyes. Center for Vision Loss has made every effort to make our contributor lists accurate. If you have a question, please contact us at 610.433.6018, x. 241.

INDIGO \$10,000 and over

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The 2010-2011 audits and 990s for the Center for Vision Loss, Inc. and Center for Vision Loss Endowment Foundation were prepared by Campbell, Rappold & Yurasists LLP, Certified Public Accountants. Anyone interested in examining them is invited to call the Development Director at 610-433-6018, x. 241. The official registration and financial information of the Center for Vision Loss may be obtained by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



CENTER FOR VISION LOSS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Pike and Robert Ricci, Co-Presidents
John Filipos, Treasurer
Winifred Melinsky, Secretary

Dr. Ihor Fedoriw	Robert Phillips
Dr. Timothy Fox	Thomas Reilly
Julia Gerancher	Victor Salicetti
Dr. Christie Gilson	Richard Sutliff, Jr.
Jon Hammer	Anthony Swartz
Allyson Mullin	Edward Vogrins
Stephanie Olexa, Ph.D.	Ross Wasielki
Bradley Ott	

CENTER FOR VISION LOSS

ENDOWMENT BOARD MEMBERS

John Filipos	Leon Peters
Lowell Hawk	John Sharkey
Martin Lang	Edward Vogrins
Gary Pave	

VOLUNTEERS

The Center for Vision Loss could not accomplish its work in the community without the assistance of our 82 volunteers. They helped our customers as escorted transportation drivers, companions, and activity assistants. They also worked as sales associates in our Re-vision Thrift Shop, brailled documents, provided office support for bulk mailings and receptionist duties, assisted with vision screenings, and helped with fundraisers. Volunteers provided leadership as members of the Board of Directors, Endowment Board, and various committees. Leadership Pocono volunteers studied our Monroe Office's transportation needs. Aetna employees participated in a shopping day for our customers as a project for the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley's Day of Caring and LSI employees participated in their own Day of Caring by helping at the Re-vision Thrift Shop.

CENTER FOR VISION LOSS STAFF

Douglas A. Yingling, Executive Director
Stephanie Houck, Director of Finance
Karen Z. Huetter, Development Director
Rita Lang, Manager of Innovative Programs
Cynthia Starner, Monroe County Office Manager

LEHIGH AND NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES

Ruth Asmus, Prevention of Blindness Coordinator
Gretchen Evans, Caseworker
David Ference, Revisions Thrift Shop Manager
Raquel Gill, Receptionist
Jessica McDorman, Caseworker
Christina Papatsiaras, Intern, DeSales University, Fall 2011
Lisa Vasquez, Caseworker/Low Vision
Shirley Moyer, Transportation Coordinator
Richard Solomon, Driver

MONROE COUNTY

Cynthia Starner, Office Manager/Caseworker
Suzanne Jastrzemski, Driver
Michael Mandile, Driver
Nell Mayotte, Caseworker/Prevention of Blindness Coordinator
Nichole Miller, Optician
Carla Nemeroff, Caseworker
Mary Lou Phillips, Receptionist

ASSOCIATES

Kristen Roseman, OD
Anthony J. Silveti, OD
James Van Horn, Sr., MS, MA, NOMC

OUR MISSION

To provide a comprehensive set of preventative, rehabilitative, support and social services enabling blind and visually impaired clients to achieve their personal goals and restore quality of life consistent with those goals. Programs will provide a balance of independent living skills and social services to meet individual needs across a diverse client base and also help reduce the incidence of vision loss in the community through prevention of blindness and remedial eye care services.

SERVING LEHIGH, NORTHAMPTON AND MONROE COUNTIES



845 West Wyoming Street | Allentown, PA 18103 | P 610.433.6018
4215 Manor Drive | Stroudsburg, PA 18360 | P 570.992.7787
www.centerforvisionloss.org

