

Hadley Helps <https://hadleyhelps.org/>

One of the best sites for helping to learn about adjusting to vision loss. There are also extensive categories on improving your daily living, recreation, technology, and even sessions on working and employment with Vision loss. Sign up to receive emails and hear from experts on many topics in living with vision loss.

Support and Connection with Vision Loss

Listen in as members of the Hadley community share their experiences with our Peer-to-Peer program. Connecting with someone on a similar path can make a world of difference.

American Council of the Blind (ACB) - www.acb.org

A large national consumer group is concerned about many issues affecting people with low vision or Blindness. Even though an organization has “Blind” in its title, there is much to learn for anyone with vision loss or their families. There are also many chapters in many states where you can attend a state meeting to meet others and learn about advocating for people with vision loss. These meetings also often highlight the latest vision aids and technologies that are available in an exhibit hall setting. Once a year, a national conference is held around the Fourth of July.

Council of Citizens with Low Vision International – <https://cclvi.info/>

CCLVI is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and a Special Interest Affiliate of the American Council of the Blind.

We are an international nonprofit organization and community of individuals who understand the needs and experiences of people with low vision. CCLVI is here to provide support, resources, education, and advocacy for those affected by low vision and visual impairment, through publications, live Zoom calls, online resources, and conferences. Discover what we have to offer you.

You May Also Want to Google the Topics Listed below on Low Vision Services

Patients often consider visiting a low vision clinic when reading and other daily activities become challenging. Low vision specialists are dedicated to enhancing functional vision. They can help explore various vision aids and technologies available to assist with tasks such as reading, watching television, and even using specialized telescope glasses for driving. Alongside regular visits to your ophthalmologist or retina specialist, it can be beneficial to consult a low-vision specialist. Remember to prioritize all your appointments with your ophthalmologist or retina specialist.

Low Vision Specialists Near Me
Best Low Vision Specialist Near Me

Best Low Vision Specialists

Low Vision Optometrist Near Me

Low Vision Specialist - Occupational Therapy

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) serves veterans who are blind or have low vision — and who to contact for more information:

Mission / Purpose

- Through its Blind Rehabilitation Service (BRS) and related programs, VA aims to help eligible veterans (or active-duty service members) with vision loss (Blindness or low vision that cannot be corrected with regular eyeglasses) develop the skills needed for **personal independence** and **successful reintegration** into their communities and families.
- The support includes not just medical care but also rehabilitation, assistive technology, training in daily living skills, orientation and mobility training, and — when needed — therapy or counseling to help adjust to vision loss.
- The goal is to help Veterans maintain as much independence and quality of life as possible, even with significant vision impairment.

What Services They Provide

The services for blind or low-vision veterans may include:

- Vision-enhancing devices and adaptive technologies (e.g., electronic reading machines, magnifiers, mobility aids) plus training to use them.
- Training in performing daily tasks (reading, writing, cooking, managing medications, navigating, etc.).
- Mobility and orientation training to help with safe movement through the home or community.
- Counseling, support groups, and family-centered care to help veterans and their families adjust.
- Coordination of lifetime care through a team-based approach under the Visual Impairment Services Team (VIST) when needed.

Who to Contact for More Information

- The main entry point is your **local VA medical center**: ask for the **VIST Coordinator** (Visual Impairment Services Team). That person coordinates services for blind/visually impaired veterans at the regional level.
- Alternatively, you (or a family member) can contact the national Blind Rehabilitation Service Program Office at **(202) 461-7317**

Foundation Fighting Blindness - <https://www.fightingblindness.org/>

The **Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB)** is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to finding treatments and cures for a wide range of inherited retinal diseases, including retinitis pigmentosa, Stargardt disease, Usher syndrome, and other forms of macular degeneration.

The mission of the Foundation Fighting Blindness is to:

- **Drive research** that leads to preventions, treatments, and cures for retinal degenerative diseases.
- **Support affected individuals and families** through education, resources, and community programs.
- **Accelerate scientific discovery** by funding laboratories, clinical trials, and partnerships that bring new therapies closer to patients.

Since its founding in 1971, FFB has become one of the world's leading organizations supporting vision-saving research and empowering people living with vision loss.

My Retina Tracker - <https://www.fightingblindness.org/>

Mission: My Retina Tracker is a global, patient-driven registry for individuals and families affected by inherited retinal diseases (IRDs). Through a secure online portal, it enables patients — and genetically related family members if they choose — to record their personal and medical history, genetic testing results, clinician-entered data, and track progression over time.

By gathering this longitudinal, real-world data, My Retina Tracker aims to:

- Improve understanding of the diversity (heterogeneity) of inherited retinal diseases — which include dozens of rare disorders.
- Help define how frequently different IRDs and gene variants occur.
- Support research into genotype-phenotype relationships (how a specific gene mutation corresponds to disease symptoms).
- Document the natural history and progression of IRDs — from both the patient's perspective and clinical measures.

- Accelerate development of treatments — by providing researchers and therapy developers with de-identified data and enabling faster clinical-trial recruitment.

In short: My Retina Tracker’s mission is to empower individuals impacted by inherited retinal diseases to contribute their data — privately and on their own terms — to fuel research, advance understanding, and help bring treatments (and ultimately cures) closer to reality.

AFB AccessWorld Magazine - <https://afb.org/aw>

- AccessWorld is AFB’s magazine (now an online publication) focused on the intersection of vision loss (Blindness or low vision) and technology. It offers **news, reviews, expert commentary, product evaluations, discussions of accessibility, assistive-technology trends, and information relevant to people who are blind or visually impaired.**
- Initially launched in January 2000 to fill a growing need for accessible-tech information, AccessWorld has been a leading resource for nearly 25 years, helping individuals with vision loss navigate a rapidly changing digital and technological world.
- You can read current issues of AccessWorld — and explore its full archive of back problems — online at AFB’s website: go to “**afb.org/aw**”.
- You can sign up on the AFB site to receive **email alerts** when new issues or breaking technology-related news are published.
- There is also an **AccessWorld Podcast**, produced by AFB, that discusses digital inclusion and accessibility topics — a good source of accessible audio content.

What is LS&S, LLC - <https://lssproducts.com/>

- LS&S is a company that provides **products for people who are blind, visually impaired, deaf, or hard of hearing.**
- Their items include **low-vision aids, hearing aids, and daily living tools** such as talking clocks/calculators, large-button phones, magnifiers, Braille products, and many other helpful devices that make everyday life easier.

Free Printed Catalog — How It Works

- LS&S offers a **free printed catalog** that showcases its full product range. If you request it, they will mail you a physical copy.
- This catalog is handy for seniors or anyone who prefers browsing paper rather than online. It lets you look at many items at your own pace and choose what you need without a computer.

You (or a family member) can reach them this way:

- **Toll-free phone:** 1-800-468-4789
- **Mailing address:** 145 River Rock Drive, Buffalo, NY 14207
- **Website/email contact:** Visit their website at www.LSSproducts.com or write to LSSinfo@LSSproducts.com for catalog requests, questions, or orders.

Chicago Lighthouse Tools for Living Store - [Chicago Lighthouse Tools for Living Store](#) — what it is, what it offers, and especially how it's designed.

What is it, and who runs it

- The store is part of The Chicago Lighthouse — a longstanding nonprofit that serves people who are blind or visually impaired.
- The Tools for Living Store is a specially designed retail outlet (with an online shop) that sells assistive-technology products and independent-living aids to help people with vision loss live more independently.

The store carries a wide variety of helpful items tailored for low vision or Blindness, including (but not limited to):

- Talking clocks and watches (that read out time aloud) and other time/alert devices.
- Large-print or Braille playing cards, reading aids, magnifiers, CCTV/portable video magnifier machines for reading text.
- Kitchen appliances adapted for low vision (e.g., voice-operated or talking appliances), easy-use cooking tools, and other household items.
- Writing aids (like writing guides, bold-line paper, specialized pens), health and beauty items, sunglasses, canes — tools and objects to help with daily living tasks.
- Computer programs, adaptive technology devices, and other advanced assistive tech — staff can help customers choose what works for their needs.
- Miscellaneous items such as wallets designed to organize bills/coins for visually impaired users, large-button phones or remotes, and other everyday tools.

What sets this store apart is that it's **designed specifically for people with vision impairments:**

- The store layout — wide aisles, contrasting colors, and accessible lighting — is designed to help people with visual impairments navigate and browse more easily.
- There's a special help/consultation corner called "Adaptive Technology Department" (also known as "Tom's Corner"), where trained staff demonstrate and explain assistive devices — so customers can try before they buy.
- Employees at the store include people who are blind or visually impaired, which supports employment and provides first-hand knowledge and empathy.

National Federation of the Blind (NFB) - <https://nfb.org/>

- The NFB works to ensure that blind people are **fully integrated into society on an equal basis** — socially, economically, and legally.
- It promotes the idea that Blindness is **not a tragedy or a defining limitation**. Still, rather a characteristic — and that with opportunity, training, and proper support, blind people can lead whole, independent, and successful lives just like anyone else.
- NFB offers advocacy, public education about Blindness, civil-rights protection, support services, adaptive technology, and skills training, resources for blind individuals and their families
- Works to change societal misconceptions about Blindness.

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) - <https://www.cnib.ca/en>

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) has the mission **to change what it is to be blind** — by offering innovative programs and strong advocacy so that Canadians who are blind, Deafblind, or have low vision can live the lives they choose. In practice, that means CNIB works to:

- Empower people with vision loss with the skills, resources, and supports needed for independence and full participation in life.
- Tear down barriers to inclusion — social, educational, transportation, employment — so Blindness doesn't limit opportunities.
- Provide services ranging from rehabilitation and education support to advocacy, awareness, and community-based programs across Canada. turn0search10□

What is GRF

- GRF is a national nonprofit dedicated to funding research to find better treatments — and eventually a cure — for glaucoma.
- GRF also offers information and support for people living with glaucoma and their families, helping patients understand the disease, treatments, and options.

What GRF Offers Consumers

- Free educational resources, booklets, and information about glaucoma — what it is, how it's treated, how to manage life with glaucoma.
- Online support: links to support groups, peer-support programs, and patient communities so those with glaucoma can share, learn, and get emotional as well as practical support.

Glaucoma Research Foundation (GRF) - <https://www.grf.org/>

- GRF has been active for decades (founded in 1978) and is arguably the most experienced organization devoted solely to glaucoma research and patient education.
- For many people with glaucoma, GRF is a gateway to reliable information, community, and hope for future cures.

Here is an extensive list of national organizations that serve the blind and individuals with low vision. These organizations provide a variety of resources, support, and advocacy for individuals and their families:

1. **American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)**
Website: www.afb.org
2. **National Federation of the Blind (NFB)**
Website: www.nfb.org
3. **Prevent Blindness**
Website: www.preventblindness.org
4. **VisionServe Alliance**
Website: www.visionservealliance.org
5. **Hadley Institute for the Blind and Visually Impaired**
Website: www.hadley.edu
6. **Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.**
Website: www.lighthouse-sf.org
7. **American Council of the Blind (ACB)**
Website: www.acb.org
8. **National Association of Blind Merchants**
Website: www.nabm.org
9. **The Vision Council**
Website: www.thevisioncouncil.org
10. **Guide Dogs for the Blind**
Website: www.guidedogs.com
11. **National Eye Institute (NEI)**
Website: www.nei.nih.gov
12. **National Eye Health Education Program (NEHEP)**
Website: www.nehep.nih.gov
13. **American Optometric Association (AOA)**
Website: www.aoa.org
14. **Blind Industries and Services of Maryland**
Website: www.bism.org

15. Blind Veterans Association (BVA)

Website: www.bva.org

16. The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) - while this is based in Canada, it may offer resources relevant to specific audiences in the U.S.

Website: www.cnib.ca

17. The National Blindness Professionals Certification Board (NBPCB)

Website: www.nbpceb.org

18. Vision Loss Resources

Website: www.visionlossresources.org

19. World Blind Union

Website: www.worldblindunion.org

20. American Association of Workers for the Blind (AAWB)

Website: www.aawb.org