Resources for Visually Impaired or Blind People

Vision impairment cannot be corrected by surgery, medicines, glasses, or contact lenses. However, there are many resources that can help you manage your condition.

Symptoms

Signs of vision impairment may include:

- Reduced vision or visual field
- Trouble seeing sharp contrasts between objects
- Blurred vision
- Blind spots
- Tunnel vision
- Double vision
- Poor depth perception
- Trouble with bright light (glare)
- Legal blindness

Clinic Visits

It is important to have a low vision assessment early to preserve and use the vision that you have. Your first exam will last 2-3 hours. This gives us time to check your current vision, find devices that work for you and offer advice.

You may be referred to other services such as:

- Occupational therapy
- Low vision therapy
- Orientation and mobility training
- Social work services
- And many more

Resources

There are many helpful local and state resources. Below are some options that can help you live your life and make the most of your vision.

Center for Deaf-Blind Persons

3195 Superior St
Milwaukee, WI 53207
www.deaf-blind.org/
Voice/TTY/DBC
(414) 481-7477

State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Division of Long-Term Care Office for the Blind and the Visually Impaired
http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/blind

People who live outside of Wisconsin should contact the Wisconsin Office for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Wisconsin Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired
754 Williamson St
Madison, WI 53703
www.wcblind.org
(800) 783-5213

Services:

- Computer training
- Orientation and mobility
- In-home rehabilitation
- Sales of adaptive products
- Information and referral

Office for the Blind and Visually Impaired
WI Department of Health Services
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/blind
(888) 879-0017

Services:

- Orientation and mobility
- In-home consultation for daily activities
- Communications
- Adjustment
- Support groups
- Social skills

Vision Forward Association (Milwaukee Residents)
912 N Hawley Rd
Milwaukee, WI 53213
www.vision-forward.org
(877) 258-9200

Services:

- Low vision exams
- Technology training
- Mobility training
- Vision rehabilitation
- Sales of adaptive products

Helpful Links
QRS Links for the Blind or Visually Impaired
https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p2/p22549b.pdf

Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 9/2025 University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing HF#4471