

100th ANNUAL REPORT

2021



CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services

Chautauqua Blind Association, Inc
510 W FIFTH ST ▪ JAMESTOWN, NY 14701-4813

Message from the Co-Presidents

It is our pleasure to present the annual report for CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services (formerly Chautauqua Blind Association) for the year ending December 31, 2021.

The past year has proved to be a successful one for CBA. The organization has come out of the COVID-19 Pandemic with much to be proud of. We continue to serve the clients of Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties, proving the organization's resilience through this difficult time in our world.

Joni Blackman worked hard in her first full calendar year as Executive Director, leading the organization on an outreach program. We found there is still a large need for our services in the community, continuously jumping hurdles to directly reach some people, due to COVID-19. A marketing plan was made, which focused on encouraging those that need our services, who may be hesitant coming out of the pandemic. The staff continues to provide comfort and safety to these clients, all the while making their visually impaired lives a little easier.

Whether being more present on social media, visiting assistive living facilities, senior housing, and physicians' offices - we continue to strive to make people more aware of how wonderfully important this organization truly is.



Due to NY State's enforced mandates the year prior, our fundraising had been put on hold in 2020. In 2021, we came back even stronger with our first in-person event in two years, celebrating CBA's 100th Anniversary. The event captured the wonderful history of CBA, its past Directors, Board Members and clients. It allowed for the community to celebrate along with us. It proved to be a successful event, bringing in funds and support from new and past donors. Community members and foundations also continue to support the mission of CBA, which remains in good financial standing.

Our Youth Vision Screening Program also continues to be a staple in the community, helping children receive screening and eyecare when they need it the most.

We also brought on several new members to the Board of Directors in 2021. Their engagement in activities and committees prove to be inspiring, and we see a bright future for this Board and CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services.

We are grateful to the many individuals, foundations, donors, fellow board members, and staff who have shown CBA support over this past year. We look forward to serving our community in 2022!

Sincerely,
Kelly Fiorella & Megan Maynard

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

In July 1921 the Southwestern Tier Association for the Blind (SWTAB) began its association with the New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB). Since then, we have changed our names twice, expanded and contracted our service area and throughout the century, always maintained a professional staff.

CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services is still a NYSCB contracted agency – we still serve the southwestern tier counties of Chautauqua and Cattaraugus – we still provide individualized instruction and support to our legally blind clients. Eyecare has come a long way in the past 100 years, as has supporting people with visual impairments to live fulfilling, active lives.

2021 was altered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the staff served our clients in their homes and workplaces throughout the year, the threat of quarantine was never out of our minds. The number of clients served in 2021 was down 30% from 2019, the last full year without the pandemic influence. Interestingly, the number of workforce development clients increased by 300% during the year. With accommodations and the correct training, individuals living with vision impairments can go to work and be successful.

The year saw a need to build awareness of our services in the community. We know there are individuals in the community in need of our services. Given the constraints of the pandemic, we couldn't speak with groups or visit facilities. Social media and our local newspapers and radio partners helped us get the information to the community.



We celebrated our centennial anniversary in July 2021 with a gala dinner and about 100 friends and supporters at the beautiful Chautauqua Harbor Hotel in Celoron, N.Y.

The secret to the strength and longevity of any non-profit is the people who are passionate about the mission. Past and current board members, executive directors, and professional and administrative staff were recognized for their contributions to the growth and ongoing success of the organization. A history of the organization was read and the pieces from the archives were displayed.

One of the highlights of the event was the unveiling of the name change and new logo of the Sight for Success Program to the Dr. Tim Grace Sight for Success Program.

Thank you to all who have continued to support our work and those that have recently taken an interest in our mission. I want to thank the staff, board of directors and our generous supporters for their dedication and work. Without them, CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services would not have the solid and dependable reputation it has and be able to fulfill our mission.

Sincerely,

Joni Blackman, Executive Director

100 Years and Counting



Our Mission

The mission of the Chautauqua Blind Association is to enable people in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties with visual impairments to be active members of their community, to provide education regarding vision loss and to raise awareness of the importance of early vision screening for a lifetime of healthy vision.



A glimpse of the 100 years of archive materials used to tell our story at the Centennial event on July 28, 2021.



Former Executive Director Lisa Goodell unveiling the new name of the Sight for Success Program.



Thank you to all who joined the festivities to toast, reminisce and inspire the next century of work.



MISSION

IN ACTION

ADAPTIVE LIVING PROGRAM:

157 clients

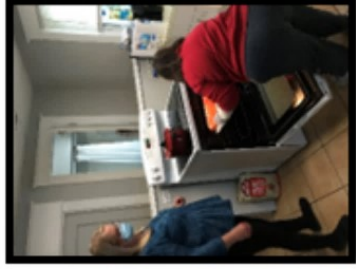
This program is for individuals 55+ years old who are legally blind.

They receive training in the following areas: personal care, communication skills, mobility indoor/outdoor & meal, home and financial management, and family care.



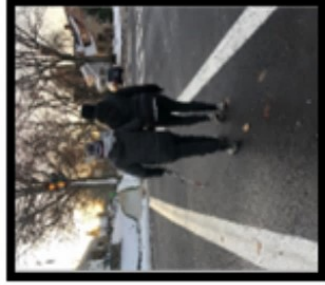
VISION REHABILITATION: 61 clients

This program addresses the need for legally blind individuals to maintain current employment, obtain employment, attend college, or receive technology training – all to enable them to be prosperous and independent. Training is done at their home, school or workplace. Vision rehabilitation training and orientation and mobility instruction are both used in this program.



Independent Living: 18 clients

This program is for individuals who are legally blind, but are not employed. They require less intense instruction to meet their goals.



IMPACT

MARY BOLAND Mary is in the adaptive living program. She is curious and ready to learn all she can to stay active in her community. CBA staff member Julie Flaker, VRT, taught her to use her cell phone's accessibility features, the Talking Book machine, and her CCTV.

ROSE CARPENTER Rose took advantage of the NYS Commission for the Blind's Work Experience Program, a 90-day work period at a local business to learn the job and hopefully gain permanent employment. Thanks to her hard work and winning personality she is proud to work at the National Comedy Center, Jamestown, N.Y.

CASEY & ADAM Newlyweds Casey and Adam are both successful Work Experience clients. Adam was missing his mother's cooking. Casey asked staff member Debbie Liddell, VRT, OMS, COTA to help her surprise Adam. Debbie used the teachable moment to instruct Casey how to prepare the dinner from reading the recipe to serving. They did such a good job, Adam had tears in his eyes after the first bite!

BRYCE STONE Bryce is a middle school student with big dreams. He is at a transition time in his life, also in his vision impaired mobility training. He walks regularly with staff member Debbie Liddell to learn how to efficiently use his cane. One of his favorite destinations is Tim Hortons Coffee Shop – we all need incentives!

MISSION

IN ACTION

YOUTH VISION SCREENING

PROGRAM: 4,450 children screened at 96 locations
804 referred for professional services

This program provides FREE vision screening for our target population of 3-6-year-olds in public and private schools in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties. Staff member Priscilla Shoup, Blindness Prevention Coordinator's goal is to identify young children who may have vision problems. When our screening indicates a child needs a comprehensive eye exam, a referral letter and application for financial assistance from the Dr. Tim Grace Sight for Success Program is sent home with the child.



ELLIOT

Elliot and Nadia, among many others, were screened in their classrooms. Elliot's brothers and parents all wear glasses. His mother said, "Elliot has always wanted glasses, having watched both his brothers wear them. He wore a pair of safety goggles any chance he got. Now thanks to CBA he finally has his own! Thank you, CBA!"



NADIA

Nadia is a Pre-K student and a very busy little girl. Her family was very grateful for CBA's assistance in screening and obtaining her exam and glasses.



Dr. Tim Grace

Sight for Success Program

In 2021 the Dr. Tim Grace Sight for Success Program received 39 applications for exams and/or glasses. 27 of those children received glasses. The families that were in need of financial assistance chose to use the fund. This fund is dependent on donations as is the vision screening program. It is solely funded by local grants and donations.

With great thanks and appreciation, the fund was named the Dr. Tim Grace Sight for Success Program in 2020 after the passing of Dr. Grace who so strongly believed in CBA's mission and that everyone deserved to see the best they can.

Thank You!

Leadership and Staff



Board of Directors

Co-Presidents– Kelly Fiorella, Megan Maynard

Treasurer – Krista Leone

Secretary – Andrew Robinson

Board Members:

Megan Barone

Lisa Cleveland

Pat Kinney

Corrine Case

Eric Harvey

Gene West

Staff

Joni Blackman, Executive Director

Debra Liddell – Vision Rehabilitation

Therapist/Orientation & Mobility Specialist, COTA

Julie Flaker – Vision Rehabilitation Therapist

Priscilla Shoup – Administrative Assistant &

Blindness Prevention Coordinator

Centennial Sponsors

Chautauqua Chemicals Co.

Ahlstrom Schaeffer Electric Corp

UPMC Chautauqua

Weber Knapp

Chautauqua Eyecare

Spectrum Eyecare

Fessenden, Laumer & DeAngelo, PLLC

Allied Alarm Services, Inc.

The Post-Journal

Michael Lahood, M.D.

Cattaraugus County Bank

Integrated Benefits Solutions

Rhoe B. Henderson Agency

Anonymous

Bob Kenyon Lorraine Steen

Judith Presutti Basil Chevrolet

Memorials

Doris M. Ahlgreen

Viola E. "Swede" Carlson

Paul Crowe, Jr.

William F. Fugagli

Marian S. Holcomb

Donald C. Peterson

Emmett & Donna Raye Shirey

Adrian "Casey" Thomas

Elizabeth Wile

Grants

Chautauqua Region Community Foundation

Cummins Inc., JEP

William B. Anderson & Juliet J. Anderson

Rosch Charitable Foundation

White Cane Awareness Day was observed October 15



The Financial Story

CHAUTAUQUA BLIND ASSOCIATION, INC.
d/b/a CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services
Statements of Activities
Years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Revenue:		
New York State Office of Children and Family Services	\$ 115,797	130,378
Program income	1,265	2,181
United Way	29,415	33,176
Other awards	28,186	55,311
Contributions and bequests	9,261	15,086
Fundraising, net of expenses of \$6,530 in 2021 and \$621 in 2020	18,130	7,450
Sales of adaptive aids	2,731	4,265
Community Foundation fund distributions	9,998	9,694
Investment income	52,760	50,733
Change in beneficial interest in assets held by others	10,535	6,538
Grant income - Paycheck Protection Program	48,148	46,639
Miscellaneous	<u>282</u>	<u>99</u>
Total revenue	<u>326,508</u>	<u>361,550</u>
Expenses:		
Program services	275,320	262,632
Management and general	<u>54,984</u>	<u>52,934</u>
Total expenses	<u>330,304</u>	<u>315,566</u>
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	(3,796)	45,984
Net assets without donor restrictions at beginning of year	<u>894,619</u>	<u>848,635</u>
Net assets without donor restrictions at end of year	<u>\$ 890,823</u>	<u>\$ 894,619</u>

CHAUTAQUA BLIND ASSOCIATION, INC.
d/b/a CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services
Statements of Financial Position
December 31, 2021 and 2020

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 127,970	235,865
Receivables	36,097	-
Prepaid insurance	1,641	1,641
Inventory	<u>4,534</u>	<u>7,859</u>
Total current assets	<u>170,242</u>	<u>245,365</u>
Investments, at fair value	<u>543,365</u>	<u>490,854</u>
Property and equipment, at cost	437,259	437,259
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(325,999)</u>	<u>(312,935)</u>
Net property and equipment	<u>111,260</u>	<u>124,324</u>
Other asset - beneficial interest in assets held by others	<u>81,962</u>	<u>71,427</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 906,829</u>	<u>931,970</u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	1,859	-
Accrued expenses	14,147	12,340
Deferred revenue	<u>-</u>	<u>25,011</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>16,006</u>	<u>37,351</u>
Net assets without donor restrictions	<u>890,823</u>	<u>894,619</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 906,829</u>	<u>931,970</u>

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