

101st ANNUAL REPORT

2022



**CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services
510 W. Fifth Street
Jamestown, N.Y. 14701**

Message from the President



It is my pleasure to present the annual report for CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services (formerly Chautauqua Blind Association) for the year ending December 31, 2022.

CBA had a good deal accomplished over the past year. With Covid-19 and the Pandemic somewhat in the past, CBA resumed the annual Dining in the Dark fundraiser. Past sponsors, clients, and community members embraced CBA and joined together to support the youth vision screening program. It proved to be yet another successful event in CBA history.

CBA also established a strategic planning committee and worked with past board members and community members to come up with a much-needed strategic plan for the organization. As part of the plan, we designed a new logo, which is now displayed on a new sign outside of the office, as well as an updated website. The strategic plan focused on the organization's purpose and the importance of its services, and it was inspiring to see everyone come together and work hard for an organization that provides such a valuable service to the community.

Aside from the fundraiser that took place earlier in the year, CBA also held an online art auction titled "Art for Vision", which also supported the youth vision screening program.

Although the first online event of this nature posed a little bit of a challenge in executing, it proved to be another success in raising funds for the program.

In October, CBA held its first annual White Cane Awareness walk in Dunkirk, NY. Roughly forty community members, friends, and family of clients came together to show their support. The walk helped raise awareness of the white cane and dog guides who assist blind individuals.

Throughout the year, the organization demonstrated success and resilience, despite a change in staffing that resulted in having only one therapist on staff. Praise goes to the current staff, as they have maneuvered the change well and continue to provide crucial services to keep the organization going.

As we enter 2023, CBA will face upcoming changes. Our Executive Director, Joni Blackman, will be retiring at year end, and I sadly will end my 9-year term with the Board of Directors. I'm grateful to many individuals, foundations, organizations, and businesses who have showed support over the past year to the organization. It has been a pleasure to witness CBA succeed and provide valuable service to this community.

Sincerely,
Megan Maynard

Message from the Executive Director



Dear Friends of CBA,

After being the Executive Director for a year and a month, I started 2022 with a feeling of excitement. With the Board of Directors' and staff's advice and assistance, I was ready to organize the much-needed strategic planning sessions to set CBA on the right track for the next 3-5 years. I was ready to start the fundraising and marketing work needed to have a successful fundraising year. And I was ready to refresh the marketing plan to raise awareness in our service region (Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties) to help more vision-impaired individuals.

Local leader Paul Fardink led the strategic planning sessions. The Board, staff, past clients, and local funders either met or completed surveys to gather their thoughts on CBA's place in the community. The plan evolved into a list of opportunities with goals, and action plans (with measurable outcomes) to implement the goals.

A Board committee was formed to oversee the plan. You may have noticed the new logo which visually "says" CBA offers training to the legally blind. The name change to CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services actually happened years ago, but the full transition came with the new strategic plan. At this point, the plan has moved into implementing the opportunities and goals. They are having a greater presence in northern Chautauqua County and Cattaraugus County, building a network of volunteers and agencies to spread awareness of CBA's mission to serve the visually impaired, educate about vision health, and screen our youngest citizens. These actions are building both hands-on and financial support. The plan will be evaluated every year to correct course, if needed, to continue to develop and implement the opportunities.

2022's Dining in the Dark was a success. Over 160 supporters took part in the major fundraiser for the Youth Vision Screening program. \$12,000 was raised to support the ongoing costs of screening over 4,400 young children in our service area. Thank you to all the sponsors and guests, both new and returning, who continue to make this an annual commitment to the community.

The first "White Cane Safety Awareness Day Walk" was held in October. Over 40 supporters from the Dunkirk-Fredonia Lions Club, clients and their family members, Directors and staff gathered on a damp, chilly Saturday morning at the Dunkirk Memorial Park to learn about the history of the white cane law, our local connection to the law and its importance today. The crowd enjoyed pizza (thank you Pizza Village, and Tops for their donations). Eventually, the sun came out and we enjoyed meeting new friends and celebrating independence. Plans are underway to celebrate in Olean in October 2023.

I thank the Board of Directors for their work this year. The committees did the heavy lifting so the board meetings could be used to discuss concepts and ideas. The officers were dedicated to the work of CBA and assisted me throughout the year. I thank the staff for their dedication to our client's needs. CBA is a contract agency with the NYS Commission for the Blind. I am grateful for the Commission staff's advice, assistance, and support as we all navigate the uncertainty of a post-COVID 19 environment.

Sincerely,
Joni Blackman, Executive Director

2022 in Review



2022's Dining in the Dark was a huge success with over 160 guests. Thank you to all who attended and donated. It was a fun night.

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.




Dr. Tim Grace
Sight for Success Program

Some of our students who received eye exams and glasses following their vision screening by CBA.



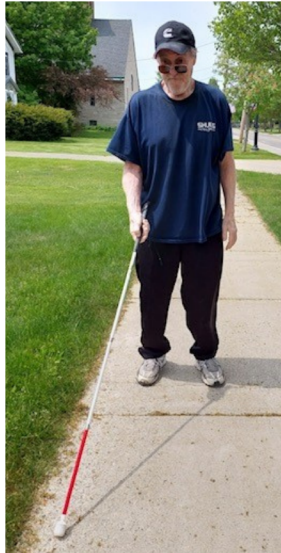
We had a great turnout at the first White Cane Safety Awareness Walk in Dunkirk on October 15. Thank you to the Dunkirk Fredonia Lions Club members, Pizza Village, the City of Dunkirk, Ricardo Medina of photoshoot with.me and the Clarion Hotel.

MISSION

IN ACTION

ADAPTIVE LIVING PROGRAM: 154 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: 80 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: 7 clients

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



IMPACT

David

David is in the adaptive living program. He suffered from sudden onset blindness. While he depended on his sister for many daily needs, circumstances have changed and he can no longer do so. David became isolated. He had the courage to ask CBA for help and is now learning to walk outside with a cane and take care of his daily needs.



Karla

Karla moved to WNY from sunny Puerto Rico in 2022. What a shock it was to her system! She is young and ambitious. She did not receive adequate cane training or help with cooking and daily chores until she started working with CBA. Her goal is to attend college so she is learning English and working at Home Depot. She also has a dog guide to help her with her mobility.

Corbin

Corbin is an elementary school student with a great sense of humor. He loves to cook with Debbie Liddell, CBA's VRT and O&M trainer. She is teaching him daily life skills he can use as his sight declines.

MISSION

IN ACTION

**YOUTH VISION SCREENING PROGRAM: 4,425 children screened at 103 locations
772 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.



Dr. Tim Grace

Sight for Success Program

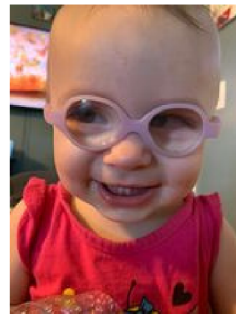
In 2022 the Dr. Tim Grace Sight for Success Program received 47 applications for exams and/or glasses. 28 of those children received glasses. The families that were in need of financial assistance chose to use the fund. This fund is dependent on donations as is the vision screening program. It is solely 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.

IMPACT

ABIGAIL

As an infant, Abigail needed a pediatric ophthalmologist to manage her eye health. The doctor's office reached out to CBA to help her family obtain the needed exams and glasses. We have helped all along the way as she has grown into a bright, happy toddler!



Thank You!

Leadership and Staff



The Board of Directors and staff (taken at the 100th Annual meeting in June 2021): l to r, Pat Kinney, Daniel Stone, Krista Leone, Eric Harvey, Megan Maynard, Andrew S. Robinson Jr., Debbie Liddell, Gene West Kelly Fiorella, Corrine Case, Joni Blackman, Priscilla Shoup.

Board of Directors 2022

Co-Presidents– Kelly Fiorella
Megan Maynard

Treasurer – Krista Leone
(January to October)

Secretary – Andrew Robinson

Board Members:

Corrine Case Lisa Cleveland
Eric Harvey Mike Herlong
Tim LaCroix Daniel Stone
Mallary Tyler-Dawson
Gene West

Memorials

Janette Faulk Mary Hedin Emmett Shirey
Paul Crowe, Jr.

Grants

Chautauqua Region Community Foundation
United Way of Northern Chautauqua County
United Way of Southern Chautauqua County
United Way of Cattaraugus County
William B. Anderson & Juliet J. Anderson Rosch Charitable Foundation

Staff

Joni Blackman – Executive Director
Debra Liddell – Vision Rehabilitation
Therapist/Orientation & Mobility Specialist, COTA
Julie Flaker – Vision Rehabilitation Therapist
(Jan.–June 2022)
Priscilla Shoup – Administrative Assistant &
Blindness Prevention Coordinator

Dining in the Dark Sponsors

Wegmans – Stone Audiology – Stone Plumbing
ICY INK – Ahlstrom-Schaeffer Electric Corp.
UPMC Chautauqua – Fresh & Fancy Floral Design
Chautauqua Eyecare – Spectrum Eyecare
Chautauqua Chemical – Hansen Financial Group
Seneca Resorts & Casinos – Weber Knapp
David Snow State Farm – The Resource Center
Andrew & Lisa Goodell – STEL – Anonymous
Michael Lahood, M.D. – Cattaraugus County Bank
Rhoe B. Henderson Agency – Lind's Funeral Home
Allied Alarm Services, Inc.



Community Partner

The Financial Story

CHAUTAUQUA BLIND ASSOCIATION, INC.
d/b/a CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services
Statements of Financial Position
December 31, 2022 and 2021

	<u>Assets</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Current assets:			
Cash		\$ 93,668	127,970
Receivables		33,415	36,097
Prepaid insurance		1,639	1,641
Inventory		<u>6,315</u>	<u>4,534</u>
Total current assets		<u>135,037</u>	<u>170,242</u>
Investments, at fair value		<u>461,177</u>	<u>543,365</u>
Property and equipment, at cost		437,259	437,259
Less accumulated depreciation		<u>(337,864)</u>	<u>(325,999)</u>
Net property and equipment		<u>99,395</u>	<u>111,260</u>
Other asset - beneficial interest in assets held by others		<u>66,644</u>	<u>81,962</u>
Total assets		<u>\$ 762,253</u>	<u>906,829</u>
	<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable		2,304	1,859
Accrued expenses		<u>18,625</u>	<u>14,147</u>
Total current liabilities		20,929	16,006
Net assets without donor restrictions		<u>741,324</u>	<u>890,823</u>
Total liabilities and net assets		<u>\$ 762,253</u>	<u>906,829</u>

CHAUTAUQUA BLIND ASSOCIATION, INC.
d/b/a CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services
Statements of Activities
Years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Revenue:		
New York State Office of Children and Family Services	\$ 149,741	115,797
Program income	4,527	1,265
United Way	27,524	29,415
Other awards	28,450	28,186
Contributions and bequests	10,683	9,261
Fundraising, net of expenses of \$7,299 in 2022 and \$6,530 in 2021	18,217	18,130
Sales of adaptive aids	2,439	2,731
Community Foundation fund distributions	11,517	9,998
Investment income (loss)	(81,999)	52,760
Change in beneficial interest in assets held by others	(15,318)	10,535
Grant income - Paycheck Protection Program	-	48,148
Miscellaneous	-	282
Total revenue	155,781	326,508
Expenses:		
Program services	246,423	275,546
Management and general	58,857	54,758
Total expenses	305,280	330,304
Change in net assets without donor restrictions	(149,499)	(3,796)
Net assets without donor restrictions at beginning of year	890,823	894,619
Net assets without donor restrictions at end of year	\$ 741,324	890,823



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