



MCGREAL SIGHT CENTER
NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

DONOR IMPACT REPORT

Fall 2016

Your Gifts at Work: Children of All Ages Get the Help They Need

Because of your generosity, our Education Services team has increased its numbers and the types of assistance offered. Finally, children of all ages with vision loss in New Hampshire will get the help they need!

For the first time in its long history, the Association has a program for infants and toddlers. Two of our Teachers of Students with Visual Impairments, Nancy Wittmershaus and Andrea Bilello, are already offering their years of experience to work with babies, young children, and families. Andrea was able to assist one mother who was preparing for her child with blindness to attend school for the first time. Then Nancy presented valuable in-services on this subject to the staff of two agencies in the Seacoast area. Now they are contributing

vision services to three more babies in the Seacoast region, the Central Corridor, and the North Country.

Establishing a program to provide early intervention will let our organization walk the entire developmental journey with children and their parents. What an opportunity for consistency! Children who are school-aged receive benefits of our growing programs too, especially with the assistive technology we can offer them for the classroom. Help doesn't stop there either, as we can guide them through transition services that prepare them for college and the workforce.

So we are determined to see foundational vision services for babies and toddlers provided by more staff members in more areas of the state for more families!

Our education team makes home visits to give information, support, and instruction to young children and their families. We will also ensure that parents and children connect with others through playgroups that offer social interaction and activities to aid early childhood development.



Nancy with one of her youngest clients

**Good People, Like YOU,
Cause Good Things to Happen!**

Within the past year...

3,187 donors gave \$1,118,680 total
1,086 clients received our services
4,490 hours were spent with clients

Save the Date for These Fall 2016 Events

October 25th • Dinner in the Dark •
Rudi's, Portsmouth

November 5th-7th • Ocean Gaming Casino Days •
Ocean Gaming, Hampton

November 7th • Dinner in the Dark •
Giuseppe's, Meredith



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Sight Center Summaries



Seeing the Difference Foundations Make

Foundations are significant contributors to the Association, and it is always a pleasure to highlight what we can do with their help! Peer support groups in Manchester, Concord, and Portsmouth allow participants to share their challenges and experiences as they navigate life with sight loss. These meetings are possible because of funders like the Arthur Getz Charitable Trust, Grimshaw-Gudewicz Charitable Foundation, Lincoln Financial Foundation, Mary Gale Foundation, and the McIninch Foundation – all of which contributed to the program this year.

Read about how the lives of five elderly women have been changed by their monthly support group and other services they receive, thanks to the Mary Gale Foundation. It is evident that these women find strength in one another: sightcenter.org/blog-and-news/support-services.

Taking Steps to Be Part of Our Mission

The Walk for Sight has been a staple at our organization for 13 years now. We are positive that we could not sustain our largest fundraising event without such generous sponsors, numerous volunteers, and enthusiastic walkers, as well as the many members of our board and staff. Everyone who supported us through this event walks beside us in the services we provide. We do not take that for granted and cannot thank you enough!

Want to know exactly what the grand total was? Visit our blog for more on the impressive fundraising efforts, the inventive 2016 walk features, and an important reminder of our impact on lives: sightcenter.org/blog-and-news/special-events.



Top: Mary, who attends the Manchester peer support group, at a special cooking event

Bottom: Representatives from Bank of New Hampshire with the sponsor sign

Want to stay connected with what we're doing?

Volunteer at our organization

- 2017 Walk committee: mchase@sightcenter.org | 603-565-2424
- Regular team member: dfanny@sightcenter.org | 603-565-2409

Keep in touch with us on social media

- Facebook: facebook.com/nhassociationfortheblind
- Twitter: twitter.com/SightCenterNH