

Introduction to The State of New Jersey Department of Human Services



Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

MISSION STATEMENT

- The mission of the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired is to promote and provide services in the areas of education, employment, independence and eye health through informed choice and partnership with persons who are blind or visually impaired, their families and the community.

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

- The NJ Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired helps people who are blind, visually impaired and deaf blind go to work and function independently at school, in their homes and in the community.
- Most people call us “The Commission” or “CBVI”

DID YOU KNOW?

That if you are blind, vision impaired or deaf blind, the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired may be able to assist you with:

- **Vocational Rehabilitation Services** to help you become employable and obtain employment
- **Education Services**, when approved by your school district, to help you succeed in your local public school program
- **Rehabilitation Teaching** to enable you to manage your household and perform task of daily living with impaired vision
- **Orientation and Mobility Instruction** to assist you in traveling independently
- **Eye Health Services** and related instruction for self-care with insulin injections, etc.

DID YOU KNOW?

That the Commission may also be able to:

- **Refer you to community resources for housing, financial assistance, and other supportive services**
 - **Provide information on aids and appliances adapted for your use**
 - **Provide information on peer support groups in your area**
- And**
- **Did you know most CBVI services are provided free of charge?**

Eligibility for CBVI Services

A person may be eligible for services if he or she is experiencing a vision impairment that is affecting his or her ability to perform normal daily life activities.

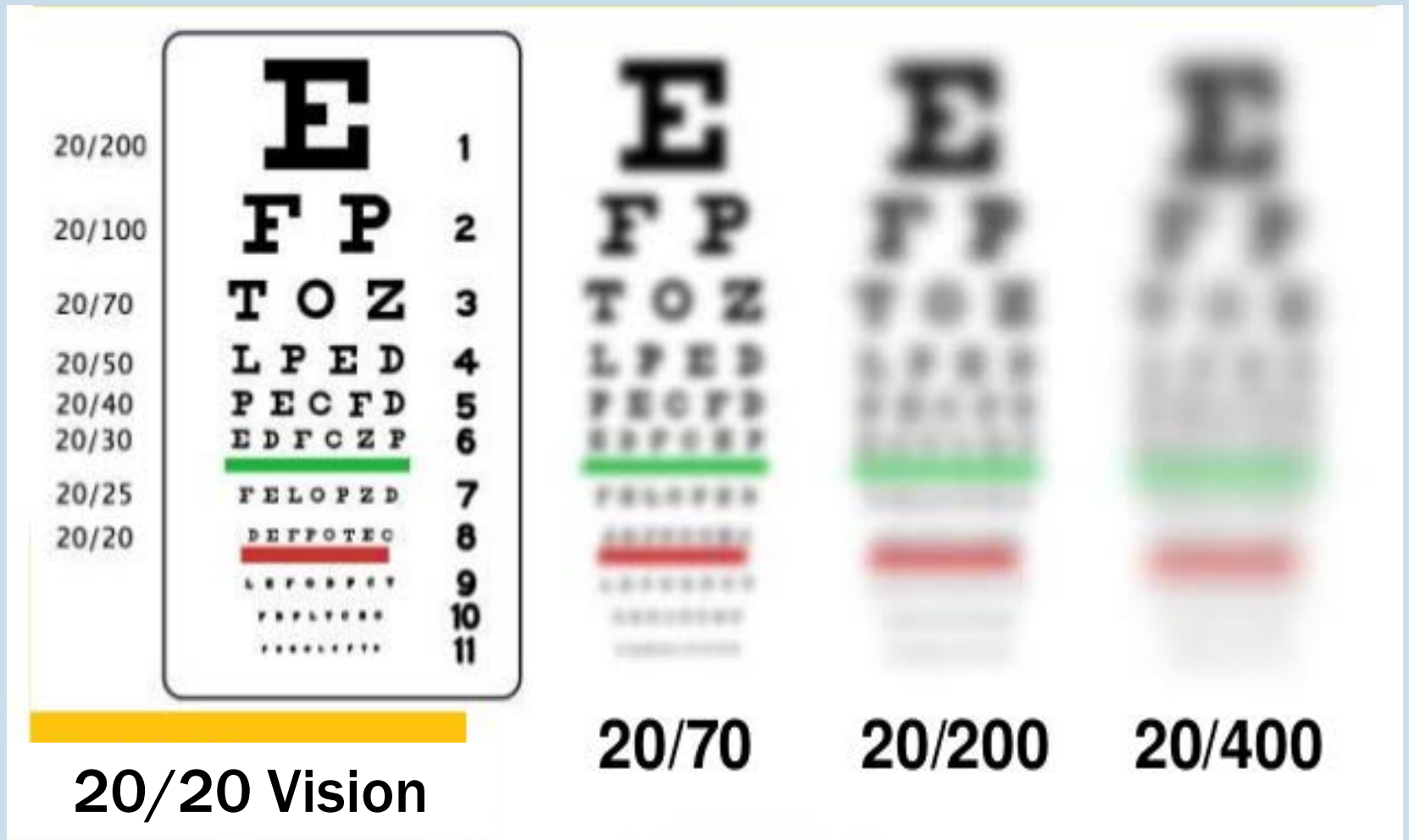


Eligibility for CBVI Services

- **VISUALLY IMPAIRED** means that with the best correction an individual's vision is 20/70 or less in the better eye or has a visual field restriction of 40 degrees.
- **LEGALLY BLIND** means that with the best correction an individual's vision is 20/200 or less in the better eye. Also, an individual is considered legally blind if he or she has a restricted visual field limitation of 20 degrees or less.



Vision Impaired and Legally Blind



Visual Field Restriction



40 Degrees

20 Degrees

10 Degrees

APPLICATION/REFERRAL PROCEDURE



To apply or refer someone for services call :

877-685-8878 or **973-648-3333**



and you will be referred to a local CBVI service center.

Please be prepared to provide the following information:

- Applicant's name, telephone number and Social Security number
- Applicant's address, including county of residence and zip code.

It would also be helpful if you are able to provide:

- Description of applicant's vision impairment
- Name and address of the applicant's eye care professional

Regional Service Centers

Northern Region

153 Halsey Street 5th fl. Newark, NJ 07101

Phone: 973-648-2111

Serving: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex and Warren counties

Central Region

100 Daniels Way, Freehold, NJ 07728

Phone: 732-308-4001

Serving: Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Somerset and Union counties

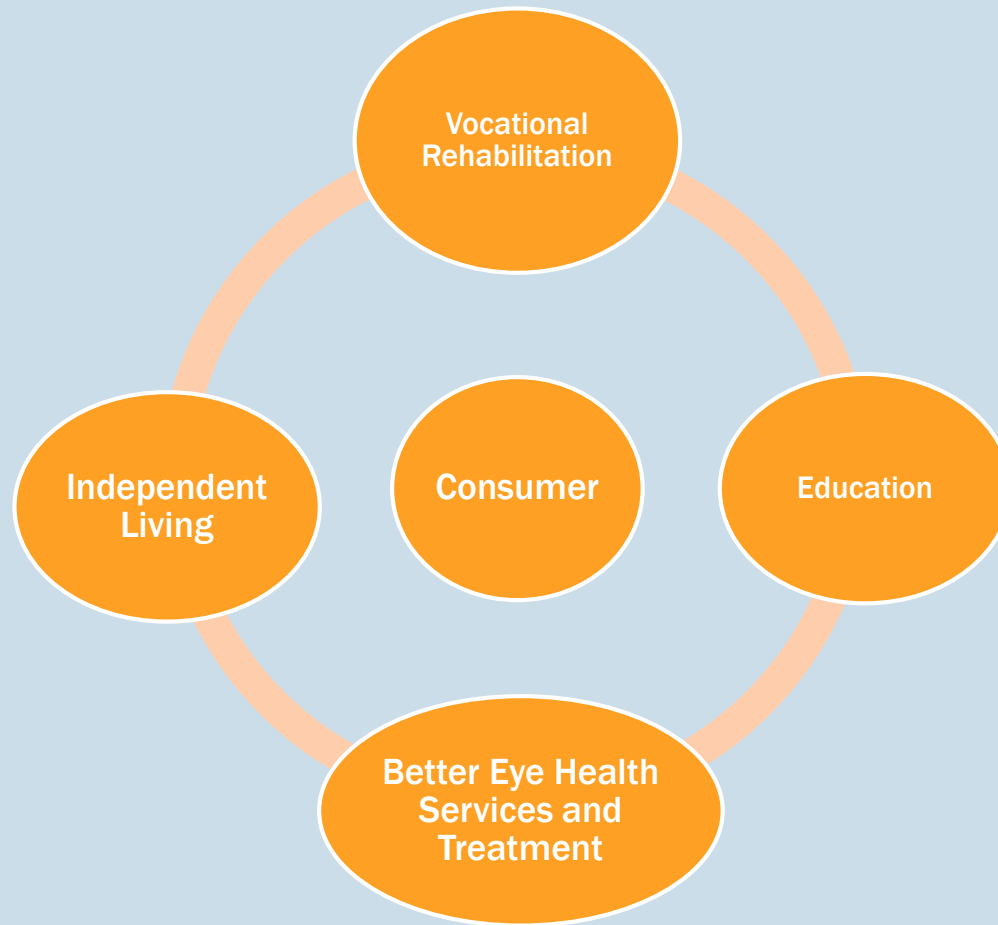
Southern Region

2201 Rt. 38 East, Suite 600, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Phone: 856-482-3700

Serving: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer and Salem counties

CBVI's Consumer Centered Service Programs



Project B.E.S.T.

(Better Eye Health Services and Treatment)

- Diabetes Eye Disease Detection Program
- Community-based Eye Screening Programs
- Vision Screenings for Preschool and School Age Children
- Eye Health Nursing Services



CBVI Eye Health Nurses

Provide:

- Diabetes Education
- Instruction on Adaptive Equipment/Devices (insulin syringes, talking glucose monitors)
- Nutritional Advice
- Monitor Health Care



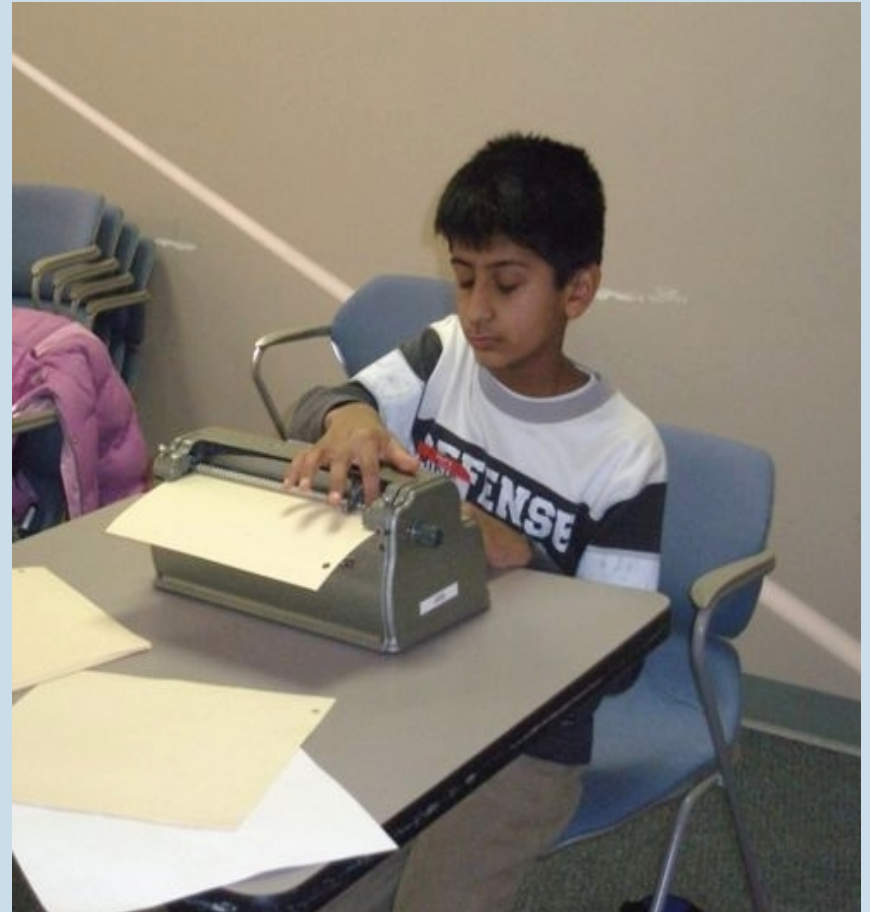
INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

- In Home Instruction in Daily Living Skills
- Instruction for Safe Independent Travel
- Child Care Skills
- Instruction in Communication Methods
- Referral to Community Resources



Blindness Education Program

- Collaboration with Local School Districts
- Comprehensive Itinerant Services Provided by Teachers of the Blind and Vision Impaired
- Focused on Inclusion, Integration and Mainstreaming (Known nationally as “The New Jersey Plan”)



George F. Meyer Instructional Resource Center

- Provides Adaptive Teaching Aids
- Large Print and Braille Textbooks
- Education Materials and Technical Equipment
- Enriching Toys and Developmental Devices
- Assistive Technology



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Infant Services

(BIRTH TO AGE 3)

CBVI provides statewide itinerant education for infants and toddlers (birth to age 3), who are blind, vision impaired, deaf-blind, or multi-disabled with a significant vision impairment and their families. Disability-specific services are provided in the child's natural environment.



SHARP

Students Hands-On Alternative Reinforcement Program

- SHARP is a summer developmental program for students grades 1-8
- Instruction in areas of Braille, assistive technology, travel and skills of daily living



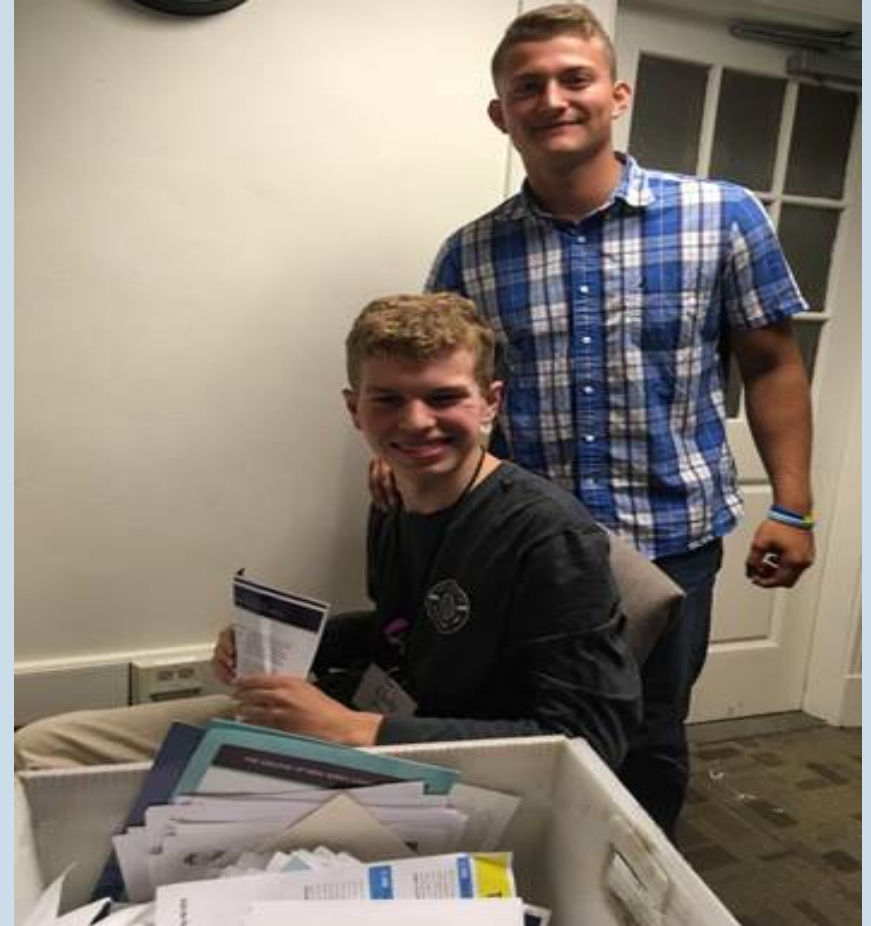
Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR)

- Evaluation
- Counseling and Guidance
- Training
- Job Placement
- Post-Employment
- Supported Employment
- College Counseling/Support
- High School Transition
- Business Enterprises
- Entrepreneurial Program
- Joseph Kohn Training Center

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR)



Supported Employment



HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITIONAL SERVICES

- Serves high school students (14 – 21)
- Career assessment, planning and training
- Includes summer career exploration and college preparatory programs



EDGE PROGRAM

- Program designed for transition students ages 14-21
- EDGE is an interactive program focused on assisting students to become independent, advocate for themselves and find meaningful competitive employment.



College Services

Assists college students with:

- Funding
- Counseling
- Guidance
- Advocacy
- Job Placement



Joseph Kohn Training Center (JKTC)

Instruction Areas Include:

- Activities of Daily Living Skills Instruction
- Orientation and Mobility Instruction
- Kitchen Skills
- Communication Skills
- Braille
- Assistive Technology Skills



Joseph Kohn Training Center (JKTC)

Program also includes:

- Vocational Counseling
- Career Assessment
- Adjustment to Vision Loss Counseling
- Psychological Services
- Social Services
- Community-based work experience



Business Enterprises New Jersey (BENJ)

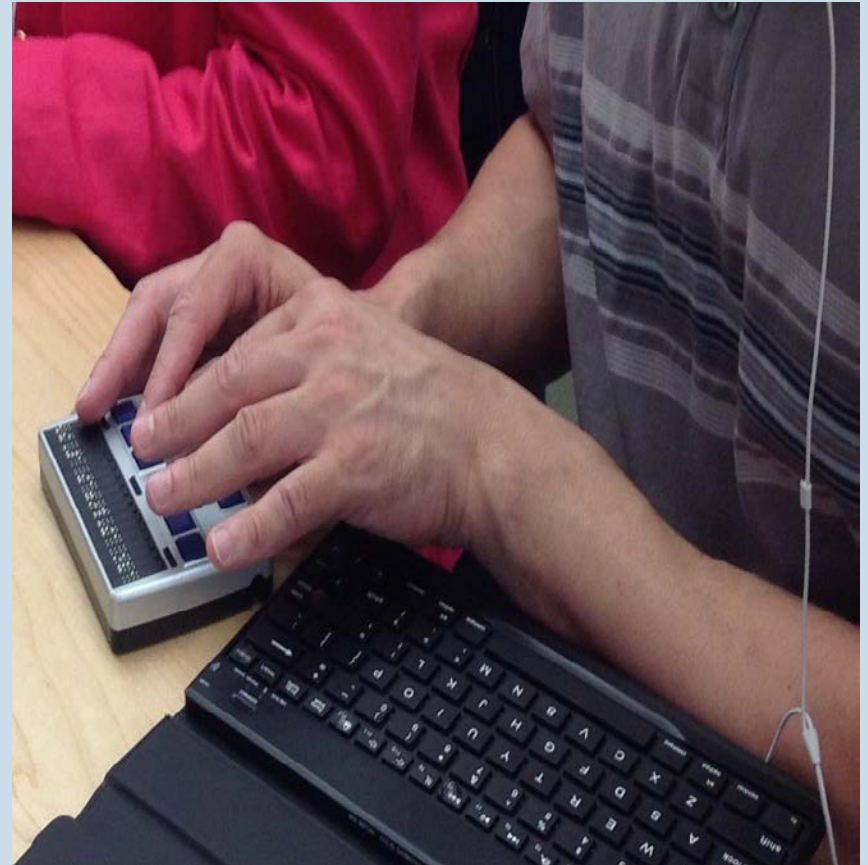
- CBVI administers the federal Randolph-Sheppard Program
- NJ currently has 54 locations managed by individuals who are legally blind
- Locations include: Snack Bars, Cafes/cafeterias, and vending machine locations



Assistive Technology Services (Access Tech)

CBVI offers:

- Recommendations for assistive technology for people who are blind, vision impaired or deaf blind
- Solutions and tips for daily living
- In-depth training to help you get the most out of your technology
- Equipment demonstrations in our Regional Assistive Technology Centers (R-TACs)
- Workplace, classroom or other location visits to assess lighting and equipment placement
- The opportunity for individuals to test different options and solutions



Deaf Blind Services

Assists Individuals who are Deaf Blind or both hearing and vision impaired, their parents, counselors, educators, employers and the community through various services:

- Provision of Functional Vision Assessments
- Participation in Educational Planning
- Employment Counseling and Training
- Assessments and Provision of Specialized Adaptive Equipment
- Community Integration Support
- In-Service Presentations



Contacting CBVI

- By Phone:

877-685-8878 or 973-648-3333

- By E-Mail:

askcbvi@dhs.state.nj.us

- On the Web:

www.cbvi.nj.gov

CBVI Administrative Offices



**Executive Director
Bernice Davis, Psy.D**

**153 Halsey Street
6th floor**

P.O. Box 47017

Newark, NJ 07101

Main Number: 973-648-3333

Toll Free: 877-685-8878

E-Mail: askcbvi@dhs.state.nj.us

Web Site: www.cbvi.nj.gov

DO YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?



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 - www.cbvi.nj.gov
 - Email: askcbvi@dhs.state.nj.us