RESOURCES for SENIOR BLIND and LOW-VISION Kansans

Accessible NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES and BOOKS

Kansas Talking Book Library for Blind and Print Disabled

Toll free: (800) 362-0699

Tel: (785) 296-3296

<https://www.kslib.info/talking>

NFB Newsline®

• An on demand magazine and newspaper audio information service accessed through a robust range of methods such as telephone, computer, and various personal assistance devices including a mobile app for iPhone and iPad.

• Free subscription, eligibility based on blindness, visual impairment, or other print-related impairment.

Toll free: (800) 504-7300

<https://nfbnewslineonline.org>

Kansas Audio Reader Network

• A free newspaper, magazine and other audio information service accessed through closed circuit radio and phone. • Must be determined eligible.

Toll free: (800) 772-8898

Tel: (785) 864-4600

<https://reader.ku.edu>

Air Capital Telephone Reader

• Same service as Audio Reader with primary focus on Wichita-based publications.

Tel: (316) 337-7701

http://aircaptr.org

Benetech Bookshare

• Books available for free download but annual subscription is required.

https://www.bookshare.org/cms/

Audible

• A digital audio book service from Amazon.

• Subscription required; often has special promotions.

<https://www.audible.com>

National Braille Press

• Braille and large print books available for purchase.

Main Number: (617) 266-6160

Toll Free: (888) 965-8965

Bookstore: (800) 548-7323 ext. 520 (toll free US only)

https://www.nbp.org

Braillebooks.org

• A service of National Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults.

Tel: (410) 659-9315

<https://braillebooks.org>

CONSUMER ORGANIZATIONS for BLIND and Low-VISION Kansans

NFB Blind Senior Division

• A division of the National Federation of the Blind

https://seniors.nfb.org

Kansas Blind Senior Division

• A division of the National Federation of the Blind of Kansas

Contact president Dianne Hemphill

Tel: (316) 201-1323

Email: diannehemphill@cox.net

LEGAL Assistance ORGANIZATIONS for BLIND and DISABLED KANSANS

Disability Rights Center (DRC) of Kansas

Tel: (785) 273-9661

Toll free: (877) 776-1541

<https://www.drckansas.org>

Kansas Legal Services

Central intake line: (800) 723-6953

<https://www.kansaslegalservices.or>g

Kansas Advocates for Better Care (KABC)

• Consumer watchdog and advocacy organization for residents of nursing and assistive living facilities.

Tel: (785) 842-3088

Toll free: (800) 525-1782https://kabc.org

Great Plains ADA Center

• Provides basic information and technical assistance re. the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)

Tel: (573) 882-3600

Toll free: (800) 949-4232

https://gpadacenter.org/contact/

BLINDNESS SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMS

Envision USA

(316)440-1600<http://envisionus.org>5

Alphapointe

• Provides job opportunities and rehabilitation services for blind and low-vision people in the KC metro area.Tel: (816) 421-5848

<http://alphapointe.org>

Kansas Rehabilitation Services Wichita region

(316) 337-7059

https://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/Pages/DCFOfficeLocatorMap.aspx?olQuery=county:Sedgwick

KRS Northeast Region

Tel: (296-6656

DCF.NorthEastResourceAgent@ks.gov

(913) 279-7000 (Wyandotte)

[DCF.KCResourceAgent@ks.gov](mailto:DCF.KCResourceAgent@ks.gov)

KRS Johnson County

Tel: (913) 826-7528

Colorado Center for the Blind

Tel: (303) 778-1130

<http://cocenter.org>

Louisiana Center for the Blind

Toll free: (800) 234-4166

Tel: (251-2891

https://www.louisianacenter.org

BLIND Inc.

(800) 597-9558

(612) 872-0100

<https://www.blindinc.org/contact-us/>

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-blind Adults and Youths

Great Plains Region

Tel: (913) 677-4562

BP: (913) 227-4282

https://www.helenkeller.org/locations/great-plains-region/Region

Nebraska Center for the Blind

• A blindness skills training center operated by the Nebraska Commission for the Blind

• Includes training for older adult blind persons.

Main office phone: (402) 471-2891

Toll free: (877) 809-2419

https://ncbvi.nebraska.gov/contact

Guide DOG TRAINING SCHOOLS

The Seeing Eye

Tel: (973) 339-4425

<https://www.seeingeye.org>

KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc.

(785) 325-2256

<http://www.ksds.org>

GUIDE DOGS for the Blind, Inc.

Toll free: (800) 295-4050

Tel: (415) 499-4000

<https://www.guidedogs.com/about-guide-dogs-for-the-blind/meet-guide-dogs-for-the-blind>

GUIDING Eyes for the Blind

Toll free: (800) 942-0149

<https://www.guidingeyes.org>

Leader Dogs for the Blind

Tel: (248) 651-9011

<https://www.leaderdog.org/contact-us/>

Pilot Dogs

Tel: (614) 221-6367

Hyperlink https://www.pilotdogs.org

Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation

Tel: (860) 243-5200

https://fidelco.org/about/contact

ADAPTIVE AIDS, APPLIANCES, GAMES, and HOUSEWARES

NFB Independence Market

Tel: (410) 659-9314

Ext 2216

https://knfbreader.nfb.org/independence-market

Speak To Me Catalog

Call 800-248-9965

[Speak To Me Catalog](https://www.speaktomecatalog.com/index.php)

64 Oz Games

[64 Oz Games Store – 64 Ounce Games (64-ounce-games.myshopify.com)](https://64-ounce-games.myshopify.com/)

Independent Living Aids

[Independent Living Aids](https://independentliving.com/search.php?search_query=games&section=product)

Blind Mice Mart

[Blind Mice Mega Mall](https://www.blindmicemegamall.com/bmm/shop/Search)

Membership is free

They also have a movie vault with described audio movies and tv shows. (no video)

Toll free: (866) 922-8877

The Carroll Center

[(617) 969-6200](tel:6179696200)

* Fax: [(617) 969-6204](tel:6179696204)

[The Carroll Store - Products for Blind and Low Vision](https://carroll.org/store/)

American Foundation for the Blind

[Games and Activities (afb.org)](https://www.afb.org/node/16207/games-and-activities)

The Braille Superstore

Toll-Free Phone:  Toll free: (**800) 987-1231**  
International:  +1 2(

BRAILLE TRANSCRIPTION SERVICES

Kansas Braille Transcription Institute

Main: (316) 265-9692

Fax: (316) 265-0184

<http://kbti.org/contact-us.html>

Independence Inc.

(785) 841-0333https://independenceinc.org

Cindy Ray[cindyray@gmail.com](mailto:cindyray@gmail.com)

Braille Hub USA

Inquire by email to:

Braille Hub USA

Tel: (785) 393-2202

<https://www.braillehubusa.com>

EDUCATION/PERSONAL ENRICHMENT RESOURCES

Hadley School for the BLIND • Offers numerous correspondence courses on a wide range of subjects.

Toll free: (800 323-4238

<https://hadley.edu>

RELIGIOUS and CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

Xavier Society for the Blind (Roman Catholic)

Toll free: (800) 473-7800

<https://xaviersocietyfortheblind.org>

Lutheran Braille Workers

Toll free: (800) 925-6092

Bibles for the Blind

• Features Christian and Secular Resources for the Blind and Materials in Braille

https://www.biblesfortheblind.org/braille.shtml

Lions Clubs International

<https://www.lionsclubs.org>

ACCESS TECHNOLOGY for BLIND and LOW VISION

American Printing House for the Blind

• A technology company featuring portable note-takers, refreshable braille displays, large print magnifiers, etc.

Tel: (502) 895-2405

<https://www.aph.org>...

Freedom Scientific — a division of Vispero, Inc.

• A technology company featuring the JAWS talking screen reader, Zoomtext screen image magnification, the Focus 40 refreshable braille display, etc.

Tel: (727) 803-8000

Toll free: 800) 444-4443

https://www.freedomscientific.com

Nanopac

• A technology sales company featuring a wide variety of assistive devices for blind and low vision

Tel: (918) 665-0329

Toll free: (800) 580-6086

[info@nanopac.com](mailto:info@nanopac.com)

<https://nanopac.com>

The NV Access Group

• Developers of NVDA, an open source screen reader available for free download

• Log into <https://www.nvaccess.org>

AT Guys

• An access technology sales company offering a wide variety of accessible electronics

Tel: (269) 216-4798

<https://www.atguys.com/store/index.php>

Hims, Inc.

• An access technology sales company featuring the BookSense digital book reader and other consumer electronics

Tel: (512) 837-2000

Toll free: (888) 520-4467

<https://hims-inc.com/product-attr/battery/booksense-xt/>

Humanware Inc.

• An access technology sales company featuring the VictorReader Stream digital book reader and other consumer electronics

Toll free: (800) 722-3393

<https://www.humanware.com/en-usa/home>

Commtech USA • An access technology company featuring computer systems, digital book readers and other consumer electronics

Toll free: (833) 345-8324

<https://commtechusa.net/author/ctboss/>

Computers for the Blind

A not-for-profit organization offering affordable refurbished computers with JAWS screenreader soutware pre-installed.

<https://computersfortheblind.org>

NFB Technology Center

• A service of the National Federation of the Blind, providing objective reviews of access technologies for the blind and low vision population and advocating for continuous improvements thereof.

(410) 659-9314 menu option 5

Microsoft Disability Help Line

• Provides troubleshooting for blind and low-vision users of the Microsoft Office suite.

Toll free: (800) 936-5900

<http://microsoft.com>

SMARTPHONES, PERSONAL ASSISTANCE DEVICES, (PAD)and ASSISTIVE APPS

The Apple iPhone

• A smartphone featuring accessible touchscreen technology via the Voiceover native screenreader.

<https://www.apple.com/iphone/?afid=p238%7CsyJOPIO4r-dm_mtid_20925d2q39172_pcrid_674819242537_pgrid_126654827229_pntwk_g_pchan__pexid__&cid=wwa-us-kwgo-iphone--slid---Brand-iPhone-Avail->

Apple iPad

• A PAD featuring accessible touchscreen technology using Voiceover.

<https://www.apple.com/ipad/?afid=p238%7CsMVJtBu8Z-dm_mtid_1870765e38482_pcrid_661421631509_pgrid_101103949416_pntwk_g_pchan__pexid__&cid=aos-us-kwgo-ipad--slid---product->

Google Android

• A smartphone featuring accessible touchscreen technology using the Talkback screenreader.

<https://www.android.com>

Android Tablet PC

• A portable computer featuring accessible touchscreen technology using Talkback.

<https://www.google.com>

Google Chromebook

Virtually identical to the Tablet PC except it is a web-based device.

<http://www.google.com>

Lively® Jitterbug

• A mobile phone featuring a 24/7 help access function optimized for seniors and people with disabilities

https://www.lively.com /

Blindshell®

• A simplified mobile phone optimized for blind and low vision people

blindshelhttps://www.blindshell.com

Be My Eyes Mobile App

• An assistance app for helping with a wide range of tasks such as short reading, identifying colors, and describing the layout of a room.

• Available for free download on iOS and android devices.

AIRA mobile app

• same as Be My Eyes except it is staffed by hired agents whereas Be My Eyes is staffed by volunteers.

• Available for free download on iOS and android devices.

CashReader mobile app

• Scans and reads US, Canadian, EU, and various foreign currencies

• Available for download on iOS and android devices, purchase required for installation.

BlindSquare mobile app

• identifies surrounding locations and customizable points of interests, e.g., stores, restaurants, bus stops, etc.

• Available for download on iOS and android devices.

KNFB Reader mobile app

• A document scan and read app for documents

• Available for download on iOS and android devices.

Prismo mobile app

• An app for scanning and reading documents

• Available for download on IOS and android devices.

VD Scan mobile app

• A document and photo scanning app available for download on iOS and android devices.

VoiceDream reader mobile app

• A document reading app which complements VDScan but the two apps must be installed separately.

• Available for download on iOS and android devices.

Colorino mobile app

• Identifies colors of clothing, furniture, and other objects

\*\* Reliability is variable depending on lighting and other environmental conditions.

• Available for download on iOS and android devices.

Soundscape mobile app by Microsoft

• Enables navigational assistance both by verbal announcements of buildings, bus stops, etc., and emits audible beeptones.

• Available for free download on iOS and android devices.

Scriptalk mobile app by Envision America

• enables reading prescription drug containers via barcode label affixed to the bottom of the drug container.

• Available through participating pharmacies.

• More information available by logging into https://envisionamerica.org

Taptap See mobile app for iOS and android devices

• Enables blind users to take and retain pictures by announcing verbal descriptions.

SEEING AI by Microsoft

• Multi-tifunctional assistive app which performs a wide range of tasks such as scanning and reading documents and product labels, currency identification, room light detection, facial description, etc.

• Available for download on iOS and android devices.

NLS BARD mobile app

• Enables download and customized listening of audio books and reading of digital braille books.

• Requires eligibility for Library of Congress Talking Books based on blindness, visual impairment, or other print-related disability.

• Contact your regional library for further information and application.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES for seniors and the DISABLED

Gogo Grandparent

• A dialup service for requesting transportation from rideShare services such as Uber and Lyft

• Useful for those who don’t use a smartphone.

Phone: (855) 464-6872 (855−GOGO-USA

<https://gogograndparent.com/services/rides-for-seniors>

Wichita Transit

Provides both fixed route and paratransit services

• Requires Certification of eligibility based on finding of transportation-related disability.

Tel: (316) 265-7221

<https://www.wichitatransit.org/Pages/default.aspx>

First Presbyterian Transportation Service

• An outreach ministry for church members and the broader Wichita senior and disability community.

• Provides door to door service for an annual subscription fee of $20 for church members and $30 for nonmembers plus $3 per ride.

• Scheduling availability limited due to small fleet size, depends on volunteer drivers.

• No wheelchair lift available.

Tel: (316) 267-1675

https://firstchurchwichita.org/impact/transportation

Reno County Area Transit (RCAT)

• Provides fixed route and paratransit services for residents of Hutchinson and South Hutchinson.

•Requires certification of disability based on transportation-related disabilities.

Tel: (620) 694-2913

CityGo General Public Transportation (Salina KS)

Provides fixed route and paratransit services for those with disabilities

•Requires certification of transportation-related impairment

<https://salinacitygo.com/salinacitygo/>

OCCK Transportation

• Provides transportation for those with disabilities in Saline County and surrounding communities.

Tel: (785) 826-1583

Toll free: 577-4337 (KSRIDES)

Topeka Metro

• Features fully accessible buses equipped with entry ramp, wheelchair lift, and automated verbal stop announcements.

• features on demand microbus service.

Customer service line: (785) 783-7000

<https://topekametro.org>

Lawrence Transit

• Features fixed route, paratransit, overnight service except for Sundays, and a new on demand service.

• All services free as of 1/1/2023.

Tel: (785) 864-4644

<http://lawrencetransit.org>

Kansas City Area Transit Authority (KCATA)

• A regional bistate community transit system covering the KC metro area.

• Features fixed route, shuttle, streetcars, and trolleys.

Tel: (816) 221-0660

<http://www.kcata.org>

Johnson County Transit “The Jo”

• Provides transit service throughout Johnson County with connections to downtown Kansas City Kansas and Missouri

Tel: (913) 782-y2210

<https://ridekc.org/region/johnson-county-transit>

OTHER RESOURCES

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Free accessible Covid test kits for blind and low vision

Order online through <https://special.usps.com/testkits/accessible>

Tel: (800) 232-0233

Produced and compiled by the National Federation of the Blind of Kansas

http://nfbks.org