



Annual Report 2010



- Affiliated member of United Way of Central Ohio
- National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving People with Blindness or Visual Impairment

Message from the President,
Board of Directors,
Vision & Vocational Services

During 2010, Vision & Vocational Services (VVS) provided valuable services and resources to over 1,300 individuals with disabilities throughout the state of Ohio. The tough economic times placed greater demand on the need for services. Through a series of changes within the organization, VVS was able to realign our operations to better meet the demand for services with our available resources. It was definitely a year of transition for us to develop a new model for the delivery of services to so many people in need.

Like any good organization or business, VVS has had to change with the times. In 1927, VVS began as the National Association for Blind Artists. Over the years, VVS expanded its focus and implemented many name changes. Throughout all these changes, VVS mission has remained focused on providing quality services to individuals with disabilities.

Whether a person was in need of a low vision eye examination, orientation and mobility training to maneuver their environment, daily living aids to help them remain independent, job training, or assistance with career development, etc., VVS has always been there to fill that need. We could not do what we do without the donor support and participation of many businesses and people within our community. I thank you for your support and hope you will remain supportive in the future.

As we move into 2011, Vision & Vocational Services is well positioned to address individual needs and continue our efforts to bring about hope and success for the many people we serve. In 2010, we were able to build relationships with many other service providers and we hope to further strengthen these in 2011 to reach more individuals in need. On behalf of all the staff, volunteers and my fellow board members, we appreciate your support in helping so many people with a chance to improve their lives and gain independence.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Haubiel

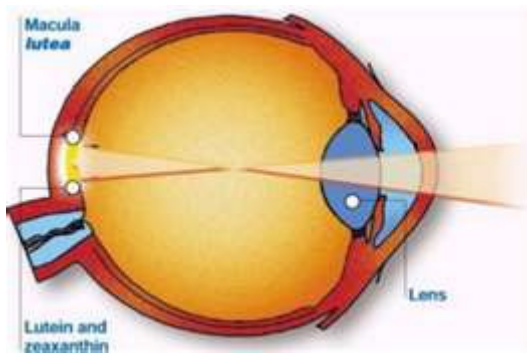
Charles W. Haubiel, II
President
Board of Directors
Vision & Vocational Services

Our Mission

“As a leader in restoring hope, we strive to assist persons with visual or other disabilities to enhance the quality of their lives and increase their independence by providing comprehensive, individualized rehabilitation services, using innovative methods, technology and community partnerships.”

Our Programs and Services

Vision & Vocational Services (VVS) offered the following programs and services in 2010 throughout central, eastern, southern Ohio and northern West Virginia.



Low Vision Services:

Our three Optometrists and Low Vision Therapist provided clinical evaluations for clients referred to us for low vision needs. Functional evaluations were conducted on individuals as well as the clinical evaluations. The clinical evaluations provided the referral sources with detailed information on the clients' visual condition while the functional evaluations provided the client and

referral source with low vision aids or devices. Functional evaluations also helped determine how a person can live their lives more independently, return or remain working in their communities.

Our optometrist worked with Nationwide Children's Hospital, the Veterans Administration, Madison Correctional Facility through the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, and the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission in 2010. In addition, clients from Ohio's Bureau of Workers' Compensation, The Ohio State University, College of Optometry, Medicaid and a number of private ophthalmological offices were seen. Altogether, VVS staff members worked with over 500 individuals with blindness or visual impairments in 2010. These individuals received services or aids totaling approximately \$794,690 during this time period.

Besides clinical and functional evaluations and services, clients with visual impairments or blindness were able to participate in the following programs or services within VVS.

Independent Living/Community Rehabilitation Services

This program provided rehabilitation services to adults aged 55 and older with vision problems that impact daily living or social function. Statistics provided by Prevent Blindness Ohio indicate that there are 1,259,000 Ohioans with vision problems. By the year 2030, those numbers will almost double to 2.5 million Ohioans afflicted with vision robbing conditions. (Source: Ohio Census Data). Our professional staff

members provided the following services, aids and assessments to help individuals gain or remain independent in their communities; Functional Low Vision Assessments, Clinical Low Vision Exams, Low Vision Aids, Daily Living Aids, Orientation & Mobility Services, Training in the Use of Various Aids and Appliances, and Rehabilitation Teaching.



Individual reading Braille

The specific benefits people gained from these services include; self-confidence, reduced dependence and reliance upon spouse and other family members, more efficient and satisfying daily life, the ability to remain in one's home or in an assisted-living environment rather than living in a nursing home or other total care facility, reduced dependence on public assistance or other service organizations such as the public health system or the Passport Program, improved self-respect, personal dignity, and improved mental health, the ability to continue or resume activities within one's community.

In 2010, 376 persons received services through the Independent Living Older Blind Program. Of those served, 58% of the individuals were age 80 to 100 years old. A total of \$258,906 was allocated on services and equipment for these individuals through funds from the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission.

Individuals in 18 counties received these services. Counties included; Clinton, Coshocton, Delaware, Franklin, Guernsey, Knox, Licking, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Morgan, Morrow, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pickaway, Pike and Union counties.

Letter from a son...

"My mother has had dry macular degeneration for several years. Her vision had gotten to the point where she could not read, and had to rely on others for nearly everything vision related. Today, we visited with the professionals at the Vision and Vocational Services and they were so helpful. They did detailed assessments, and teaching, and shared so much information. They also provided some equipment for her home use. I can tell you, today was like Christmas morning for kids who believe in Santa. She is so happy with her new equipment and the training to use it, and I left her in her apartment, reading a book for the first time in over a year. Her whole attitude about life is positive and good now. THANK YOU for everything."

Bioptic Driving Program

This program provided training for qualified individuals to become licensed to drive with the aid of a specialized spectacle mounted telescope. A candidate for this program was required to have a stable eye condition and undergo a thorough screening for eligibility.

Personal Adjustment & Orientation and Mobility services

These two services provide one-on-one instruction in acquiring daily living skills and learning to travel independently and safely. VVS staff

members worked with various school districts throughout Ohio, the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission, Veterans Administration, Madison Corrections Facility, and a number of other referral sources to deliver these services. In 2010, VVS was able to serve over 63 persons under this program using \$94,000.



Person using travel cane to maneuver the landscape.

Computer Adaptive Evaluations & Comparative Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Evaluations

Just as technology has expanded the world for many people, it has greatly enhanced the abilities of persons with disabilities to function independently and develop social bonds within their communities and throughout the world.



The Eye-Pal SOLO LV reads aloud almost anything printed; books, newspapers, magazines, mail, and cookbooks, quickly and easily.

VVS staff members provided hands-on evaluations on various software and hardware to persons with disabilities over the past year. Technology, such as screen readers and screen magnification helped persons with low vision with improved access to computers, internet, Facebook, and Twitter.

Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTV's) are electronic devices that magnify print onto a screen. Many individuals of all ages were evaluated this past year so they could see which units helped them the most in their reading. With many models on the market, this evaluation helps identify which CCTV may be most valuable for a client's personal, educational, or vocational needs.

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Our Vocational Rehabilitation Services team was involved with a variety of services to assist persons with disabilities reach their goals and independence. Individuals from throughout Ohio and several counties in northern West Virginia were referred to VVS for these services. In total, our Vocational Rehabilitation Services unit served just over 1,000 persons in 2010.

Peggy received help through our Vocational Rehabilitation Programming

Peggy had just been released from prison after serving 16 months, and was desperately looking to find work. She was looking for someone to give her a second chance. She was depressed and struggled with the fact that she couldn't find work due to her criminal record, and that she had been out of the work force for so long. Her Parole Officer recommended her to the Ohio

Rehabilitation Services Commission (ORSC), and she chose Vision & Vocational Services to provide her that second chance.

Upon receiving her referral, Peggy was scheduled to begin a 4-week Community Based Work Assessment (CBWA) at a group work site. According to VVS employee Stacy Young, “from the moment I met Peggy, I could tell she wanted to work, and wanted that chance to prove herself. She did just that!

Peggy was a hard worker from her very first day! She was friendly, motivated, and always willing to do what was needed to move forward. She struggled with depression and many other issues which made her goals seem far away at times. With each success her depression appeared to improve. She was pleasant to be around, and great to talk with. Everyone at the work site would make comments on how well she worked, and how friendly she was. She even got the attention of the General Manager. He commented on how well she worked, and how much she was liked by the hotel staff. The GM of the hotel inquired about hiring her on as an employee of the hotel. I spoke with Peggy's ORSC counselor and she was approved for a four- week Work Adjustment program to help her overcome the few barriers remaining. Her major goal in this program was to prove to herself she was able to succeed. She worked very hard everyday, even when dealing with her ill mother. She never missed work, was never late, and was always clean and appropriately dressed for work. She was offered a position as a Breakfast Hand, Housekeeper, and Laundry Aide. Peggy is very excited to start working for them, and I know she will not let them down.

She has shown she is hard working and valuable.” Peggy stated:

"If it wasn't for Vision & Vocational Services, I would not have gotten the second chance I needed so bad. They helped me believe in myself and in other people caring about me."

Peggy is truly a success story and an example of why this program is successful. If a person is willing to believe in themselves and take on the challenges they face, VVS wants to be there for their second chance.

Vocational Rehabilitation Program Services

Individuals entering the Vocational Rehabilitation portion of our operations received the following services.

Assessments

Individuals were referred to VVS by the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission, Veterans Administration, various local school districts, county agencies and other not-for-profit organizations as well as employers. Persons with disabilities received a vocational assessment. Persons might receive a one day or three-week assessment of a person's skills and strengths. Completed either individually, in a small-group setting, or in a competitive work setting such as a hotel or restaurant, the evaluation is a variety of academic testing, career exploration, work sampling, aptitude testing, and assessments of work skills. Job goals, training recommendations and barriers to employment are determined.

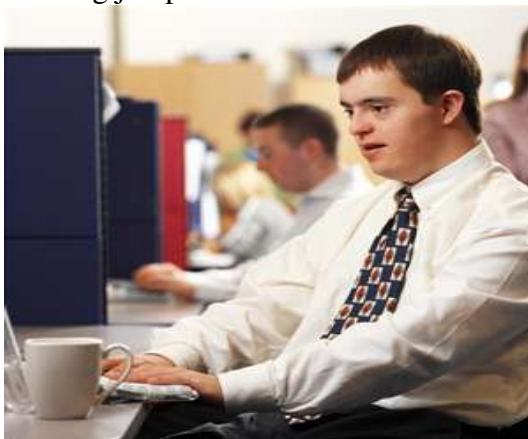
Workshop Services

Vision & Vocational Services also was able to provide persons assessment situations within our Workshop Services unit. Within this unit, qualified persons with disabilities perform assembly, packaging and inspection tasks for various employers. Persons with disabilities are provided jobs with meaningful work and pay while employers are provided quality products in a timely fashion. This model serves as a win-win for all.

In 2010, VVS worked with the following businesses; Mettler Toledo, Net Jets, PSB Company, Vanner Weldon McDaniels, Ohio Industries for the Handicapped, Mid State, and Cable Ties Kingswood.

Work Adjustment services

Work adjustment services provided temporary paid work training in community-based or a facility setting for persons with disabilities. The goal was to help people become job ready before entering job placement services.



Developing work skills

Job Development and Placement Services

Although 2010 was a difficult time period for job placement for all persons, it was more difficult for those with disabilities to find employment. Our job

developers worked hard to assist with putting together resumes, preparing clients for job interviews, connecting job candidates with job opening leads, assisting clients with submitting job applications, setting up and attending interviews, and providing as much help as possible so individuals with disabilities attained employment.

In addition, once the client was placed into a job, VVS staff members worked to make sure that needed supports were available. Our job development staff worked closely with businesses and human resource personnel to make sure the clients hiring, orientation and job accommodation needs were in place for a successful outcome. In 2010, 172 clients served by VVS staff members went through these types of services. Of those individuals placed into jobs, the average wage earned by workers was \$8.29 per hour and clients worked on average 27.25 hours per week.

Job Coaching Services

Services do not stop at job development/placement. Depending on the clients needs, VVS staff members are available to provide as much support and training as necessary, while encouraging independence on the job for the client. VVS staff worked with businesses to understand each part of the job duties and make sure clients are able to accomplish these duties independently. As a person gains skill and confidence in their abilities to do the job, the coach's involvement gradually fades until full independence on the job is attained. Again, employers appreciate this extra assistance and clients are positioned to be successful through these services. In 2010, VVS served 180 persons with job coaching services.



Visually impaired employee uses assistive technology software to perform job duties

VRP3 (Transitional Youth Program)

VVS collaborates with the Ohio State School for the Blind (OSSB) and the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission (ORSC) to provide case services, resources and equipment to youth who are blind or visually impaired in the following counties; Franklin, Delaware, Fairfield, Athens and Licking. Youth, ages 14 to 22 were provided assistance in career exploration, interpersonal skill development, work experiences, etc. In 2010, VVS was able to serve 53 youth through this program using approximately \$189,000 in funding from ORSC and matching funds from OSSB and VVS.

Highlights of the Year **2010**

January-December 2010: Many groups such as the Blind Bowlers League and the American Council of the Blind-Ohio Chapter held various organizational meetings throughout the year at our facilities.

January-April 2010: VVS was the recipient of a Caremark Grant for \$80,000. The grant provided VVS with

the ability to distribute low vision aids and equipment to persons throughout Ohio

January-May 2010: The Ohio State University, College of Optometry and VVS collaborated on a postdoctoral study in regards to the Bioptic Driving Program and an examination of the success of individuals in the program.

January-July 2010: VVS and The Osteopathic Foundation teamed to provide funding for remodeling and development within the VVS facilities. Various organizations contributed to the project.



Aids that help people work

January 2010-December 2010: Our Low Vision staff worked in partnership with Nationwide Children's Hospital to provide clinical and functional assessments of children with vision issues. Over the year, 40 children benefited from these services.

March 6, 2010: Our Spring Swing gala was held at the Ohio Statehouse. The evening featured great speakers, good food and a silent auction.

June-August 2010: VVS and The Ohio State University, Nisonger Center joined forces to provide job coaching services to youth who were gaining work internships.

June-August 2010: The Ohio State School for the Blind, Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission and VVS worked in unison to conduct a Summer, Work & Learn Program for students transitioning from high school to college or work. Students with blindness or visual impairments were provided paid work internships at various businesses within throughout Ohio.

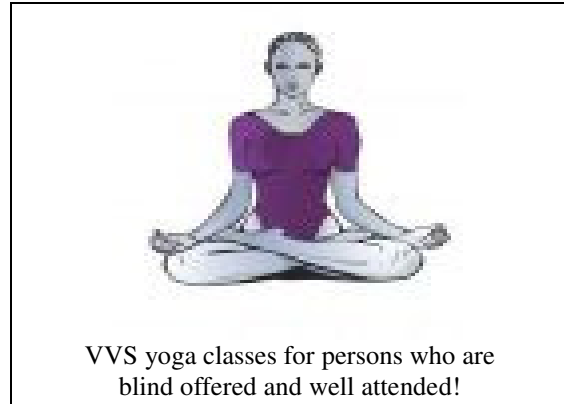


Teens transitioning to the world of work

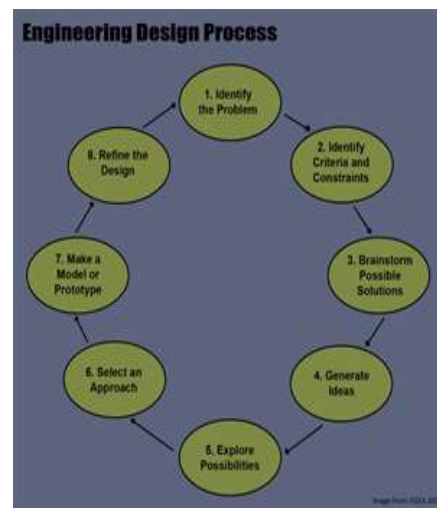
August 2010: VVS staff members hosted a Stepping Stones Program aimed at helping youth, ages 14 to 17 years of age, who are blind or visually impaired gain a better understanding of living independently and the world of work.

August 16, 2010: The Third Annual Michael Morrison Memorial Golf Tournament was held at the New Albany Country Club. A catered lunch, buffet dinner, door prizes and giveaways supported a great day of golfing on the showcase golf course in New Albany.

September-November 2010: Local Yoga Instructor, Lara Fahlberg offered yoga classes at our facilities for individuals who are blind. Classes were offered once per week and the class size grew as time passed.



September 2010: VVS and the Tony R. Wells Foundation partnered on a project to identify a cause or practical solution to an issue, develop a business model, create a solution, and launch a product to address the problem or cause. VVS, the Toney Wells Foundation and The Ohio State University, Social Innovation and Commercialization, Engineering Education Innovation Center, College of Engineering are in the midst of developing a product. Stay tuned to our website for more information as this develops.



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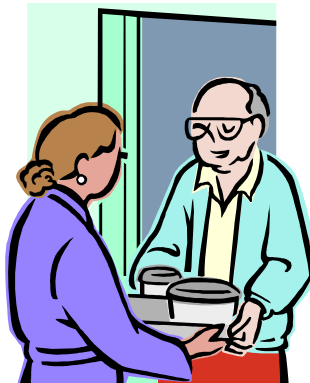
American Electric Power

Vision & Vocational Staff members as of April 20, 2011

Name	Title
Columbus Office	
Angle, Nancy	Billing Clerk
Cahill, Pat	Accounts Receivables Clerk
Gansl, Karen	Low Vision Therapist
Hanes, Michael	Co-Executive Director, Chief Operating Officer
Hart Sarah	Accounts Payable Clerk
Liwosz, Debbie	Rehabilitation Teacher
Lundy, Cheryl	Work Evaluator, Billing Clerk
Mayer, Andrew	Work-Study Student
Miller, Steve	Job Coach/Developer
Pitchford, Cathern	Assistive Technology Specialist
Richards, Mark	Workshop, Assessment, VRP3 Manager,
Schmidt, Lisa	Appointment Scheduler/Inventory Specialist
Sheerer, Elsa	Administrative Assistant, Low Vision Services
Turner, Robert	Co-Executive Director, Chief Financial Officer
Wippel, Peggy	Rehabilitation Teacher
Wolford, D'Ann	VRP3 Counselor
Yoest, Sarah	Optometrist
Field Operations	
Vandine, Lucia	Director, Vocational Rehabilitation Programs
Edwards, Trudi	Coordinator, Vocational Rehabilitation Programs
Young, Stacy	Job Coach/Developer
Bowers, Reed	Job Coach/Developer
Mooney, Stephen	Job Coach/Developer
Sloan, Lessie	Job Coach/Developer
Dowling, Linda	Job Coach/Developer
Dowling, Aubrey	Job Coach/Developer
Baynham, Jim	Job Coach/Developer
Conrad, Peggy	Job Coach/Developer/Work Evaluator
Conrad, Joey	Job Coach/Developer

Vision & Vocational Services Volunteers

We thank all our volunteers for their generous donations of time and talents. Volunteers enable us to offer more unique services to our clients. In return, we hope to provide volunteers with opportunities that they can cherish over time.



**We make a living by what we get, but we make a life
by what we give. ~Winston Churchill**

Vision & Vocational Services Fiscal Highlights 2010

Like many organizations, 2010 was a year which required Vision & Vocational Services to conduct an examination of our operations, programs and services. Aligning expenditures with our funding base was a key initiative so many costs saving measures were introduced during the year to better align the costs of providing services with the associated revenues. These actions have positioned VVS with a solid foundation to begin to refocus and re-allocate resources to new programs and services needed by persons with disabilities in our communities.

Sources of Funds: (\$ in 000s)

ORSC fees for service	\$1,741
Other service fees	263
United Way of Central Ohio	169
Sales	143
Contributions	119
Investment income	49
Miscellaneous	43
Total Operating Income	\$2,527

Expenses: (\$ in 000s)

Salaries, Benefits, & Travel	\$2,017
Purchases for resale	221
Occupancy	214
Subcontractors	123
Professional fees	76
Fundraising	30
Printing & supplies	29
Miscellaneous	22
Total Operating Expenses	\$2,732

Major contributors to VVS in 2010 included:

- United Way of Central Ohio
- Big Lots
- Nationwide Insurance Company
- Grange Insurance Company
- WBNS-10TV
- Huntington Bank
- HLS MedFreight
- Barnes & Thornburg, LLP
- Navigator Management Partners
- The Old Trail Printing Company
- National City Bank
- Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
- Carlile, Patchen & Murphy, LLP
- Schottenstein, Zox and Dunn Co LPA

Being responsive to each donor's contribution and utilizing those dollars to benefit the greatest number of people will be of primary importance as we move forward.

<p>Help Make a Difference</p> <p>Your Donation Means so Much</p>
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When you give to Vision & Vocational Services, your gift provides something invaluable to the clients with disabilities we serve-increased independence.

Whether a 78-year-old woman with age-related macular degeneration is able to "re-learn" to use her kitchen safely, or a 35-year-old man with a back injury finds a job that accommodates his disability after years without employment, our rehabilitation professionals are dedicated to promoting independence.

Gifts from individuals and corporations, as well as generous bequests, allow us to continue to provide these important services. Together we will help alleviate the barriers that often prevent people with disabilities from achieving their personal and professional goals.

**On Behalf of Vision & Vocational Services Board
members, dedicated staff, volunteers and persons with
disabilities**

THANK YOU!!!