



## **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Mobility Specialist for the Blind, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind Cole County November 1, 2018**

The Family Support Division, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind is seeking applications for a Mobility Specialist for the Blind. This position is based in the Cole County/Jefferson City Rehabilitation Services for the Blind District #2 Office located at 3418 Knipp Dr, A-2, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

This is specialized and skilled work in providing adjustment services, orientation to surroundings and travel training to blind and visually impaired persons who receive services from the Rehabilitation Services for the Blind, Division of Family Services. An employee in this class has responsibility for training blind and visually impaired persons so they will achieve the confidence and skills necessary to travel independently from one location to another in a safe, efficient and socially acceptable manner. Supervision is received from a District Supervisor, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind or other designated administrative superior.

**JOB DUTIES:** The following are the responsibilities of this position but not limited to:

- Assess blind and visually impaired persons, including those with multiple disabilities, to determine their understanding of spatial and directional concepts and their physical and emotional capability to participate in a planned sequential course of training in orientation and mobility.
- Provide orientation of blind and visually impaired persons to the surroundings in which they live and/or work.
- Communicate to clients and other significant persons information regarding the physical, psychological, social, educational, economic and employment implications of blindness.
- Teach blind and visually impaired persons the correct techniques for accessing various modes of public transportation (taxis, busses, trains, airplanes, etc.).
- Prepare and teach the use of tactile, Braille and auditory maps.
- Teach blind and visually impaired persons the effects of various weather conditions on the environment and how to travel in those conditions (i.e., the effect of wind, rain, or snow on traffic sounds; ice or sleet on sidewalks).
- Assist clients in obtaining alternatives to cane travel (i.e., guide dogs, electronic aids and optical aids).
- Train the client in the use of remaining vision, whenever applicable.
- Teach cane techniques such as arc, rhythm step, shore lining, touch and slide, diagonal, methods of locating stationary landmarks or other points of reference; how to judge traffic and intersection patterns in both residential and business areas and how to negotiate curbs and uneven terrains.
- Observe the posture, gait, body movements and other gross motor techniques of blind and visually impaired persons, assesses the specific implications for travel and teaches

correct posture, gait, body movements and other gross motor techniques necessary for learning and using travel skills.

- Determine the appropriate type and length of cane for each client (when necessary cuts cane to desired length) and teaches client to determine when cane tips need to be changed and how to change them. Interprets state statutes related to services and legal rights of blind and visually impaired persons to clients, other consumers and the general public.

**Qualifications:** Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with specialization in orientation and mobility, teaching the blind and visually impaired, rehabilitation teaching, special education, occupational therapy, physical therapy or closely related areas. (Specialization in other fields of study must be accompanied by a minimum of two years supervised experience in teaching blind and/or visually impaired persons).

**SALARY RANGE:** Annual salary range \$36,924.00- \$52,116.00

**HOW TO APPLY** Individuals who meet the required qualifications as specified above and are interested in this position must fill out the DSS Application at <https://dss.mo.gov/hrc/pdf/mo886-1315.pdf>, resume and any applicable transcripts by email or fax to Jonni Clark at (573) 751-4723 or [Jonni.Clark@dss.mo.gov](mailto:Jonni.Clark@dss.mo.gov) . When emailing your application to Ms. Clark; please specify which position and county you are applying for.

If you have questions regarding this position, please contact **Katy Cawdron** at **573-751-3434**.

**RECRUITMENT AREA:** Accepting Applications from all qualified candidates.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

**Applications will be subjected to review prior to scheduling interviews**

**\*\*\* Experience Working with Blind or Visually Impaired Persons is preferred but not required\*\*\***

**DSS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**