Where to Get More Information

If you have questions not answered in this handbook, you may want to contact a member of the Heartland Council of the Blind or Oklahoma Council of the Blind. You can do this by calling the information provided below.

We have listed possible sources for additional information below in two sections.

- **The first section includes agencies and organizations focusing on people with vision loss.**
- **The second section lists some suppliers of equipment and technology that may be helpful.**
- **This information is provided for your consideration and is not an**

endorsement by the Heartland Council or Oklahoma Council of the Blind.

Resources, Products and Services for People with Vision Loss

Agencies, Organizations, Services

- **Division of Visual Services**
  Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services
  3535 NW 58th Street, Suite 500
  Oklahoma City, OK 73112-4815
  (405) 951-3400 Voice and TTY
  (800) 845-8476 Voice and TTY
  Website: www.okdrs.gov

  To locate the office nearest to you, please phone (800) 487-4042, press

"1" for Visual Services and enter your five-digit zip code when requested.

- Vocational rehabilitation services (help to prepare for, get or keep a job).

- Instructional services to help individuals with low vision or blindness to learn skills, techniques and resources for living independently and working.
- Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (OLBPH).
- Business Enterprise Program (vending facility management).
- Older Blind Program for age 55 and over provides help in adjusting to vision loss, learning new skills for

living independently, and finding resources in the community.

- Older Blind Support Groups.
- Services for individuals with both vision and hearing loss.

Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
Division of Visual Services
Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services
300 NE 18th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
(405) 521-3514
(800) 523-0288
(405) 521-4582 Fax
(405) 521-4672 TTY
Website: www.library.state.ok.us

Provides talking books, periodicals and Braille books on loan.

- Provides talking book players.
- Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM) Center provides educational materials for children and youth with visual disabilities.
- Audio access to major newspapers through National Federation of the Blind (NFB) Newsline.

Oklahoma School for the Blind
3300 Gibson
Muskogee, OK 74403
(918) 781-8200
(877) 229-7136
(918) 781-8300 Fax
Website: http://osb.k12.ok.us/

- A residential and day school for children and youth with visual impairments.
- Statewide resource for the education of blind and visually impaired children in public schools.

Oklahoma Council of the Blind (OCB)
P.O. Box 1476
Oklahoma City, OK 73101
(877) 578-6212
Website: www.okcb.org

- Statewide organization of individuals with visual impairments, their families and friends.
- Activities include public education on blindness, advocacy, social events,

resource information and peer support.

- Advocacy interests include transportation, education, Braille, rehabilitation, employment, assistive technology, accessibility, support services and civil rights.
- Affiliate of the American Council of the Blind, www.acb.org.

OCB Chapters (See Support Groups and Organizations listing for detailed info).

- Heartland Council of the Blind (central Oklahoma and Lawton area)
- Lawton HCB
- Tulsa Council of the Blind
- Muskogee Council of the Blind

National Federation of the Blind of Oklahoma

457 N. Blackwelder
Edmond, OK 73034
(405) 600-0695
Website: www.nfbok.org

- **Statewide organization of blind individuals. Provides public education, issues advocacy, information on blindness.**

- **State affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind, Website: www.nfb.org.**

NFB of OK chapters (See Support Groups and Organizations listing for detailed info)

- **Central Oklahoma Chapter**
- **Northeast Oklahoma Chapter**
- **Brady District Chapter**
- **Muskogee Chapter**
- **South Central Oklahoma Chapter**
- **West Central Chapter**

Oklahoma Foundation for the Education of Blind Children and Youth, Inc.

P.O. Box 1306
Muskogee, OK 74402
(918) 497-1234

- **Nonprofit foundation promoting quality educational services for blind and visually impaired children and youth statewide.**
- **Provides mini-grants for student educational needs not met by other sources. Scholarship program.**

NewView Oklahoma

501 N. Douglas Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73106
Toll Free: (888) 522-4644
Local: (405) 232-4644
Fax: (405) 236-5438
Website: www.newviewoklahoma.org

- Provides employment opportunities for individuals with blindness or low vision.
- Sponsors low vision clinics in Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

  - NewView OKC Low Vision Clinic
    710 W. Wilshire, Suite 102
    Oklahoma City, OK, 73116
    (855) 811-9699

- **NewView Tulsa Low Vision Center**
  5986 S. Yale Avenue
  Tulsa, OK 74135
  (855) 811-9699

American Foundation for the Blind

2 Penn Plaza, Suite 1102
New York, NY 10121
Phone: (212) 502-7600
Fax: (888) 545-8331
Website: www.afb.org

AFB Family of Websites:

- **FamilyConnect:**
  Information for parents and families.
  Website:
  http://www.familyconnect.org/parentsitehome.aspx

- **CareerConnect:**
  For job seekers who are blind or visually impaired.
  Website:
  http://www.afb.org/info/living-with-vision-loss/for-job-seekers/12

- **VisionAware:**
  Resources for independent living with vision loss, with a focus on the needs of people aging with vision loss.
  Website: http://www.visionaware.org/

- **Braille Bug:**
  All about Braille.
  Website: http://braillebug.afb.org/

- **Access World:**
  Information on technology for people who are blind or visually impaired.
  Website:
  http://www.afb.org/aw/main.asp

AFB Center on Vision Loss

11030 Ables Lane
Dallas, TX 75229
Email: dallas@afb.net
Website:
http://www.afb.org/info/programs-and-services/center-on-vision-loss/12

- **The AFB Center on Vision Loss, located in Dallas, Texas, is a unique part of AFB dedicated to helping the 25 million Americans with vision loss find resources, professional services, and workable solutions to many issues related to living independently. We offer information and have over 500 products and devices on display that can help you read, use a computer, identify medications,**

use the telephone and move about your home independently and safely.

- Call (214) 352-7222 to schedule a tour of the AFB Center on Vision Loss.

Blinded Veterans Association

477 H Street, Northwest
Washington, DC 20001-2694
Phone: (202) 371-8880
Toll free: (800) 669-7079
Fax: (202) 371-8258
Email: bva@bva.org
Website: www.bva.org

- BVA is an organization of blinded veterans helping blinded veterans.
- BVA programs, services, regional groups, resource information and issue advocacy are aimed at making

life better for blinded veterans. Members are also there with encouragement and support to help in adjustment to vision loss.

- All legally blinded veterans are eligible for BVA's assistance whether they become blind during or after active duty military service.

Hadley School for the Blind

700 Elm Street
Winnetka, Illinois 60093
Phone: (847) 446-8111
Toll Free: (800) 323-4238
Fax: (847) 446-9820
TTY: (847) 441-8111
Website: www.hadley.edu
Email: info@hadley.edu

- Hadley provides lifelong, distance education programs for people who are blind or visually impaired, their families and professionals in services for the blind.
- Course materials are available in Braille, large print, audio and online formats.
- Courses cover many topics including Braille reading and writing, technology usage, high school courses, blindness skills, business and essential employment skills, entrepreneurial skills, and much more.
- Hadley also offers online seminars on technology and other topics.

Learning Ally

20 Roszel Road
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
Website: www.learningally.org

- **As a Learning Ally member, a student has access to over 80,000 downloadable audio books, including textbooks and other educational materials.**

Bookshare

480 S. California Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94306
Phone: (650) 352-0198
Fax: (650) 475-1066
Website: www.bookshare.org

- An accessible online library for people with qualifying print disabilities.
- Over 260,000 titles available, including textbooks and pleasure reading.
- Books and periodicals for all ages.
- Free memberships for qualifying students and schools.
- Downloadable e-books can be read on computers, tablets, phones, assistive technology, MP3 players and more.

American Printing House for the Blind

1839 Frankfort Ave
Louisville, KY 40206
(800) 223-1839
Website: www.aph.org

- APH publishes accessible textbooks, educational materials, and publications for teachers and other professionals in the field of blindness.
- The APH online store has products, educational materials, technology and assistive devices for school and daily living. http://shop.aph.org/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/Home_10001_11051
- APH administers the Federal Quota program which funds accessible

educational materials and equipment for school children who are blind.

- APH administers the National Instructional Materials Access Center (NIMAC), a national repository of textbooks in electronic format which can be used to produce accessible school books and materials for students with blindness and other print disabilities.

National Braille Press

88 Saint Stephen Street
Boston, MA 02115
Phone: (888) 965-8965
Website: www.nbp.org

- A non-profit Braille publisher, National Braille Press, promotes literacy for blind children through

outreach programs and produces information in Braille for blind children and adults.

- NBP produces Braille textbooks, tests and tactile graphics materials. A catalog is available online.
- NBP has programs for children and their parents to promote Braille literacy.

Prevent Blindness
211 West Wacker Drive
Suite 1700
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Website: www.preventblindness.org

Vision Health Resource Center:
(800) 331-2020

- Provides vision screenings for children and adults.
- Provides public education and advocacy for preventing blindness and preserving eyesight.
- Supports research.

National Eye Institute

Information Office
31 Center Drive MSC 2510
Bethesda, MD 20892-2510
Phone: (301) 496-5248
Email: 2020@nei.nih.gov
Website: http://www.nei.nih.gov

- NEI's Office of Science Communications, Public Liaison and Education responds directly to requests for information on eye diseases and vision research. However, NEI cannot provide personalized medical advice to individuals about their condition or treatment.
- NEI conducts and funds research related to eye diseases, prevention, treatment and people affected by eye diseases.
- The Institute provides educational materials and programs for professionals and consumers.
- Statistics and data on eye diseases and blindness can be accessed at http://www.nei.nih.gov/eyedata/.

American Macular Degeneration Foundation

P.O. Box 515
Northampton, MA 01061-0515
(413) 268-7660
(888) MACULAR (622-8527)
Website: https://www.macular.org/

- Provides research and education.

Resources for Daily Living

My-Ride

Find rides by county. My-Ride has information on transportation resources, including links to public transit systems around the state and transportation for

the elderly and people with disabilities. The service is provided by the Governor's Oklahoma United We Ride Council.
Website:
http://www.ok.gov/unitedweride/

To go directly to My Ride:
http://www.ok.gov/unitedweride/MyRide: Find Rides by County on this tab/index.html

Area agencies on aging

For a map and list of AAAs, go to
http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/aging/aaa/

- Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) are local aging programs that provide information and services on a range

of assistance for older adults, including individuals who have disabilities.

- All AAAs publish resource guides to services in their areas, including transportation and other assistance for senior citizens.

Senior Information Line

(800) 211-2116

Calls are routed to information and referral specialists in area agencies on aging for information on local assistance and resources.

2-1-1 Statewide Information

http://www.211oklahoma.org/

- **Call 2-1-1 for information on area services by phone. 2-1-1 has information on social services, transportation, income assistance, emergency assistance, health and mental health services, and help for basic needs.**

- **Search online for resources in OKC and west: http://www.referweb.net/hlok/**

- **Search online for Tulsa and east: http://www.referweb.net/tulh/**

Product Catalogs

Independent Living Aids, Inc.

137 Rano Rd
Buffalo, NY 14207
(800) 537-2118
(516) 937-3906 Fax
Website: www.independentliving.com

Wide range of products for people with visual impairments. Items include large print, Braille and talking appliances, low vision aids, a talking microwave oven, adapted games, cooking and kitchen aids, and more.
Website:
http://infinitec.org/programsservices.htm

Online resource guide for all disabilities.

LS&S, Inc.
145 River Rock Drive
Buffalo, NY 14207
(800) 468-4789
(847) 498-1482 Fax
(800) 317-8533 TTY
Website: http://www.lssproducts.com/

Products for people with vision loss include canes, kitchen and home appliances and accessories, medical devices, many other adapted items. Large print online catalog and online shopping available.

Maxi-Aids
42 Executive Blvd
Farmingdale, NY 11735
(800) 522-6294 - (To Order)
(631) 752-0521 - (For Information)
(631) 752-0689 Fax
Website:
http://www.maxiaids.com/store/default.asp

Products for people with vision loss include canes, kitchen and home appliances and accessories, medical devices, many other adapted items. Hearing impaired. on line catalog and online shopping available.

Support Groups and Consumer Advocacy Organizations
Revised June 2014

Note: If you know of other disability oriented groups meeting in Oklahoma, please contact Vicky Golightly at the Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, (405) 522-0526 or 1-800-523-0288 or email: vgolightly@okdrs.gov

Blind Veterans Support Group
Blind Veteran's Association,
Sooner Blinded Veterans Group
Meeting: Last Friday of the month
Location: Tulsa, Western Sizzling, 21st and Sheridan, Tulsa

Contact: Betty Charlesworth,
(918) 492-0188 or
Martha Looney, (918) 340-4183

Brady District Chapter
Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Oklahoma
Meetings: First Thursday of each month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Location: Chimi's Mexican restaurant, 1304 East 15th Street Tulsa
Contact: Jedi Moerke, President,
(318) 533-8424 or
email: Loneblindjedi@samobile.net

Central Oklahoma Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind
Meetings: second Friday of every month at 7 p.m.
Location: Downtown Edmond Community Center, 28 East Main Street
Contact: Audrey Farnum, President, (405) 590-6110 or email: farnum@gmail.com

Eyes Just Talking
Meetings: Fourth Wednesday of each month from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Location: NewView Oklahoma Vision Rehabilitation Services, 501 North Douglas Ave., Oklahoma City

Contact: Megan Adkins, NewView Oklahoma Programs Coordinator, (405) 286-9699 or email: mmadkins@newviewoklahoma.org
Website: www.newviewoklahoma.org

Green Country Deaf-Blind Support Group

Meeting: Third Thursday of every month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: Total Source for Hearing Access, 8740 East 11th, Tulsa
Contact: Chris Milburn
Email: Milbernchris@gmail. com

Guide Dog Alumni Meeting

Meeting: Third Saturday of each month, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: Oklahoma Station Bar BQ, Meridian & Northwest 50th, Oklahoma City
Come early to eat before the meeting.

Contact: Bob Moore, (405) 650-8539 or email robertmoore1@me.com

Heartland Council of the Blind

A chapter of the Oklahoma Council of the Blind
Meeting: First Saturday of each month, 1:30 p.m., to 3:30 p.m.
Location: In the basement of Deaconess North Medical Building, 5701 N. Portland, Oklahoma City

Contact: Sandi Webster, President,
(405) 722-8749 or
email: sandi.webster@cox.net

Muskogee Chapter, a chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Oklahoma
Meeting: Meets the last Wednesday of each month
Braille class begins at 11 a.m. and the meeting begins at noon
Location: Muskogee Public Library, 814 West Okmulgee Street, Muskogee.

Contact: Melodee Armstrong, President,
(918) 577-2054.
Email: Nfbmuskogee@yahoo.com

Muskogee Council of the Blind,
A Chapter of the Oklahoma Council of the Blind
Location: Meeting locations will vary, but are on a monthly basis.
December: Charlie's Chicken, Chandler Road, and April, picnic at Civitan Park, both in Muskogee
Contact Sandy Evans at (918) 839-6885

Mustang Low Vision Support Group
Meeting: Second Thursday each month from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Location: Mustang Community Building in Wild Horse Park
Contact: Bob Sanders, (405) 745-2225 or email: bsanders14@cox.net

Norman Low Vision Support Group
Meeting: Last Wednesday of the month,
10:30 a.m., speaker
11:30 a.m., lunch.
Location: University Lutheran Church,
914 Elm, Norman
Contact: Brenda Wilson, (405) 360-1279

Northeast Oklahoma Chapter of the
National Federation of the Blind of
Oklahoma
Meeting: Every 2nd Saturday,
3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Location: Furr's Cafeteria,
6560 East 51st, Tulsa

Contact: Tim Wilison, President, (918)
633-5171 or email tim@ksm1.net

Ponca City Noon Lions Vision Support Group

Meeting: First Monday of each month at 1 P.M.

Location: First Christian Church, Fellowship Hall, 210 North 5th Street, Ponca City, Enter through west door

Contact: Winnie Covill, President, (580) 762-2058 or Ron Covill, (580) 491-8404