# Council Activities in 2018



## Wisconsin Council of the Reference of the Blind & Visually Impaired

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### How to Act & Talk When You Encounter Someone with Vision Loss

Ask First: "Would you like some help?" If yes, ask, "What is the best way I can help you right now?" If no, accept the person does not need help.

#### Do not pet or distract a service dog. Distracting



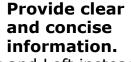
them makes them less effective and can put their owners in danger.

Speak normally. There is no need to increase the volume of your voice or change the tone of your voice.

#### Keep people involved.



Sighted people rely on visual cues when interacting with others. Allow people to be an equal participant in social settings by describing what happened visually.



Use Right and Left instead of Here and There.

Say "Hi!" People with low vision may not recognize your voice. Introduce yourself when you walk into a room.

#### Do not speak on someone's behalf.

Despite good intentions, speaking on behalf of anyone who is capable of speaking for themselves can be frustrating.

Use person-first language. Blindness is a physical attribute, not a personality trait.

**Sources:** Perkins School for the Blind, Industries for the Blind & Visually Impaired.

Want more copies of this to share with coworkers and friends? Contact **info@WCBlind.org** or call **608-255-1166.**