

# 2025 BY THE NUMBERS

## DONORS

**1,427** gifts received from 59 WI counties and 24 states. We welcomed **223** new donors.

## EDUCATION

**65** presentations and outreach events reaching **3,150** participants

## VISION SERVICES

**303** access technology appointments

**255** low vision evaluations

**229** orientation & mobility visits

**220** navigator contacts

## WHITE CANES

**454** canes provided to clients in 48 counties

**40** local governments and the State of Wisconsin issued White Cane Safety Day proclamations.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

**4** \$2,000 scholarships to students across Wisconsin

## VOLUNTEERS

**544** hours donated

## SHARPER VISION STORE

**2,186** customers from **62** counties



Wisconsin Council of the  
Blind & Visually Impaired



Wisconsin Council of the  
Blind & Visually Impaired

## Many Ways to Support the Council

There are many ways to give to the Council, and we're grateful for every gift we receive, regardless of its size or form.

- ◆ **Cash Gift**—An immediate cash gift made by check or credit card is the fastest, easiest method.
- ◆ **Monthly Giving**— Spreading your donation out over the year makes a big impact a little at a time. We call monthly donors our White Cane Circle.
- ◆ **IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution**—Donors over 70½ can donate from their IRA as part of their required minimum distribution.
- ◆ **Donor Advised Fund (DAF)**—Setting up a DAF with your financial institution allows you to request a donation from it whenever you choose.
- ◆ **Workplace Giving**—Many employers have workplace campaigns through Community Shares of Wisconsin, an easy way to give either all at once or through regular payroll deductions.
- ◆ **Memorial Gift**—A memorial gift honors the legacy of a loved one who has passed away.
- ◆ **Planned Giving**—Including the Council in your estate planning helps create your own legacy.
- ◆ **In-kind Donation**—The Council accepts donations of recent model adaptive technology and equipment in good working condition.

There are still more ways to donate to the Council. Contact us at 608-255-1166 or [Info@WCBlind.org](mailto:Info@WCBlind.org) to learn more about your giving options.

754 Williamson Street, Madison, WI 53703  
1-800-783-5213 • [info@WCBlind.org](mailto:info@WCBlind.org) • [WCBlind.org](http://WCBlind.org)



## **Key Data on Vision Loss in Wisconsin**

### **Older Adults**

- **4.2%** of older adults in Wisconsin report severe vision loss or blindness.
- Only about **3%** of older adults with vision loss nationally receive vision rehabilitation services.
- **13%** of older Wisconsinites with vision loss report poor mental health at least 14 of the past 30 days, compared to 6% of those without vision loss.
- **30%** of older Wisconsinites with vision impairment have annual incomes below \$20,000, compared to 12% among those without vision loss.

### **Working-Age Adults**

- Around **91,700** working-age adults 18–64 in Wisconsin have some form of serious vision loss.
- **48.6%** of working-age adults with vision loss are currently working, compared to 73.9% of those without vision loss.
- **72.5%** of working-age adults who are blind or low vision earn less than \$35,000 a year, compared to 25% of those without vision loss.
- **48.1%** of working age adults with vision loss report poor mental health at least 14 of the past 30 days, compared to 14.1% of other working age adults.

Source: VisionServe Alliance Big Data Project