

OUR FOCUS IS YOUR VISION



NORTH CENTRAL
SIGHT SERVICES
Williamsport, PA **INC.**



OUR FOCUS IS YOUR VISION



NORTH CENTRAL **SIGHT SERVICES** **INC.**

2121 Reach Road
PO Box 3292
Williamsport, PA 17701-0292

Tel: (570) 323-9401
Toll Free: (866) 320-2580
Fax: (570) 323-8194

Website Address: www.ncsight.org
E-mail: ncss@ncsight.org



Our Focus is Your Vision

MISSION

Provide exceptional programs, services, and employment to the blind and vision-impaired as well as excellent education, prevention services and products to all customers.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

History _____	2-3
Prevention of Blindness _____	4
Functional Vision Clinic _____	5
Remedial Eye Care _____	5
Social Services _____	6
Groups _____	7
Rehabilitation Therapy _____	8
Low Vision Store _____	8
Orientation & Mobility _____	9
Low Vision Rehabilitation _____	10
Employment _____	11
AbilityOne Program _____	12
Schools & Government _____	12
Business Services _____	13
Resources _____	14
Support Our Mission _____	15-16

HISTORY 1957-2008

North Central Sight Services, Inc., formerly known as the Lycoming County Association for the Blind, was incorporated



on February 7, 1957 as the 29th branch of the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind. The agency began operations at 901 Memorial Avenue in Williamsport.

The Lycoming County Association for the Blind manufactured rubber door mats from recycled automobile tires, caned chairs and performed subcontract work for local businesses. Support and talking book machines were provided to Lycoming County residents who were blind.

In 1974, the agency received funding to expand its Social Services. In 1982, Leroy Price retired as Executive Director. His successor, David Franklin established the Prevention of Blindness Department.

Robert Garrett was appointed as Executive Director in 1986. The service



region expanded to Clinton and Sullivan Counties and the agency name was changed to North Central Sight Services, Inc. in 1988.

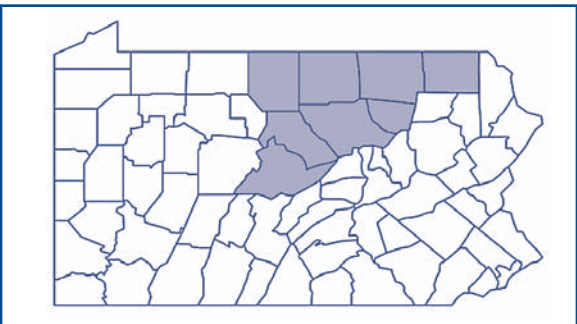
Over the next few years, our service region further expanded to the Northern Tier counties and the industry operations grew and prospered.

After fifty years at 901 Memorial Avenue in Williamsport, North Central Sight Services, Inc. moved to a new home at 2121 Reach Road in January of 2007. The 63,000 square foot facility is well positioned to meet our continued growth.



Going forward, we will continue to focus on the needs of people who are experiencing vision loss, creating employment opportunities for people who are blind and educating the public about eye health and eye safety.

We currently provide Social Services and Prevention of Blindness programs to eight counties in North Central Pennsylvania. The counties include Bradford, Centre, Clinton, Lycoming, Potter, Sullivan, Susquehanna, and Tioga.



PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

Over 50 percent of blindness is preventable. Our goal at North Central Sight Services, Inc. is to promote public awareness about potential blinding eye diseases, prevention measures and the overall importance of eye health. We provide educational presentations and



information about eye safety and eye health for all age groups. Our child and adult vision screenings are designed to detect symptoms of decreased vision which may lead to serious eye diseases.

If an individual shows signs of a visual problem and does not pass our screening, we refer that individual to an eye care professional for an exam.



Our Prevention of Blindness and Social Services programs are funded in part through grants from the Pennsylvania Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and donations from the Harry Plankenhorn Foundation, Lions Clubs of 14G, and the Lycoming and Clinton County United Way.

FUNCTIONAL VISION CLINIC

Our Functional Vision Clinic provides financially eligible children an opportunity to receive a complete eye examination by a pediatric optometry specialist. Eyesight is the basic ability to see; vision is the ability to identify, interpret, and comprehend what is seen.



A child's eyesight may test normal with standard testing, yet visual skills may be seriously impaired. The qualified staff at the clinic understands and recognizes functional vision problems.

REMEDIAL EYE CARE

Our Remedial Eye Care Program is designed to assist low income individuals in obtaining eye exams and glasses. Through contracts with local eye care providers, a pair of eyeglasses and/or an eye exam can be provided at a reduced cost to those in need that qualify.

Applications are available in our office Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. We are located at 2121 Reach Road in Williamsport.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Our social service department provides a comprehensive program of activities and programs designed to help individuals who are blind or are experiencing vision loss. Our goal is to provide individualized services to keep people living as independently as possible. Once an initial intake is performed to assess an individual's needs and eligibility, our caseworker completes a service plan with the customer with clearly defined objectives and goals.



Our services range from one-time appointments to biweekly meetings. We also offer transportation and escort to doctor's appointments or grocery shopping when other resources are unavailable. Our qualified Casework Associates can assist with reading mail and bill-paying.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

Our goal is to provide services and education to individuals to help them stay independent. If we do not provide a specific service that a customer needs, we will refer him or her to an agency that can accommodate the need.

REHABILITATION THERAPY

Our Vision Rehabilitation Therapist provides individualized instruction in independent living skills to blind and visually impaired individuals.



Specialized instruction includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Kitchen safety/food preparation
- Communication skills
(Braille, large print, audio)
- Home management activities
- Personal care and hygiene
- Lighting adaptations
- Low vision aids

Our Vision Rehabilitation Therapist will complete an assessment with the customer and develop an Individualized Service Plan. The Vision Rehabilitation Therapist will establish goals with the customer and work with him/her to achieve the desired goals.

LOW VISION STORE

Our Low Vision Store has many products that can help individuals who are blind or visually impaired become more independent. We have a wide range of products such as magnifiers, bold line paper, 20/20 pens, talking watches, large button phones, adaptive aids for cooking, large playing cards, and much more.

GROUPS

North Central Sight Services facilitates a number of support and educational groups to promote independence and life skills for people who are blind or visually impaired.

Life Skills and Education

This group offers valuable information on blindness-related topics facilitated by our Vision Rehabilitation Therapist with occasional guest speakers.

Book Club

Book Club members independently listen to a selected book, which is then discussed at a monthly meeting.

VISION Group

Participants attend social activities such as picnics, bowling nights, and holiday parties.

Ladies Club

Members participate in a number of activities such as large print bingo, trivia games and various holiday parties and picnics.



Craft Class

Our Vision Rehabilitation Therapist creates and adapts fun craft activities to accommodate those with vision loss. Our goal is to find ways for our customers to continue to do the activities they've always enjoyed.

Insight with a Bite

While sharing a good meal at various local restaurants, participants share how vision loss has affected their lives. This group is full of support, encouragement and fun.



Exercise Your Mind

Participant challenge their mental “strength” through various trivia games.

SPECIAL EVENTS

North Central Sight Services hosts special events for our customers and the community. Yearly events include the holiday Plankenhorn Party which is sponsored by the Harry Plankenhorn Foundation. We also coordinate groups for the Tour of Lights on the Williamsport Historic Trolley during the holiday season. One of the premier events in the spring is the annual fishing trip.



LOW VISION REHABILITATION

Low vision rehabilitation services provide one-on-one instruction to individuals who are blind or visually impaired on how to use tools such as optical aids, computer technology, video magnification, and electronic readers.



Specialized instruction can include, but is not limited to the following:

- Assessing general eyewear
- Light and glare control
- Optical aids such as magnifiers and telescopes
- Magnification systems such as CCTV or portable hand held magnifiers
- Visual field rehabilitation
- Functional vision assessments
- Access computer technology such as Zoom Text, JAWS, and Window-Eyes

Each individual's history, functional assessment of vision, skills, and evaluation of low vision aids will determine the low vision rehab plan.

*Referrals may be made to other agencies to provide some of the services listed above.

EMPLOYMENT

We offer a facility-based employment program for people who are blind. A variety of production and service jobs are available to our blind Associates. We provide a comfortable environment in our modern Industry designed to maximize self worth and positive self esteem.

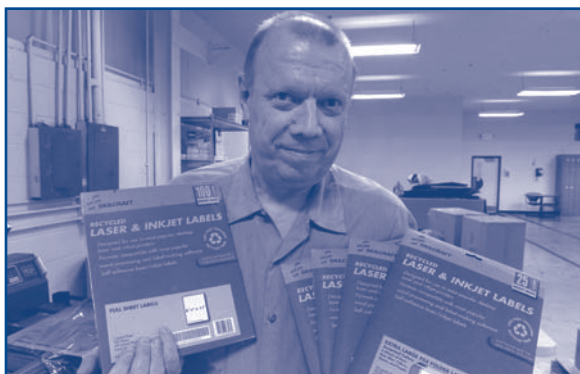


We are proud of our success and share the benefits of this success with our Associates who are blind. We offer a reasonable wage and the same benefit package as for our other professional Associates. Contact our Human Resources department for an application and to arrange a tour of our facility.



ABILITYONE PROGRAM

North Central Sight Services, Inc. manufactures and assembles products for the government through a nationwide industry program called AbilityOne. Based on the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act, the AbilityOne Program creates employment opportunities for individuals who are blind or severely disabled. Products in the program share the brand name, SKILCRAFT®.



We have an established reputation for delivering quality SKILCRAFT® products on-time for reasonable prices. Our office products, computer media, and military targets are supplied to a number of channels including military base supply stores and small businesses.

SAVINGS FOR SCHOOLS AND GOVERNMENT

North Central Sight Services, Inc. hosts a website that provides savings for schools and government agencies. The website contains over 35,000 products ranging from office and multimedia supplies to learning tools. For more information or to purchase items, please visit www.savingsforschools.com or www.savingsforgovernment.com.

BUSINESS SERVICES

North Central Sight Services, Inc. provides business services through our industry-based employment program.

Document Management Services

North Central Sight Services, Inc. offers document imaging. We can convert documents such as financial statements and medical records to electronic files that are readily accessible. Large-format documents such as maps and architectural



drawings can also be scanned and converted. The electronic documents are indexed to create an efficient system that can be stored online, on-site, or on computer media.

North Central Sight Services, Inc. will assist you in project planning and provide industry-specific guidance on HIPAA, GLBA, and Sarbanes-Oxley compliance.

Document Destruction

We offer secure document shredding. Businesses with ongoing document destruction needs are provided locked containers compliant with HIPAA.

Subcontracting

North Central Sight Services, Inc. has subcontracting capabilities:

- Warehousing
- Distribution/Shipping
- Light Assembly/Collating
- Packaging/Shrink Wrapping

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

American Federation for the Blind

Tel: (800) 232-5463

Website Address: www.afb.org

National Federation for the Blind

Tel: (410) 659-9314

Website Address: www.nfb.org

National Industries for the Blind

Tel: (703) 310-0500

Website Address: www.nib.org

Pennsylvania Association for the Blind

Tel: (717) 234-3261

Website Address: www.pablind.org

Pennsylvania Industries for the
Blind and Handicapped

Tel: (800) 447-8860

Website Address: www.pibh.org

LIBRARY SERVICES

Library services are available for the
blind and physically handicapped.

Free Library of Philadelphia

Library Code: PA1A

Tel: (215) 683-3213

Toll Free: (800) 222-1754

Website: <http://lbph.library.phila.gov>

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Library Code: PA2A

Tel: (412) 687-2440

Toll Free: (800) 242-0586

Website: www.carnegielibrary.org/lbph

SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Your contribution can help secure valuable programs and services that add to the quality of life for the blind and vision impaired in our region for years to come. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

Contributions are tax deductible. You will receive a letter acknowledging your gift for IRS tax purposes.

_____ One Time Donation

_____ Multi-year Pledge

_____ I have enclosed a check or money order in the amount of \$_____

_____ I would like to be contacted to make a payment via credit card.

Please mail your contribution to:

North Central Sight Services, Inc.

2121 Reach Road

PO Box 3292

Williamsport, PA 17701-0292

Donations may also be made online
at www.ncsight.org.

LEAVE A LEGACY

If you or a friend or a loved one would like to remember North Central Sight Services, Inc. in your will, you can do so by employing the following language:

“I give, devise, and bequeath unto North Central Sight Services, Inc., 2121 Reach Road, Williamsport, PA 17701, a Pennsylvania non-profit organization, the sum of \$ _____ or _____ percent of my net estate: or the following stocks and bonds _____ to be used for its worthy purposes on behalf of blind and/or visually impaired persons.”

GIFT ANNUITIES

Donations of stocks and bonds are gratefully accepted. Learn about the new changes to the tax code that may save you Federal income taxes by gifting your Required Minimum Distribution from your IRA or highly appreciated assets such as stock, bonds or property. Please contact us for details.

VOLUNTEER

You too can help us continue to provide quality services to your neighbors and friends. Volunteering, making a monetary donation and including North Central Sight Services, Inc. in your will are all viable options to meet our community mission.

OUR FOCUS IS YOUR VISION

**NORTH CENTRAL
SIGHT SERVICES
INC.**

2121 Reach Road • PO Box 3292

Williamsport, PA 17701-0292

Tel: (570) 323-9401

Toll Free: (866) 320-2580

www.ncsight.org

