



2685 Horseshoe Drive S, Suite 101  
Naples, FL 34104  
(239)430-EYE4

Lighthouse of Collier

Proposed Legislative item – 2023-2024 Fiscal Year

Amount Requested - \$150,000

11/28/2022

## Project Overview

### Purpose of Project:

The primary purpose of this Project is to provide the salary for the employment of a full-time Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapist (CVRT) or Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI) or OT with certificate in Low Vision Rehabilitation, to carry out individualized services to visually impaired and blind citizens of Collier County and the surrounding areas, ages 5 and older. In addition, this Project will provide funding for Assistive Technology Training.

#### A. Terms and Definitions

1. Legal Blindness – (also referred to as “blind”) Legal blindness is when the best corrected visual acuity in the better-seeing eye is less than or equal to 20/200, or visual field dimension in the better-seeing eye is less than or equal to 20 degrees at the widest diameter, even if the central visual acuity is better than 20/200.
2. Visually Impaired – Severe reduction of vision, in terms of acuity or field restriction, that cannot be corrected with standard glasses or contact lenses and reduces a person’s ability to function at certain or all tasks. Visual Impairment is when the best corrected central visual acuity in the better-seeing eye is less than or equal to 20/70, or the visual field dimension in the better-seeing eye is less than or equal to 140 degrees.



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B. Scope of Work:

1. Scope of Service

a) *The objectives of this program are to:*

(1) Hire the equivalent of a full-time CVRT, Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI) or OT with certificate in Low Vision Rehabilitation (herein after collectively referred to in this contract as “Certified Instructor”) to provide one-on-one instruction to clients in their home. This Certified Instructor will then carry out the following:

(a) Provide educational training to a minimum of twenty-five (25) blind or visually impaired individuals in Collier County and surrounding areas, ages 5 years and up during the contract term;

(b) Provide a minimum of three (3) to fifteen (15) individualized lessons to each individual served during the contract term.

*(i) Overall length of training depends on severity of visual impairment and speed of onset, as well as the individual’s ability to remain independent in their home.*

(c) Provide a pre and post Comprehensive Functional Assessment (CFA) that will help determine a client’s needs and goals achieved.

(2) Provide Assistive Technology Training to many of the clients.



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2. Service Delivery Area and Travel

- a) *Shall deliver training in Collier County and surrounding areas.*
- b) *Services shall be conducted at the client's place of residence or other location within the community to meet individualized service needs.*
- c) *May also provide services at its primary business location.*
- d) *May transport clients who reside in and around Collier County to its business location to provide one-on-one training during its normal business hours, which is located at: 2685 Horseshoe Drive S, Suite 211, Naples, FL 34104*
- e) *Transportation will not be a billable expense under this contract.*

3. Eligibility

- a) *Individuals who meet the definition of legally blind or visually impaired as defined in Section A.1. and 2.; or experience vision loss which negatively impacts their educational performance or ability to maintain independence in the home.*
- b) *Individuals who reside in Collier County and surrounding areas.*



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#### 4. Staffing

*a) Services under this contract shall be supported by one (1) staff member, as described below and Assistive Technology Instructors:*

(1) A Certified Instructor, as identified in Section B.1., above.

(a) Has a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree and the certification is current with the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP) or is certified as a TVI with FLDOE or is a OT with certificate in Low Vision Rehabilitation.

(b) If providing O&M services, instructor must have additional certification as a COMS.



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5. Service Tasks

a) *Independence Training*

(1) Shall provide ongoing independence skills training, in accordance with the client's assessment goals. Such services provided may include, but not limited to the following:

- (a) Comprehensive Functional Assessment
- (b) Activities of Daily Living
- (c) Orientation and Mobility
- (d) Communication Skills
- (e) Assistive Technology
- (f) Low Vision Training
- (g) Adjustment to Vision Loss Counseling
- (h) Information and Referral
- (i) Self-Advocacy, and
- (j) Sensory Cognitive Skills

(2) Shall make available basic training aids and devices for participants to be used in conjunction with the provision of instruction.

(3) Responsible for recruiting and referring clients for participation in independence training under this Contract.

(4) Services under this Contract shall not count towards service hours on any other Contract administered by the DBS/DOE.

C. Required Outcome of the Project:

1. Successful employment of a Certified Instructor, who will train individuals and provide them the skills needed to remain independent in their homes.

2. Each client will receive a pre and post Comprehensive Functional Assessment (CFA) to determine their individual goals and meeting of said goals.

3. Client goals will be successfully completed when said goals have been mastered three (3) out of three (3) times.



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4. Overall program success will be based on a minimum of 85% of the participants meeting their individual goals.