

## **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 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500**  
**Oklahoma City, OK 73112-4815**  
**(405) 951-3400 Voice and TTY**  
**(800) 845-8476 Voice and TTY**  
**Website: [www.okdrs.gov](http://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 18<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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/parents/itehome.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](mailto:bva@bva.org)**

**Website: [www.bva.org](http://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](http://www.hadley.edu)**

**Email: [info@hadley.edu](mailto: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](http://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](http://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/store/servlet/Home\\_10001\\_11051](http://shop.aph.org/webapp/wcs/store/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](http://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](http://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/in  
dex.html](http://www.ok.gov/unitedweride/MyRide:FindRidesbyCountyonthis tab/index.html)**

### **Area agencies on aging**

**For a map and list of AAAs, go to**

**[http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservi  
ces/aging/aaa/](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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mmadkins@newviewoklahoma.org)  
Website: [www.newviewoklahoma.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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**