

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND  
REHABILITATIVE SERVICES  
REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

RSA-IM-93-25

RSM-

DATE: August 12, 1993

TO : STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (GENERAL)  
STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES (BLIND)  
CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS  
RSA SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM  
REGIONAL REHABILITATION CONTINUING EDUCATION (RRCEPS)

SUBJECT : Fiscal Year 1992 Report on Services Funded through the  
Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) for  
Persons Who are Blind or Visually Impaired

CONTENT : Persons who are blind or visually impaired are served  
throughout the State-Federal rehabilitation system.  
States may, at their discretion, designate separate  
agencies to serve the needs of persons who are blind or  
visually impaired. RSA also funds a variety of  
discretionary training and special project grant  
programs that benefit this population.

The purpose of this report is to provide information on  
State formula and discretionary grant programs funded  
by RSA that center on the needs of persons who are  
blind or visually impaired. It does not contain  
information on the Helen Keller National Center for  
Individuals Who Are Deaf-Blind which is funded through  
RSA for the Helen Keller National Center Act already  
requires the Secretary to provide an annual report on  
the Written evaluation of the operation of the center  
to the President, the Clerk of the House of  
Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

This report was prepared by the Rehabilitation Branch  
of the Division of Blind and Visually Impaired. This  
report on RSA funded programs and services for persons  
who are blind or visually impaired will be modified in  
1993 when the provisions of P.L. 102-569, of the  
Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1992, are implemented.  
Additional information may be obtained from  
Chester P. Avery, Director, Division of Blind  
and Visually Impaired, Room 3229, Mary E. Switzer  
Building, 330 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C.  
20202-2648, telephone number (202) 205-9316, fax number

(202) 205-9772.

INQUIRIES TO: RSA Regional Commissioners

—  
Attachment

William L. Smith  
Acting Commissioner, RSA

cc: CSAVR  
NAPAS

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FISCAL YEAR 1992 SUMMARY OF SERVICES FUNDED  
THROUGH THE REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
FOR PERSONS WHO ARE BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED

I. INTRODUCTION

This report provides information on services and Special projects provided to persons who are blind or visually impaired in Fiscal Year 1992 through the State-Federal formula grant programs and projects funded under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. This report also includes information describing the Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility Program.

While persons who are blind or otherwise visually impaired receive vocational rehabilitation services through State general rehabilitation agencies, many States have separate agencies to address the unique needs of this population. Similarly, persons who are blind or otherwise visually impaired receive support through special projects supported by RSA.

II. FEDERAL-STATE FORMULA GRANT PROGRAMS

The Federal-State formula grant programs funded by RSA in fiscal year 1992 are: A. Basic State Grants Program; B. Client Assistance Program (CAP); C. State Supported Employment Services Program; D. State Independent Living Rehabilitation Services Program, Title VII, Part A - Comprehensive Services; E. Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility Program. It should be noted that the Randolph-Sheppard Program, which receives some funds through the Basic State Grant program, is also described in this section of the report.

A. Basic State Grants Program  
(Section 110, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as  
amended)

FY 1992 Appropriation - \$1,783,532,000

Federal and State Expenditures - FY 1992

|                   | <u>Federal</u>     | <u>State</u>       | <u>Total</u>         |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| General Agencies  | \$812,429,215      | \$244,495,676      | \$1,057,312,660      |
| Blind Agencies    | 152,438,672        | 43,763,225         | 196,080,603          |
| Combined Agencies | <u>815,662,113</u> | <u>233,384,042</u> | <u>1,045,330,651</u> |
| Total             | \$1,783,532,000    | \$521,642,943      | \$2,298,723,914      |

Under provisions of the Basic State Grants Program, Federal funds are allocated among the States and territories from the total Federal appropriation on the basis of a formula that takes into account a State's population and per capita income. In the 26 States with separate agencies to serve persons who are blind, allocation of funds between the two agencies is determined by the State. The Act authorizes Federal allocations on a formula basis with a State fund matching requirement. For fiscal year 1992, states were required to provide a 20 percent match for the portion of their allotment that was equal to their 1988 allotment level and a 24 percent match for any funds allotted in excess of the 1988 level. The Basic State Grants program is the principal source of Federal funding for provision of vocational rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities, including persons who are blind or visually impaired. (See Appendix A for funding to State, general and separate agencies serving persons who are blind)

Table 1 contains the total number of persons vocationally rehabilitated in FY 1992 through the State-Federal program, including estimates of blind or visually impaired persons. Estimates are necessary because data on the types of disabilities have not been tabulated for FY 1992 at this writing.

Table 1

State Federal Program - Performance Data

|   | <u>FY 1992<sup>1</sup></u> | <u>FY 1991</u> |
|---|----------------------------|----------------|
| Total Number of Persons Served<br>(All disabilities)          | 949,557                    | 941,771        |
| Total Number of Persons<br>Rehabilitated                      | 191,854                    | 202,831        |
| Blind Rehabilitants   | 9,600                      | 10,420         |
| % Rehabilitants of Total <sup>2</sup>                         | 5.0                        | 5.2            |
| Other Visually Impaired<br>Rehabilitants                      | 8,200                      | 8,601          |
| % Rehabilitants of Total                                      | 4.3                        | 4.3            |
| Total Blind or Visually<br>Impaired Rehabilitants             | 17,800                     | 19,201         |
| % Rehabilitants of Total                                      | 9.3                        | 9.4            |
| Estimated # Blind or Visually<br>Impaired Served <sup>3</sup> | 71,000                     | 75,000         |

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<sup>1</sup>Data on the number of persons who are visually impaired are estimated for FY 1992. Numbers for FY 1992 may change considerably after data processing is complete.

<sup>2</sup>Percents are based on the number of persons for whom their major disabling condition was reported to be rehabilitated.

<sup>3</sup>Estimated at approximately 4 times the number of persons rehabilitated.

Table 2 indicates the types of placements that occurred in FY 1991 (preliminary) as a result of the provision of rehabilitation services for persons who are blind or visually impaired compared to persons with other disabilities.

Table 2

Type of visual impairment by work status at closure for clients rehabilitated in FY 1991 (percentages)

| WORK STATUS AT CLOSURE                                | VISUALLY IMPAIRED |              |        | OTHER   | ALL CLIENTS |
|---|-------------------|--------------|--------|---------|-------------|
|   | BLIND             | OTHER VISUAL | ALL    |         |             |
| Competitive labor market                              | 34.9              | 58.2         | 45.5   | 85.7    | 81.9        |
| Sheltered workshop                                    | 4.8               | 1.1          | 3.1    | 5.6     | 5.4         |
| Self-employed   | 3.9               | 7.4          | 5.5    | 2.2     | 2.5         |
| State agency managed<br>(Business Enterprise Program) | 1.9               | 0.2          | 1.1    | 0.2     | 0.1         |
| Homemaker   | 53.7              | 31.9         | 43.8   | 6.0     | 9.6         |
| Unpaid family worker                                  | 0.6               | 1.1          | 0.8    | 0.4     | 0.4         |
| Work status not reported                              | 0.2               | 0.1          | 0.2    | 0.0     | 0.1         |
| Total   | 100.0             | 100.0        | 100.0  | 100.0   | 100.0       |
| Number of Cases Reporting                             | 10,417            | 8,601        | 19,018 | 183,628 | 202,646     |

Note: The total number rehabilitated, according to the Quarterly Cumulative Caseload Report (Form RSA-113) for FY 1991, was 202,831. There is usually a small difference in this number in the two reportings.

B. Client Assistance Program  
(Section 112, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$9,141,000

This formula grant program advises clients and client applicants of available services under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. States are required to have a CAP as a condition for receiving VR services program funding. CAPs are administered by agencies designated by the Governors. Such agencies must be independent of any agency that provides services under the Act unless an agency had, prior to the 1984 Rehabilitation Act amendments, served as a CAP under Section 112 of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended and received Federal financial assistance under the Act. (See Appendix B for State Agency Funding)

C. State Supported Employment Services Program  
(Section 631, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$31,065,000

The 1986 Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 authorized a formula grant program to assist States to develop collaborative programs with appropriate public and private nonprofit organizations. This assistance is intended to enable States to provide individuals with the most severe disabilities time-limited services that lead to supported employment. The State vocational rehabilitation agency is charged with the responsibility of administering this program and establishing cooperative agreements or letters of understanding with private sources or other public agencies in which the commitment for extended job support is secured. Funds for this formula program are distributed on the basis of population, with no State to receive less than \$250,000. (See Appendix B for State Agency Funding)

D. State Independent Living Rehabilitation Services Program, Title VII, Part A - Comprehensive Services  
(Section 702, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriations - \$14,200,000

The Comprehensive Services for Independent Living Program under Title VII, Part A, of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, provides grants to assist

State vocational rehabilitation agencies to deliver comprehensive services for independent living. Individuals who are served must have disabilities that are so severe that presently they do not have potential for employment but may benefit from vocational rehabilitation services focused on increasing the ability of persons with severe disabilities to live and function independently in the family and community. The program also assists those individuals who require independent living rehabilitation services to engage in or maintain appropriate employment. Priority for services is given to those persons not served by other provisions of the Rehabilitation Act. (See Appendix C for State Agency Funding)

E. Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility Program  
(P.L. 74-732, as amended by P.L. 83-569 and P.L. 93-516)

The purpose of this State-Federal program is to provide persons who are blind with remunerative employment and self-support through the operation of vending facilities on both Federal and non-Federal property.

In FY 1992, the Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility Program received funds from: the Basic State Grants program totaling \$29,700,000; State funds totaling \$4,900,000; set-aside funds totaling \$13,300,000; and machine income funds totaling \$10,600,000. In FY 1992, there were 3,344 vending facilities of which 1,072 were located on Federal property and 2,272 were on non-Federal property. A total of 3,487 licensed blind vendors were employed through the program at an average annual income of \$24,783. Sales for the year in this program equaled \$397,486,149. Facilities may be of several varieties, including snack bars, vending machine locations and cafeterias. During the Fiscal Year, 406 persons received training for the operation of these facilities. From these trainees, 201 individuals were placed as vendors.

III. DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAMS SERVING BLIND OR VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSONS

A. SPECIAL PROJECT AND SERVICE PROGRAMS

Program of Special Projects and Demonstrations for Providing Vocational Rehabilitation Services to Severely Disabled Individuals Section 311(a)(1), Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$31,103,000

The purpose of the program is to provide financial assistance to States and other public and private agencies and organizations for expanding or otherwise improving vocational and other rehabilitation services for individuals with severe disabilities irrespective of age or vocational potential. This is accomplished through the support of projects, for up to 36 months, that will demonstrate new procedures or desirable employment outcomes. It is expected that successful project results will be replicated, in whole or in part, to resolve or alleviate rehabilitation problems that are nationally significant or common to several States.

Under Section 311(a)(1), 69 continuation projects and 28 new projects were funded during FY 1992. Continuation projects currently funded by the program address the following priority categories: (1) Rehabilitation Technology, 19 projects funded; (2) Innovative Strategies to Promote Vocational and Independent Living Rehabilitation Outcomes for Individuals with Severe Handicaps, 33 projects funded; (3) Non-Priority--AIDS, 5 projects funded; (4) Specific Learning Disabilities, 4 projects funded; and (5) Long-Term Mental Illness, 4 projects funded. Continuation projects were also funded under the program in a "Non-Priority" category that permitted the support of applications that were not responsive to one of the absolute priorities. In addition, 13 spinal cord injury projects administered by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), 2 projects serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People Who are Low Functioning, 6 Centers for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury and the Oregon Hearing Research Center are funded through Special Projects and Demonstrations.

Recently-funded projects will serve (1) individuals with specific learning disabilities who reside in rural

or remote areas, 4 projects funded; (2) individuals with chronic, progressive diseases, 6 projects funded; and, (3) individuals with traumatic brain injuries, 6 projects funded. 16 new projects were also funded in a "Non-Priority" category which allowed applicants to propose services that were not responsive to the absolute priorities, but meet the needs for services for individuals with severe disabilities. These projects have just begun start-up activities.

Most of the projects funded under the program in 1992 generally serve people with a wide range of disabilities. Therefore, many more Special Projects and Demonstration projects than are listed here provide direct services to people who are blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind.

#### Rehabilitation Technologies

Florida Division of Blind Services  
Tallahassee, FL

The Florida Division of Blind Services project is a community-based model to provide persons who are homebound, blind or severely visually impaired with computer related competitive employment. This community-based model is implemented in three underserved counties in Florida. The model generates job opportunities in each county.

#### Innovative Strategies

Catholic Community Services  
Tucson, AZ

This project is designed to demonstrate the viability of using individual choice, empowerment, peer support, and community-based instruction as the primary means to accomplish outcomes in employment and independent living for people with disabilities. The project will emphasize services to persons who are deaf, persons who are deaf-blind, or persons who are dual sensory impaired. Through the implementation of a menu driven model of services in which individuals make decisions regarding employment and community alternatives, 43 persons will achieve outcomes ranging from competitive and supported employment to non-paid support, enhanced domestic, leisure and community skills and opportunities.

#### AIDS/Non-Priority

Whitman-Walker Clinic, Inc.  
Washington, DC

This project coordinates and facilitates the delivery of vocational rehabilitation services to individuals with severe disabilities, specifically targeting those individuals who are HIV-infected. Recipients of services must also have at least one other disabling condition of mental illness, substance abuse, deafness or visual impairment. Once individuals are ready for vocational rehabilitation, the project will refer them to the D.C. Vocational Rehabilitation Agency. Upon completion of training, the project will assist individuals with job placement.

Non-Priority

National Federation of the Blind  
Baltimore, MD

The National Federation of the Blind, in conjunction with the State Affiliates and the Commissions for the Blind in New Mexico, Iowa and South Carolina, will prepare a training manual, conduct work incentive training sessions and provide technical assistance for benefit counseling services for blind individuals. The major goal of the program is to increase work attempts through the provision of benefit counseling and work incentive counseling which requires cooperative efforts between Social Security, rehabilitation professionals, and consumers.

- B. Program of Special Projects and Demonstrations for Providing Supported Employment Services to Severely Disabled Individuals  
(Section 311(d) (1) (A), Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$10,423,000

The supported employment (SE) program funds demonstration projects to assist States in rehabilitation "systems changes" from day and work activity programs to competitive work through SE. In FY 1991, 17 new statewide demonstration grants were awarded. The mission of these SE statewide demonstration grants is to: convert State dollars toward long-term funding of SE; promote community awareness of SE as a viable vocational rehabilitation model; provide technical assistance to agencies that develop SE programs; encourage community advocacy to

create SE options; and develop interagency SE agreements.

Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind  
201 N. Bellefield Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA

This collaborative project among the Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children, the University of Pittsburgh Program in Severe Disabilities and the Pittsburgh Blind Association is focused on developing and systematically evaluating a program to enhance competitive employment opportunities for individuals who are blind or visually impaired and who have one or more additional disabling conditions. The program plans to place and train in supported employment 12 young adults with severe mental, physical, and/or auditory disabilities in addition to blindness.

- C. Projects With Industry Program (PWI)  
(Section 621, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$20,390,000

The purpose of this program is to create a unique partnership between business, industry, labor, and the rehabilitation community, ultimately leading to competitive employment for individuals with disabilities. The primary goal of this discretionary grant program is to expand job opportunities for people with disabilities in the competitive labor market.

Pittsburgh Vocational Rehabilitation Center  
1323 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Sensory Aids Foundation  
399 Sherman Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Lions World Services for the Blind  
2811 Fair Park Blvd.  
Little Rock, AR 72204

Washington Vocational Services  
22316 70th Avenue, Unit 'D'  
Mountainlake Terrace, WA 98043

- D. Recreation Program  
(Section 316, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$2,617,000

This program authorizes the funding of projects for recreational activities that aid individuals with disabilities in their mobility, socialization and integration into community recreation programs. Persons who are blind or visually impaired participate in the activities of projects receiving grant support from this program.

- E. Handicapped Migratory, Agricultural and Seasonal Farmworkers Program  
(Section 312, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$1,060,000

The purpose of this program is to provide vocational rehabilitation services to migratory, agricultural and seasonal farm workers with disabilities. One of the eleven projects operative in fiscal year 1992 is a grant to the Texas Commission for the Blind which serves individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

- F. Handicapped American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program  
(Section 130, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$4,470,000

This program authorizes discretionary grants to assist Indians in the development of rehabilitation services on Federal and State reservations. The fifteen projects operative in fiscal year 1992 provide services to all types of individuals who are disabled including individuals who are blind or visually handicapped.

- G. TRAINING PROGRAMS  
(Section 304(a) Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended)  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$36,688,000

Under provisions of this program, grants and contracts are made to State and public or nonprofit agencies and organizations, including institutions of higher education, to pay part of the costs of projects for training, traineeships, and selected activities for professionals in the field of rehabilitation.

The following institutions of higher education received long-term training grants for personnel involved in the rehabilitation of persons who are blind or visually impaired in Fiscal Year 1992:

Title : Rehabilitation of Persons Who are Blind  
Start Date : 10/01/90  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 09  
Grantee : San Jose State University  
Office of Graduate Studies and Research  
P.O. Box 760  
San Jose, CA 95106  
Investigator: Sharon Sacks

This pre-service training project provides two certificate programs to assist professionals in developing skills in transition and job placement/supported employment for persons who are visually impaired. The summer transition training program trains educators and rehabilitation professionals during a three-week summer session each project year. The project also trains participants during an inter-session in January, and also provides a follow-up practicum for participants in a direct service setting.

Title : Rehabilitation of Persons Who are Blind  
Start Date : 10/01/90  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 02  
Grantee : Hunter College of CUNY  
Department of Counseling  
695 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10021  
Investigator: Rosanne K. Silberman

This project is designed to provide training to personnel in rehabilitation agencies for persons who are blind. This training makes these individuals eligible for national certification through the Association for the Education and Rehabilitation for the Blind and Visually Impaired (AERBVI). The grant supports students enrolled in masters degree programs the first, second and third years through stipends and tuition. Special emphasis of the curriculum include a focus on services to transition-age youth, adult and elderly populations and persons with multiple disabilities. Recruitment efforts are directed toward underserved cultural and ethnic populations.

Title : Rehabilitation of Persons Who are Blind  
Start Date : 10/01/90  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 09  
Grantee : California State University, Los Angeles  
Auxillary Service Unit/Special Education  
5151 State University Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90032  
Investigator: Rona Pogrud, Ph.D.

The project is designed to train orientation and mobility specialists at the masters level at California State University, Los Angeles. In addition to the traditional orientation and mobility curriculum, trainees receive in-depth coursework and practicum experiences related to working with people who are blind and multihandicapped, individuals with low vision, persons who are elderly and visually impaired and those individuals in need of specific training in concept development and spatial orientation.

Title : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 10/01/92  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 03  
Grantee : Pennsylvania College of Optometry  
1200 West Godfrey Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19141  
Investigator: Anna Bradfield

The Department of Graduate Studies in vision impairment at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry proposes to develop and implement a comprehensive educational program that addresses the vision rehabilitation needs of agency personnel. Staff will develop and implement both pre and post-employment training via three methods: 1) 1-year Master of Science degree program in vision rehabilitation; 2) a two-summer low vision certificate program; and 3) a series of vision rehabilitation continuing education workshops in RSA regions 2 and 3.

Title : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 08/16/91  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 05  
Grantee : Northern Illinois University  
Department of Educational Psychology  
Counseling and Special Education  
Dekalb, IL 60115  
Investigator: Judy Matsouka

This project has three components: a) pre-service personnel preparation; b) pre-service summers only orientation and mobility preparation; and c) job readiness/independent living skills program.

Title : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 10/01/92  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 04  
Grantee : Mississippi State University  
RRTC Blindness and Low Vision  
P.O. Box 6156  
Mississippi State, MS 39762  
Investigator: John Maxson

This grant trains professionals to work closely with individuals with low vision. Individuals are trained on how to test and provide low vision devices and other training services to individuals who are partially sighted.

Title : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 10/01/92  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 04  
Grantee : Mississippi State University  
RRTC Blindness and Low Vision  
P.O. Box 6156  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Principal  
Investigator: Norma Tedder

This grant provides training at the master's degree level in orientation and mobility and trains rehabilitation teachers to provide rehabilitation services to persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Title : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 10/01/92  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 06  
Grantee : University of Arkansas/Little Rock  
Department of Rehabilitation  
2801 South University  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
Investigator: Patricia M. Bussen, Ed.D.

This grant provides training at the master's degree level to train rehabilitation teachers to work with persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Title : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 08/15/91  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 09  
Grantee : San Francisco State University, FDN.  
Office of Research and Program Development  
1600 Holloway Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94132  
Investigator: Sandra Rosen

This grant provides training at the master's degree level in orientation and mobility and trains rehabilitation teachers to work with persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Title : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 09/01/91  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 06  
Grantee : Stephen F. Austin State University  
Counseling/Special Education Program  
Box 13019, SFA Station  
Nacogdoches, TX 75962  
Investigator: Robert Bryant

This grant provides training at the master's degree level in orientation and mobility and trains rehabilitation teachers to work with persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Title : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 09/01/91  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 06  
Grantee : University of Arkansas/Little Rock  
Office of the Chancellor  
280L South University Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
Investigator: William Jacobson, Ed.D.

The three primary objectives of this training grant for training rehabilitation teachers at the master's degree level revolve around the preparation of students to teach in their discipline areas; to recruit students into these professions; and to provide a variety of inservice educational activities to professionals within Arkansas and in the surrounding States.

Title : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 09/01/91  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 05  
Grantee : Western Michigan University/Kalamazoo Campus  
Dept. of Blind Rehabilitation and Mobility  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
Investigator: William Wiener

This grant provides training at the master's degree level in orientation and mobility and trains rehabilitation teachers to work with persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Title: : Long Term Training  
Start Date : 08/16/91  
Length : 36 mos.  
Region : 05  
Grantee : Northern Illinois University/Dekalb  
Department of Educational Psychology  
Counseling and Special Education  
Dekalb, IL 60115  
Investigator: Judy Matsuoka

This grant provides training at the master's degree level in orientation and mobility and trains rehabilitation teachers to work with persons who are blind or visually impaired.

H. INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAMS

Part B - Centers for Independent Living  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$29,000,000

This is a discretionary grant program that authorizes State agencies, local public agencies, and private non-profit organizations to establish centers for independent living that provide a combination of services that allow severely disabled persons to live more independently in the family and community or, where appropriate, to engage in or maintain employment.

While all independent living center projects may provide services to persons who are visually handicapped, some Centers for Independent Living (CIL) serve primarily blind or visually impaired persons. These are:

Delaware

Department of Health and Social Services, Division for the Visually Impaired, 305 West 8th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

This project, in cooperation with the Easter Seal Society, provides 25 trained peer counselors who serve approximately 300 clients in a given fiscal year. The services provided by the peer counselors are designed to substantially improve the independent living status of the recipients, and should enhance employability in most cases. The project employs a visually impaired peer counselor coordinator and volunteer counselors consisting of persons who are visually impaired persons from the community.

Florida

Division of Blind Services, 2540 Executive Center Circle, West, Tallahassee, FL 32399

This project operated by Independence for the Blind, Inc. provides quality independent living services to persons who are blind or visually impaired in the predominantly rural twelve-county area of Northwest Florida.

Indiana

Allen County League for the Blind, Inc., 5800 Fairfield,  
Suite 210, Ft. Wayne, IN 46807

This project, in its seventh year of service, provides independent living services to persons who are blind, and blind with multiple disabilities, in 11 counties. Services include a Life Support and Life Enrichment project which utilizes a computer, braille translation program and braille printer to produce items such as braille bus schedules for the public transportation system.

Iowa

Iowa Department for the Blind  
524 Fourth Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

This project identifies older persons who are blind, blind and multi-handicapped, and deaf-blind and develops individual independent living plans for services. Such services include counseling, talking book services, teaching alternative techniques of independent living for persons who are visually impaired and arranging for other services that are available through programs such as Medicaid, Medicare, property tax relief for citizens who are elderly or handicapped, etc. The center also provides outreach services to programs sponsored by the Office on Aging through nursing homes and to centers for senior citizens. The project provides information to improve services for older persons who are visually impaired and enable services for visually impaired persons to be provided by senior citizen centers.

Kentucky

Kentucky Department for Blind Services, Center for  
Independent Living, 427 Versailles Road, Frankfort,  
KY 40601

This center for independent living provides independent living services throughout the State through a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week newsline for persons who are blind in the Louisville area with a focus on information and referral services.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts Commission for the Blind, Center for  
Independent Living, 110 Tremont Street, Boston, MA  
02108

This project is in its ninth year of operation and  
provides independent living services statewide to  
individuals who are blind and severely disabled.

Michigan

Michigan Department of Labor, Commission for the  
Blind, 309 N. Washington, Box 30015, Lansing, MI

48909

The Michigan Commission for the Blind operates several  
centers for independent living. The Urban/Rural center for  
independent living provides services for people who are blind,  
elderly and/or have multiple severe disabilities. It is  
estimated that 150 consumers are served by this project.

The Southern Michigan center serves the Detroit area and  
brings independent living services to minorities and  
people who are elderly and blind. It is estimated  
that 120 consumers are served by this project.

Mississippi

Mississippi Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind,  
P.O. Box 4872, Jackson, MS 39216-0872

This project establishes an independent living  
skills training program that serves as an expansion  
of existing independent living services provided at  
the Addie McBryde Rehabilitation Center for the Blind. An  
estimated 205 elderly persons who are legally blind are served,  
and a large percentage of the target population are  
intended to be individuals who are blind with multiple-  
handicaps. Secondary disabilities include  
cardiovascular disorders, hearing loss, orthopedic problems,  
diabetes and hypertension.

## Missouri

Disabled Citizens Alliance for Independence, Inc.,  
Post Office Box 675, Viburnum, MO 65566

This project serves persons who are deaf, blind, And deaf-blind in the rural areas of Missouri with Special emphasis on people who are elderly. The Project expects to serve approximately 100 to 150 persons within a six county area. The program is intended to provide appropriate educational services through classes in braille, American sign language, speech therapy, and independent living skills training, both on a group and individual basis.

## Oregon

Volunteer Braille Services, Inc., Independent Living Program, 4001 N.E. Halsey Street, Portland, OR 97232

This project extends independent living services to older adults (age 60 and over) who are blind or deaf-blind. Services are provided at the agency's main office as well as Volunteer Braille Services offices located throughout a tri-county area. Services include, but are not limited to, independent living, mobility and orientation, counseling, peer support, and information and referral. Special attention is given to accessing public transportation. A major goal is to reduce isolation by increasing personal independence. An estimated 335 persons are served by the program.

## Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services (BVS), Facilities and Grants Management Section, 1320 Labor and Industry Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

The Pennsylvania OVR and BVS have joined together to expand services at two sites. The Center for Independent Living at Associate Services for the Blind (ASB) provides training in independent living skills to persons who are deaf-blind. The Three Rivers Center for Independent Living, Inc. expands services otherwise available to persons who are hearing impaired for 75 individuals with severe handicaps, including persons who are blind or deaf-blind, through support or treatment groups, individual/family consultation, and self-help consultation.

## Rhode Island

Social and Rehabilitative Services, Vocational Rehabilitation Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 40 Fountain Street, 46 Aborn Street, Providence, RI 02903

This project expands services through communication skills training to professionals, consumers, and/or families to assist in identifying and providing services for the population of persons who are deaf-blind.

## Virginia

Virginia Department for the Visually Handicapped Rehabilitation Services Division, 97 Azalea Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227

This project provides independent living services at several sites, including Richmond, Roanoke and Northern Virginia. These "centers without walls" provide community-based services including advocacy, outreach, assistance to families, transportation and non-medical skills training. This project anticipates serving 350 persons who are either blind and/or multiply disabled.

## Part C - Independent Living Services for Older Blind Individuals

FY 1992 Appropriation - \$6,505,000

Section 721 of the Rehabilitation Act authorizes grants to designated State units for projects that provide independent living services for older blind individuals. Twenty-eight continuation projects were funded in FY 1992. This specialized three-year program provides independent living services for persons who are blind and age 55 and older to help them adjust to blindness and live more independently in their homes and communities. Services provided are wide and varied in scope and include such activities as mobility, techniques of daily living, braille training, peer reader services, transportation and other supportive services.

## **ALABAMA**

Alabama State Department of Education  
Division of Rehabilitation  
5114 Gordon Persons Building

Montgomery, AL 36130  
Lamona H. Lucas, Director  
Contact Person: Rita Houston, Project Director  
205-281-8780

Project Oasis (Older Alabamian's System of Information and Services) is expanding services with the addition of three full-time rehabilitation teachers and one orientation and mobility instructor. The project's goal is to provide a comprehensive array of independent living services to persons who are older blind. The program has three objectives: 1) to enhance the oasis network of service providers and consumer organizations; 2) to increase by 20% (200) the number of persons who are receiving services provided by rehabilitation teachers; and 3) to increase, by 50%, the community integration of persons who are older blind in activities and services provided by other community agencies and organizations.

#### **ALASKA**

Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Department of Education  
P.O. Box F, MS 0581  
Juneau, AK 99811  
Keith Anderson, Director  
Contact Person: Millie Ryan  
907-465-2814

Funds are being used to expand and establish regional programs in Anchorage, Juneau, and Fairbanks to provide independent living services for persons who are older blind. In addition to providing services in these major urban areas, agencies receiving funding deliver services in rural and remote areas of the state through coordination and collaboration with local senior centers, homemaker programs, native organizations, etc., and state programs.

#### **ARIZONA**

Department of Economic Security,  
Rehabilitation Services Administration  
1789 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor, NW  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Contact Person: David Beard, Assistant Manager  
602-255-1850

The Arizona project has six components: 1) traditional specialized services in Phoenix and Tucson such as

orientation and mobility and rehabilitation teaching; 2) low vision services provided in Phoenix and Tucson serving the entire state; 3) deaf/blind services to people in Phoenix; 4) independent living services to Native Americans on the Navajo, Hopi, and Gila River Reservations; 5) linkages to generic aging services; and 6) case management.

## **ARKANSAS**

Division of Services for the Blind  
411 Victory, P.O. Box 3237  
Little Rock, AR 72203  
James C. Hudson, Project Director  
501-324-9270

The Arkansas Division of services for the Blind provides skills training to persons who are older blind utilizing: orientation and mobility, rehabilitation teaching, communication, low vision services, and counseling for the participant and family. Additionally, there is networking with other agencies, both public and private.

## **COLORADO**

Colorado Rehabilitation Services  
Facilities, Grant and Independent Living  
1575 Sherman Street, 4th floor  
Denver, CO 80203-1714  
Contact Person: Jo Ann Roderfield, Project Director  
303-866-4375

The Colorado Part C project has awarded subgrants to six independent living centers located in rural areas. The services include outreach, information and referral, assessment of needs, development of the individualized independent living plan, case management, independent living skills training, transportation services/coordination, low vision aids training, communication skills training, orientation and mobility training/coordination, peer counseling/support groups, recreation services, reader services and group and individual advocacy. The goal of services is to maintain the individual's independence in the home and community for as long as possible.

## **DELAWARE**

Department of Health and Social Services  
Division of F/T Visually Impaired

305 W. 8th Street  
Wilmington, DE 19801  
Contact Person: Diane Post, Project Director  
302-421-5730

The Delaware Division for the Visually Impaired has four objectives in its persons who are older blind project: 1) design and implement an outreach program for this population; 2) provide comprehensive services; 3) develop a services system utilizing existing agencies and organizations; and 4) develop a system which will continue beyond the grant period. Services provided include: outreach, orientation and mobility, communication aids and training, independent living skills training, family and peer counseling, low vision aids, diagnosis and referral.

#### **FLORIDA**

Department of Education  
2540 Executive Center Circle, West  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
Contact Person: Raymond Kenney, Project Director  
904-488-1330

The objectives of this project are as follows: 1) develop and coordinate a cohesive service delivery network of agencies serving the elder population; 2) using a team approach, one Rehabilitation Specialist and two peer teacher assistants, provide direct services in the areas of independent living skills training and low vision evaluations; and 3) order to increases the level of integration into the community or the targeted population. Utilizing this approach maximizes available resources and fosters the development of a network capable of sustaining services delivery systems created with seed money provided by this grant.

#### **GUAM**

Guam Department of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Government of Guam  
122 IT&E Plaza, Rm. B201, Harmon  
Tamuning, GU 96911  
Contact Person: Norbert Ungacta, Project Director  
671-646-9468

This project served both the territory of Guam and the commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. The IL service delivery model will be one that is itinerant based, outreach oriented, and goal directed. The

project utilizes one independent living rehabilitation teacher/caseworker and one orientation and mobility specialist and contracts for low vision services etc. The objective is to serve 200-250 persons who are older blind.

## **HAWAII**

Department of Human Services,  
Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for  
the Blind Division  
P.O. Box 339  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Contact Person: Janice Travares, Project Director  
808-546-5355

The Hawaii Department of Human Services has six objectives: 1) provide independent living services to 220 persons who are older blind to assist them in caring for their needs and to live independently at home; 2) develop and expand services for elderly blind in rural areas; 3) coordination of social services and resources statewide; 4) community integration of OBI; 5) interpreter services for non-English speaking persons who are older blind; and 6) development of an older blind individuals consumer committee. This project provides outreach and information and referral services; special aids and equipment; eyeglasses, and other visual aids; and mobility, braille, rehabilitation teaching services, daily living skills, guide, reader, and transportation services. The project is contracted to the Hawaii centers for independent living.

## **ILLINOIS**

Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services  
Bureau of Blind Services  
623 E. Adams Street  
P.O. Box 19429  
Springfield, IL 62794-9429  
Contact Person: Carol Gortat, Project Director  
217-785-3887

Illinois Department of Rehabilitation Services subgrants the majority of its Part C funds to four rural centers for independent living for persons who are older blind and provides services, such as support groups, peer counseling, independent living skills training, and referral to vocational rehabilitation for orientation and mobility training or low vision evaluations. Participants are recruited through the efforts of

outreach workers who provide presentations to nursing homes, retirement homes, senior centers, agencies and organizations that provide services to seniors, and community service clubs. Low vision fairs are organized by each outreach worker.

## **IOWA**

Iowa Department for the Blind  
524 Fourth Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
Contact Person: Becky Criswell, Project Director  
515-281-1299

The Iowa Department for the Blind offers a variety of intervention services tailored to meet individual needs, which promotes independence and restored senses of self-direction. Independent living rehabilitation teachers provide services, including guidance and counseling, training in alternative techniques to cope with blindness, information and referral, library services, and assistance in pursuing recreational activities.

## **MAINE**

Department of Human Services  
Bureau of Rehabilitation  
State House Station #11  
Augusta, ME 04333  
Contact Person: Bud Lewis, Project Director  
207-626-5323

The Maine Bureau of Rehabilitation and Maine Center for the Blind provides: 1) outreach and public education in order to identify rural persons who are older blind and strengthen the service network comprised of blindness and aging agencies; 2) a program of direct independent living services, including low vision services and independent living skill instruction through rehabilitation teachers; and 3) a community-based prevention and screening program. The service is provided by a collaborative planning team.

## **MARYLAND**

Maryland State Department of Education  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
2301 Argonne Drive  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
Contact Person: Robert Dantona, Project Director  
301-554-3284

The Maryland project provides an individualized program with a comprehensive array of services within the framework of the independent living services program. The project provides services to 319 clients for a period of up to three years and it establishes staff positions (2) that combine the duties and responsibilities of case management and independent living teacher serving the Baltimore/Washington corridor. Also, an orientation and mobility position has been created.

## **MICHIGAN**

Michigan Department of Labor  
Michigan Commission for the Blind  
201 N. Washington  
Lansing, MI 48909  
Contact Person: Robert Utrup, Project Director  
517-771-1765

The Michigan Commission for the Blind created the vintage project to provide services, including communication skills training, activities of daily living, mobility, low vision services, hearing services, problem solving and advocacy, and case management services. The project target area is ten counties in Central Michigan.

## **MISSISSIPPI**

Mississippi Vocational Rehabilitation  
for the Blind  
P.O. Box 4872  
Jackson, MS 39216-0872  
Contact Person: Joe Carballo  
601-354-6411

This program is operated from the Addie McBryde Rehabilitation Center for the Blind. It supports three full-time rehabilitation teachers to service a target population of people living in rural Mississippi. A major percentage of the estimated 1,100 persons served over three years have a wide variety of secondary disabilities.

## **MONTANA**

Montana Department of Social and  
Rehabilitative Services  
Visual Services Division

111 Sanders, P.O. Box 4210  
Helena, MT 59604  
Contact Person: Bob Maffit, Project Director  
406-444-2590

The core activities of the Montana project include the identification and recruitment of potential senior peer companions and leaders to support and maintain 19 sites; support of the activities necessary for providing radio reading service and its interactive communication components; and training of human service providers and professionals as to the characteristics and features of this Part C project. In tandem with the core components, activities are sequenced to include a statewide consumer managed user/lease equipment program.

### **NEVADA**

Nevada Rehabilitation Division  
Bureau of Services to the Blind  
505 E. King Street, Suite 503  
Carson City, NV 89710  
Stephen A. Shaw, Administrator

The Nevada project has three objectives: 1) demonstrate and evaluate the effectiveness of independent living services when applied to persons who are older blind homemakers who are at risk of premature or unnecessary institutionalization; 2) demonstrate and evaluate the impact of independent living services on the ability of persons who are older blind to participate more fully in home, family, and community functions; and 3) demonstrate and evaluate the effectiveness of independent living services in assisting persons who are older blind to develop the skills and attitudes necessary to successfully adjust to loss of vision. This project serves 250 clients per year.

### **NEW JERSEY**

New Jersey Department of Human Services  
Commission for the Blind and  
Visually Impaired  
153 Halsey Street, 6th Floor  
P.O. Box 47017  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Contact Person: Judith Liebman, Project Director  
201-648-4799

The New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired continues to fund the Senior Community

Independent Services in three counties providing independent living services to medically underserved, primarily low income, minority persons who are older blind. The program also provides eye health education and prevention and services for 485 older individuals. The project enables 848 persons to adjust to blindness through independent living services, 206 clients to be matched with volunteers, another 1,894 to receive eye screening services and 14 peer support groups.

## **NEW MEXICO**

New Mexico Commission for the Blind  
Pera Building, Room 205  
Santa Fe, NM 87503  
Contact Person: Frederick K. Schroeder, Project Director  
505-827-4479

The New Mexico Commission for the Blind establishes a program with three older blind specialists in three state regions who are linked throughout the state with independent living centers and local senior centers. There is a part-time state coordinator, three older blind specialists, and part-time secretary. Peer counseling training and volunteers to serve as senior companions are provided. Emphasis is given to isolated rural communities. The older blind specialists determine what adjustments could be made in the home environment. The senior companions assist with providing transportation services, reading mail and books, and enjoying leisure time, etc.

## **NEW YORK**

New York State Department  
of Social Services  
Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
40 North Pearl Street  
10 Eyck Office Building  
Albany, NY 12243  
Contact Person: Richard Ratajak, Project Director  
518-474-2209

The New York State Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired operates an older blind person program aimed at underserved areas. The objectives are to identify individuals through an enterprising outreach program and to link identified individuals with a variety of service entities to continue to meet the service needs of referred individuals. The commission expects to conduct nearly 4,000 vision screenings in the first year.

Outreach and screening activities result in linking about 500 people with full range of rehabilitation, independent living, and recreational and support services.

**NORTH DAKOTA**

Department of Human Services  
400 E. Broadway Avenue  
Suite 303  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
Contact Person: Mike Beck, Project Director  
701-224-3999

This project is designed to identify 400 individuals over the age of 55 with substantial vision loss. Thirty-five of these individuals have dual sensory loss of both vision and hearing. Services are provided through a network of rehabilitation teachers and peer companions strategically placed throughout the state in order to provide the most effective services in the most efficient manner. Integration services into existing programs for the visually impaired tie it to existing referral sources and make it available to those in the state traditionally needing services or wanting information regarding a vision loss.

**OKLAHOMA**

State Department of Human Service  
P.O. Box 25352  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125  
Contact Person: Paul Bowerman, Project Director  
405-424-4311 Ext. 2849

This is a newly established project, jointly operated by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Visual Services Unit, and Ability Resources, Inc., a center for independent living in Tulsa. This is a program that emphasizes advocacy, self-expression, freedom of movement, and full participation. All independent living services identified in 34 CFR 376.21(g) are provided. The visual services unit is committed to continuing this program after federal funds are no longer available.

**RHODE ISLAND**

Department of Human Services  
Services for the Blind  
and Visually Impaired

275 Westminster Street, 5th floor  
Providence, RI 02903  
Contact Person: Thomas J. Thompson, Project Director  
401-277-2382

Rhode Island Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired has a goal of serving 790 persons who are older blind consumers and 12 objectives for service. They are: 1) optometric screening activities for 600 consumers at 36 senior centers and 600 consumers in homeless shelters; 2) provide independent living services to 790 persons who are older blind and not accepted for vocational rehabilitation services; 3) continue a comprehensive program of independent living services; 4) provide support groups for up to 450 consumers; 5) promote consumer involvement in policy setting, project management, service delivery, self-advocacy, and program evaluation; 6) provide independent living training to 20 nursing homes/institutions, agencies, apartment complexes and groups of consumers' family members; 7) provide for the dissemination of the project's benefits to other public and private programs; 8) provide outreach to minorities; 9) promote cooperative activities with the Department of Elderly Affairs; 10) promote adequate public transport; and 11) support staff in their quest to upgrade professional skills.

#### **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Department of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Division of Services to the  
Visually Impaired  
700 North Governors Dr.  
Pierre, SD 57501-2275  
Contact Person: Gaye Mattke, Project Director  
605-773-4644

This grant provides for the continued expansion of rural rehabilitation teaching services to better serve persons who are older blind in their home communities. Low vision services are expanded to a greater number of rural clinics closer to the clients' homes. A state-wide low vision aid loaner program is available. Efforts are made to develop and expand support systems and resources and group classes in independent living skills have been expanded into rural areas. The White Lance for the Elderly Blind program has been further established on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

#### **TEXAS**

Texas Commission for the Blind  
Client Services Division  
P.O. Box 12866  
Austin, TX 78711  
Contact Person: Robert Packard, Project Director  
512-459-2588

The Texas Commission for the Blind established the following priorities for its Part C project: Individual needs related to low vision (screening to determine the necessity of further evaluation, aids and training in their use, and individual and family counseling/education), counseling/education and coordination of services to meet eye-medical needs, adaptive skills training in homes by itinerant caseworkers, orientation and mobility services, and integration into existing community programs through education/training.

#### **UTAH**

Utah State Office of Rehabilitation  
Utah Division of Rehabilitation Services  
250 East 500 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
Contact Person: William Gibson, Project Director  
801-533-9393

The goal of the Utah program is to provide opportunities to persons who are older blind residing in rural areas.

This goal was accomplished by: 1) establishing a Part C independent living services program in rural centers for independent living; 2) conducting outreach activities aimed at service providers and consumers; 3) providing services to maintain or increase independence of persons who are older blind individuals; and 4) conducting public awareness and advocacy activities to increase the level of accessibility and integration of visually impaired individuals.

#### **VERMONT**

Agency of Human Services  
Division for the Blind and  
Visually Impaired  
103 South Main Street  
Waterbury, VT 05676  
Contact Person: David M. Mentasti, Project Director  
802-241-2211

This project continues a statewide mobile low vision and rehabilitation project providing coverage to the entire state in rehabilitation services and skills training. In FY 1992, the project provides services to 579 consumers, 213 of whom received low vision exams by the project optometrists. During the three year continuation, 400 additional consumers per year receive a full complement of statewide services, 150 of whom receive low vision examinations. A new component is added which provides a needs assessment of elderly people in nursing homes/senior centers to determine their need for vision services. Upon completion of this, a pilot project is conducted to provide vision assessments and low vision services to elderly residents in nursing homes/senior centers. In addition, staff participate in in-service training.

#### **WASHINGTON**

Department of Services for the Blind  
521 E. Legion Way  
P.O. Box 40933  
Olympia, WA 98504  
Contact Person: Howard Kovarsky, Project Director  
509-456-4458

This project describes a comprehensive program of independent living services for blind individuals aged 55 and older residing in Washington state's rural counties, thereby enabling them to adjust to their disability(s) and maintain or increase their self-sufficiency in home and family. This project also helps project service providers maintain and expand their local financial resources and develop systematic linkages with other community service providers.

#### **WISCONSIN**

Department of Health and  
Social Services  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
P.O. Box 7852  
Madison, WI 53707

The Wisconsin project has eight objectives: 1) to employ trained older persons as teacher assistants; 2) teach blind and visually impaired seniors rehabilitation adjustment skills necessary to remain independent; 3) provide seniors who are blind or visually impaired with a vehicle for access into the aging network for the delivery of quality services; 4) enable individuals

within the aging network to achieve a greater level of understanding of the unique limitations imposed by blindness and of the resources available to offset these limitations; 5) evaluate county/tribal aging units in order to improve programmatic and service accessibility by blind and visually impaired seniors; 6) provide preventive visual health screening clinics; and 7) provide for the purchase of adaptive aids and devices, orientation and mobility instruction, and transportation.

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

State Board of Rehabilitation  
Division of Rehabilitation Service  
State Capitol Complex  
Charleston, WV 25305  
Contact Person: Judy Reed, Project Director  
304-766-4799

The West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services, in partnership with other State agencies, serves 135 blind and 275 severely visually impaired persons aged fifty-five years and older during the three-year project period. The project enables 270 of those persons to live independently in their homes and communities with the maximum degree of self-direction; to enhance their access to a continuum of support services; and to participate more actively in the social, recreational and civic life of the community. In the process, the project facilitates systems change and advances the delivery of community-based, comprehensive independent living services and resources for the target population.

## **WYOMING**

Department of Employment  
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
1110 Herschler Building  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Contact Person: Darlo Koldenhoven, Project Director  
307-777-6841

Wyoming Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) established Wyoming Independent Living for Older Blind to serve approximately 1,600 persons who are older blind. DVR administers the project and coordinates subcontracted services. The project has four objectives: 1) develop and implement a statewide system for information and referral in coordination with the existing information and referral systems; 2) create a

team of service providers (orientation and mobility specialist, ADL specialist, and a professional counselor) that travels to six or more unserved/underserved areas each year; 3) create and maintain a loan closet of independent living assistive devices (particularly a selection of electronic and computer equipment); 4) create, coordinate and advise a system of 20 or more peer support groups throughout Wyoming, including one support group for each of the two tribes on the state's American Indian Reservation.

Part D - Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights  
FY 1992 Appropriation - \$1,074,000 - Section 731

The purpose of this program is to provide support to the States through their governors to establish systems for the protection and advocacy of individuals with severe disabilities who are receiving services under Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, (the Act) and who are not eligible for services provided by existing protection and advocacy or ombudsman programs or whose request for services cannot be addressed by client assistance programs funded under section 112 of the Act.

The protection and advocacy systems have the authority to pursue legal, administrative, and other appropriate remedies to insure the protection of the rights of individuals receiving services under this title within the States; however, the agency designated by the governor to establish the system must utilize alternate dispute resolution techniques to the maximum extent feasible prior to resorting to administrative or legal remedies. The P & A system in a state must be independent of any designated State unit or any other agency that provides services under Title VII of the Rehabilitation Act to individuals with severe disabilities. Individuals with severe disabilities are expected to be involved in the development and implementation of the protection and advocacy systems.

Duplication of services is to be avoided by assuring that the agency has knowledge of the eligibility requirements and the range of services provided by the following programs and by coordinating services, as appropriate, with systems and programs required under:

1. Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1978.
2. Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act of 1986.
3. Older American Act.
4. Section 112 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
5. Advocacy services provided by Centers for Independent Living within the States.
6. Fair Housing Amendments of 1988.

In FY 1992, twelve grants were awarded to State agencies designated by the governors to conduct the protection and advocacy systems for individuals with disabilities, including persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Appendix A

FINAL GRANT AWARDS -FISCAL YEAR 1992  
BASIC STATE GRANT PROGRAM  
TITLE I, SECTION 110

| REGION/<br>STATE/<br>TERRITORY | STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES |               |                 |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------|-----------------|
|                                | GENERAL                                  | BLIND         | U.S. TOTAL      |
| TOTALS                         | \$1,628,674,245                          | \$154,855,755 | \$1,783,530,000 |
| I.                             |  |               |                 |
| *Connecticut                   | 11,675,669                               | 2,531,000     | 14,206,669      |
| Maine                          | 10,421,366                               | -----         | 10,421,366      |
| *Massachusetts                 | 29,744,999                               | 5,084,641     | 34,829,640      |
| New Hampshire                  | 6,917,422                                | -----         | 6,917,422       |
| *Rhode Island                  | 5,578,232                                | -----         | 5,578,232       |
| Vermont                        | 5,450,578                                | 743,259       | 6,193,837       |
| II.                            |  |               |                 |
| *New Jersey                    | 29,438,244                               | 7,355,156     | 36,793,400      |
| *New York                      | 87,966,682                               | 16,755,558    | 104,722,240     |
| Puerto Rico                    | 32,146,222                               | -----         | 32,146,222      |
| Virgin Island                  | 1,460,500                                | -----         | 1,460,500       |
| III.                           |  |               |                 |
| *Delaware                      | 5,203,335                                | 916,765       | 6,120,100       |
| Dis. of Columbia               | 9,616,573                                | -----         | 9,616,573       |
| Maryland                       | 26,477,022                               | -----         | 26,477,022      |
| *Pennsylvania                  | 79,588,780                               | 8,454,308     | 88,043,088      |
| *Virginia                      | 34,099,984                               | 5,340,249     | 39,440,233      |
| West Virginia                  | 19,766,013                               |               | 19,766,013      |
| IV.                            |  |               |                 |
| Alabama                        | 41,361,361                               | -----         | 41,361,361      |
| *Florida                       | 67,280,500                               | 13,780,344    | 81,060,844      |
| Georgia                        | 49,626,417                               | -----         | 49,626,417      |
| *Kentucky                      | 30,569,673                               | 5,276,459     | 35,846,132      |
| *Mississippi                   | 20,530,912                               | 9,821,098     | 30,352,010      |
| *North Carolina                | 50,127,581                               | 9,232,903     | 59,360,484      |
| *South Carolina                | 29,946,010                               | 4,474,691     | 34,420,701      |
| Tennessee                      | 43,288,421                               | -----         | 43,288,421      |
| V.                             |  |               |                 |
| Illinois                       | 71,970,548                               | -----         | 71,970,548      |
| Indiana                        | 43,660,988                               | -----         | 43,660,988      |
| *Michigan                      | 51,202,825                               | 7,336,748     | 58,539,573      |
| *Minnesota                     | 23,584,150                               | 8,393,865     | 31,978,015      |

appendix A (cont.)

| Region/State/<br>Territory | STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES |            |             |
|----------------------------|--|------------|-------------|
|                            | GENERAL                                  | BLIND      | U.S. TOTAL  |
| V. (cont.)                 |  |            |             |
| Ohio                       | 71,405,187                               | -----      | 71,405,187  |
| Wisconsin                  | 38,045,558                               | -----      | 38,045,558  |
| VI.                        |  |            |             |
| *Arkansas                  | 22,359,297                               | 2,745,823  | 25,105,120  |
| Louisiana                  | 41,654,188                               | -----      | 41,654,188  |
| *New Mexico                | 10,556,919                               | 2,748,917  | 13,305,836  |
| Oklahoma                   | 29,187,046                               | -----      | 29,187,046  |
| *Texas                     | 107,667,531                              | 24,925,999 | 132,593,530 |
| VII.                       |  |            |             |
| *Iowa                      | 15,022,052                               | 3,549,987  | 18,572,039  |
| Kansas                     | 17,926,335                               | -----      | 17,926,335  |
| *Missouri                  | 33,100,545                               | 4,594,909  | 37,695,454  |
| *Nebraska                  | 8,685,000                                | 1,707,097  | 10,392,097  |
| VIII.                      |  |            |             |
| Colorado                   | 21,192,535                               | -----      | 21,192,535  |
| Montana                    | 7,060,027                                | -----      | 7,060,027   |
| North Dakota               | 5,945,100                                | -----      | 5,945,100   |
| *South Dakota              | 5,078,490                                | 1,489,622  | 6,568,112   |
| Utah                       | 16,019,017                               | -----      | 16,019,017  |
| Wyoming                    | 5,223,848                                | -----      | 5,223,848   |
| IX.                        |  |            |             |
| American Samoa             | 505,774                                  | -----      | 505,774     |
| Arizona                    | 22,359,297                               | -----      | 22,359,297  |
| California                 | 152,523,668                              | -----      | 152,523,668 |
| Guam                       | 1,764,771                                | -----      | 1,764,771   |
| Hawaii                     | 6,896,801                                | -----      | 6,896,801   |
| Nevada                     | 6,566,495                                | -----      | 6,566,495   |
| Northern Marianas          | 280,948                                  | -----      | 280,948     |
| X.                         |  |            |             |
| Alaska                     | 6,081,871                                | -----      | 6,081,871   |
| *Idaho                     | 7,766,355                                | 1,175,472  | 8,941,827   |
| *Oregon                    | 18,371,870                               | 2,624,551  | 20,996,421  |
| *Washington                | 27,994,151                               | 3,796,334  | 31,790,485  |

\*State with Separate Blind Agency

**FINAL GRANT AWARDS - FISCAL YEAR 1992**  
**SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**  
**TITLE VII, SECTION 631**

| REGION/<br>STATE/<br>TERRITORY | STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES |              |                   |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------|-------------------|
|                                | <u>General</u>                           | <u>Blind</u> | <u>U.S. Total</u> |
|                                | \$27,015,194                             | \$2,049,806  | \$31,065,000      |
| I.                             |  |              |                   |
| *Connecticut                   | 315,190                                  | 55,622       | 370,812           |
| Maine                          | 250,000                                  | --           | 250,000           |
| *Massachusetts                 | 598,161                                  | 82,692       | 680,853           |
| New Hampshire                  | 250,000                                  | --           | 250,000           |
| *Rhode Island                  | 250,000                                  | --           | 250,000           |
| Vermont                        | 242,204                                  | 8,000        | 250,000           |
| II.                            |  |              |                   |
| *New Jersey                    | 699,867                                  | 174,967      | 874,834           |
| *New York                      | 1,711,281                                | 324,717      | 2,035,998         |
| Puerto Rico                    | 368,894                                  | --           | 368,894           |
| Virgin Island                  | 47,202                                   | --           | 47,202            |
| III.                           |  |              |                   |
| *Delaware                      | 212,741                                  | 37,500       | 250,241           |
| Dis. of Columbia               | 250,000                                  | --           | 250,000           |
| Maryland                       | 541,084                                  | --           | 541,084           |
| *Pennsylvania                  | 1,264,885                                | 75,542       | 1,340,427         |
| Virginia                       | 609,471                                  | 90,735       | 700,206           |
| West Virginia                  | 250,649                                  | --           | 250,649           |
| IV.                            |  |              |                   |
| Alabama                        | 457,336                                  | --           | 457,336           |
| Florida                        | 1,211,432                                | 248,124      | 1,459,556         |
| Georgia                        | 730,794                                  | --           | 730,794           |
| *Kentucky                      | 361,668                                  | 54,043       | 415,711           |
| *Mississippi                   | 251,881                                  | 38,383       | 290,264           |
| *North Carolina                | 622,691                                  | 127,538      | 750,229           |
| *South Carolina                | 343,499                                  | 51,138       | 394,637           |
| Tennessee                      | 551,950                                  | --           | 551,950           |

appendix B (cont.)

| REGION/<br>STATE/<br>TERRITORY | STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES |              |                   |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------|-------------------|
|                                | <u>General</u>                           | <u>Blind</u> | <u>U.S. Total</u> |
| V.                             |  |              |                   |
| Illinois                       | 1,293,691                                | --           | 1,293,691         |
| Indiana                        | 625,427                                  | --           | 625,427           |
| *Michigan                      | 1,026,121                                | 25,830       | 1,051,951         |
| *Minnesota                     | 406,296                                  | 88,839       | 495,135           |
| Ohio                           | 1,223,668                                | --           | 1,223,668         |
| Wisconsin                      | 551,875                                  | --           | 551,875           |
| VI.                            |  |              |                   |
| *Arkansas                      | 239,447                                  | 26,624       | 266,071           |
| Louisiana                      | 476,065                                  | --           | 476,065           |
| *New Mexico                    | 245,500                                  | --           | 245,500           |
| Oklahoma                       | 356,046                                  | --           | 356,046           |
| *Texas                         | 1,533,064                                | 389,420      | 1,922,484         |
| VII.                           |  |              |                   |
| *Iowa                          | 306,765                                  | 6,512        | 313,277           |
| Kansas                         | 280,445                                  | --           | 280,445           |
| *Missouri                      | 502,214                                  | 20,000       | 522,214           |
| *Nebraska                      | 237,500                                  | 12,500       | 250,000           |
| VIII.                          |  |              |                   |
| Colorado                       | 372,795                                  | --           | 372,795           |
| *Montana                       | 250,000                                  | --           | 250,000           |
| North Dakota                   | 250,000                                  | --           | 250,000           |
| *South Dakota                  | 249,252                                  | 1,000        | 250,252           |
| Utah                           | 250,000                                  | --           | 250,000           |
| Wyoming                        | 250,000                                  | --           | 250,000           |
| IX.                            |  |              |                   |
| American Samoa                 | 47,202                                   | --           | 47,202            |
| Arizona                        | 239,447                                  | --           | 239,447           |
| California                     | 3,368,059                                | --           | 3,368,059         |
| Guam                           | 47,202                                   | --           | 47,202            |
| Hawaii                         | 250,000                                  | --           | 250,000           |
| Nevada                         | 250,435                                  | --           | 250,435           |
| Northern Marianas              | 44,257                                   | --           | 44,257            |
| Palau                          | 5,345                                    | --           | 5,345             |
| X.                             |  |              |                   |
| Alaska                         | 457,336                                  | --           | 457,336           |
| *Idaho                         | 248,335                                  | 2,030        | 250,365           |
| *Oregon                        | 281,435                                  | 40,206       | 321,641           |
| *Washington                    | 487,473                                  | 63,344       | 550,817           |

\*State with Separate Blind Agency

**FINAL GRANT AWARDS - FISCAL YEAR 1992**  
**COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM**  
**TITLE VII, SECTION 701, PART A**

| REGION/<br>STATE/<br>TERRITORY | STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES |                |              |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|--------------|
|                                | <u>U.S. Total</u>                        | <u>General</u> | <u>Blind</u> |
|                                | \$14,058,438                             | \$1,115,461    | \$13,619,000 |
| I.                             |  |                |              |
| *Connecticut                   | 170,148                                  | 30,000         | 200,148      |
| Maine                          | 200,000                                  | --             | 200,000      |
| *Massachusetts                 | 209,578                                  | 36,937         | 246,515      |
| New Hampshire                  | 200,000                                  | --             | 200,000      |
| *Rhode Island                  | 200,000                                  | **             | 200,000      |
| Vermont                        | 150,000                                  | 50,000         | 200,000      |
| II.                            |  |                |              |
| *New Jersey                    | 253,468                                  | 63,280         | 316,748      |
| *New York                      | 619,349                                  | 117,817        |              |
|                                | 737,166                                  |                |              |
| Puerto Rico                    | 200,000                                  | --             | 200,000      |
| Virgin Island                  | 17,750                                   | --             | 17,750       |
| III.                           |  |                |              |
| *Delaware                      | 170,000                                  | 30,000         | 200,000      |
| Dis. of Col.                   | 200,000                                  | --             | 200,000      |
| Maryland                       | 200,216                                  | --             | 200,216      |
| *Pennsylvania                  | 459,139                                  | 27,744         |              |
|                                | 486,883                                  |                |              |
| *Virginia                      | 220,599                                  | 32,922         | 253,521      |
| West Virginia                  | 200,081                                  | --             | 200,081      |
| IV.                            |  |                |              |
| Alabama                        | 200,182                                  | --             | 200,182      |
| Florida                        | 440,182                                  | 90,026         | 530,208      |
| Georgia                        | 265,446                                  | --             | 265,446      |
| *Kentucky                      | 174,000                                  | 26,166         | 200,166      |
| *Mississippi                   | 158,116                                  | 42,000         | 200,116      |
| *North Car.                    | 222,793                                  | 48,840         | 271,633      |

|             |         |        |         |
|-------------|---------|--------|---------|
| *South Car. | 174,157 | 26,000 | 200,157 |
| Tennessee   | 200,220 | --     | 200,220 |

appendix C (cont.)

| Region/State/<br>Territory | STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES |              |                   |
|----------------------------|--|--------------|-------------------|
|                            | <u>General</u>                           | <u>Blind</u> | <u>U.S. Total</u> |
| V.                         |  |              |                   |
| Illinois                   | 468,401                                  | --           | 468,401           |
| Indiana                    | 226,924                                  | --           | 226,924           |
| *Michigan                  | 264,717                                  | 116,160      | 380,877           |
| *Minnesota                 | 164,162                                  | 36,036       | 200,198           |
| Ohio                       | 443,981                                  | --           | 443,981           |
| Wisconsin                  | 200,000                                  | --           | 200,000           |
| VI.                        |  |              |                   |
| *Arkansas                  | 180,106                                  | 20,000       | 200,106           |
| Louisiana                  | 200,191                                  | --           | 200,191           |
| *New Mexico                | 166,000                                  | 34,000       | 200,000           |
| Oklahoma                   | 200,142                                  | --           | 200,142           |
| *Texas                     | 556,855                                  | 139,213      | 696,068           |
| VII.                       |  |              |                   |
| *Iowa                      | 158,100                                  | 42,025       | 200,125           |
| Kansas                     | 200,112                                  | --           | 200,112           |
| Missouri                   | 182,449                                  | 27,228       | 209,677           |
| *Nebraska                  | 177,400                                  | 22,600       | 200,000           |
| VIII.                      |  |              |                   |
| Colorado                   | 200,149                                  | --           | 200,149           |
| *Montana                   | 200,000                                  | --           | 200,000           |
| North Dakota               | 222,793                                  | --           | 222,793           |
| *South Dakota              | 160,025                                  | 40,006       |                   |
|                            | 200,031                                  |              |                   |
| Utah                       | 200,078                                  | --           | 200,078           |
| Wyoming                    | 200,000                                  | --           | 200,000           |
| IX.                        |  |              |                   |
| Amer. Samoa                | 17,750                                   | --           | 17,750            |
| Arizona                    | 200,000                                  | --           | 200,000           |
| California                 | 1,219,645                                | --           | 1,219,645         |
| Guam                       | 8,000                                    | --           | 8,000             |
| Hawaii                     | 200,000                                  | --           | 200,000           |
| Nevada                     | 200,000                                  | --           | 200,000           |
| Nor. Marianas              | --                                       | --           | --                |
| Palau                      | --                                       | --           | --                |
| X.                         |  |              |                   |
| Alaska                     | 200,182                                  | --           | 200,182           |
| *Idaho                     | 110,025                                  | 90,026       | 200,045           |
| *Oregon                    | 175,128                                  | 25,000       | 200,128           |
| *Washington                | 177,191                                  | 23,025       | 200,216           |

\* State with Separate Blind Agency

Appendix D

**FINAL GRANT AWARDS - FISCAL YEAR 1992**  
**CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)**  
**TITLE I, SECTION 112**

REGION/  
STATE/  
TERRITORY

DESIGNATED AGENCIES FOR CAP AWARDS<sup>4</sup>

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|               | <u>U.S. Total</u> |
|---------------|-------------------|
|               | \$8,298,383       |
| I.            |                   |
| Connecticut   | 101,538           |
| Maine         | 100,000           |
| Massachusetts | 184,002           |
| New Hampshire | 100,000           |
| Rhode Island  | 100,000           |
| Vermont       | 100,000           |
| II.           |                   |
| New Jersey    | 236,426           |
| New York      | 550,232           |
| Puerto Rico   | 100,000           |
| Virgin Island | 45,048            |
| III.          |                   |
| Delaware      | 100,312           |
| Dis. of Col.  | 100,000           |
| Maryland      | 146,230           |
| Pennsylvania  | 363,417           |
| Virginia      | 189,233           |
| West Virginia | 100,000           |
| IV.           |                   |
| Alabama       | 123,594           |
| Florida       | 395,716           |
| Georgia       | 195,102           |

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<sup>4</sup> Agencies designated by the State Governor for CAP serving all disabilities independent of VR agencies as required.

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| Kentucky    | 110,983 |
| Mississippi | 100,000 |
| North Car.  | 159,649 |
| South Car.  | 106,651 |

appendix D (cont.)

|                            |                                    |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| REGION/STATE/<br>TERRITORY | DESIGNATED AGENCIES FOR CAP AWARDS |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|

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|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
|               | <u>U.S. Total</u> |
| Tennessee     | 146,883           |
| V.            |                   |
| Illinois      | 349,622           |
| Indiana       | 166,972           |
| Michigan      | 284,291           |
| Minnesota     | 133,812           |
| Ohio          | 326,685           |
| Wisconsin     | 149,624           |
| VI.           |                   |
| Arkansas      | 100,256           |
| Louisiana     | 129,072           |
| New Mexico    | 100,709           |
| Oklahoma      | 101,472           |
| Texas         | 519,555           |
| VII.          |                   |
| Iowa          | 80,000            |
| Kansas        | 100,000           |
| Missouri      | 156,506           |
| Nebraska      | 85,000            |
| VIII.         |                   |
| Colorado      | 101,541           |
| Montana       | 100,000           |
| North Dakota  | 100,000           |
| South Dakota  | 100,326           |
| Utah          | 100,806           |
| Wyoming       | 100,212           |
| IX.           |                   |
| Amer. Samoa   | 45,000            |
| Arizona       | 101,715           |
| California    | 896,299           |
| Guam          | 45,000            |
| Hawaii        | 100,518           |
| Nevada        | 100,000           |
| Nor. Marianas | 45,000            |
| Palau         | --                |

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| X.         |         |
| Alaska     | 123,594 |
| Idaho      | 100,471 |
| Oregon     | 101,330 |
| Washington | 148,859 |