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www.bucksblind.org

PICTURES COURTESY OF JAMES MCNALLY
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2014-2015
Bucks County Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

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Dennis Fittipaldi
Rebecca Walker, MD
BCABVI is a vibrant organization dedicated to serving the vision needs of our community. We operate with high standards for individualized services and support for our clients. With a growing senior population and corresponding increase in age-related eye disease, BCABVI saw a growth in service requests in FY 14/15. Where other non-profits may see obstacles of manpower and resources, we saw an opportunity to join together and raise the bar even higher.

We partnered with The National Accreditation Council for Blind and Low Vision Services and the Better Business Bureau Charity Accreditation Division to successfully complete third party accreditations of our services. BCABVI received the highest rating from both reviews, confirming our services reflect best practices in our field.

We surveyed our clients for feedback about their current and future needs. Increased Low Vision Services, training on the use of technology and support for clients who are blind, were identified as opportunities for necessary growth.

We engaged our Board of Directors in a building expansion project with dedicated space for a new low vision clinic and TECH room. They volunteered their expertise in creating a physical environment that supported increased and improved service delivery.

We united community organizations, professionals, vendors and supporters, each of whom offered in-kind services, equipment or funds to further our vision of Rich, Vibrant and Independent Lives for our clients.

We enhanced volunteerism within the organization, embracing our clients as teachers, mentors and advocates. The same group of people who originally came to BCABVI seeking our help became our partners by contributing valuable knowledge and resources to further enrich our services.

We educated our community, raising awareness about blindness and visual impairment and suggesting ways the public could become involved with BCABVI. They responded enthusiastically with community service days, fundraising efforts and ongoing patronage of our Second Look Newtown Thrift Shop.

Working together, BCABVI reached new heights during FY 14/15.

- Our Low Vision Clinics grew by 10%, offering 660 community members low vision evaluations and training on low vision devices.
- Our clients provided their peers with 492 hours of individualized and group technology lessons.
- We created a new Adjustment to Blindness support group in response to client needs.
- Hours of support groups for clients was increased by 19%.
- Twenty nine volunteers donated services to BCABVI valued at $72,140.
- Second Look Newtown Thrift Shop generated 7% more unrestricted funds than in the prior year.
- The new Low Vision Clinic and TECH room will be opening in December 2015, positioning BCABVI to effectively meet the growing needs in our community.

It’s no secret that BCABVI’s success is due to a community of individuals working together towards a common goal; to continually raise the bar and create new opportunities for every Bucks County resident seeking to overcome the challenges of vision loss. BCABVI successfully accomplished this goal in FY 14/15 and we couldn’t have done it without the entire team. As we continue building new relationships and adding to the BCABVI family, there are no limits as to what we can achieve together.

Anne Marie Hyer, MPA
Executive Director

Duane E. Buck
President, BCABVI Board of Directors
Debra – TECH club, Low Vision Support Group, Life Sharing, BCABVI client

Linda – TECH Club, BCABVI Lions Club, Adjustment to Blindness Group, Specialized Services, BCABVI Client

Dick – Veteran’s group, TECH Club, Low Vision Support Group, BCABVI Client

Gaye – TECH teacher, Client Mentor, Community Presenter, BCABVI Lions Club, Facilitator of Life Sharing and Biography groups, Low Vision Clinic, BCABVI Client
OUR NUMBERS

$4 – the amount raised for every $1 spent on fundraising

490 low vision aids were provided to help with daily living

1882 hours of support groups for vision loss and adjustment to blindness (19% increase from prior year)

3270 hours of Social/Recreational activities

Total number of community members who received services in our Low Vision Clinics (10% increase from last year) 660

7585 rides throughout our community using 6 vans and 2 buses

33 presentations to community, educating 521 people about vision loss

12 clients gave 432.5 hours of mentoring services (almost triple from prior year)

WHERE OUR DOLLARS GO $886,735

WHERE OUR DOLLARS COME FROM $886,735

BCABVI FY15 Income & Expenses

EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>736,355</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>28,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; Admin</td>
<td>121,450</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>886,735</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Gifts</td>
<td>108,099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thrift Shop</td>
<td>333,975</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Support</td>
<td>144,553</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>224,400</td>
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<td>Events</td>
<td>6,330</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>9,006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>60,372</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>886,735</strong></td>
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ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalent</td>
<td>108,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A/R &amp; Other Receivables</td>
<td>141,423</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment - Current Portion</td>
<td>4,086,176</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Asset</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,335,927</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property,Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>1,483,230</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less: Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>(700,455)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust</td>
<td>1,344,316</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Asset</strong></td>
<td>$ 6,463,018</td>
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LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

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<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued Vacations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td>Unrestricted Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Permanently Restricted Assets</td>
<td>1,286,569</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 6,463,018</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

474 hours of home support for independent living

29 VOLUNTEERS donated $2694.50

2195 preschool aged kids received free vision screenings at 80 sites throughout the county as part of our Prevention of Blindness program

83% of operating budget generated by BCABVI

1021 hours of life skills education

NUMBER of people who reached out to us for help 3442

To review BCABVI’s Audited Financial Statements or Privacy Policy please visit our website at www.bucksblind.org or call us at 215.968.9400
Individual Donors


Individual Donors under $99

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Abraham – Mr. & Mrs. John E. Ahlum – Mr. & Mrs. R. Albanowski – Mr. David Allen – Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Alwine – Mr. & Mrs. Aloysius J. Ambrose – Mr. & Mrs. Peter Anagnos – Mr. James Angelini – Mr. & Mrs. Philip Angle – Ms. Shirley Apeldorn – Mr. Anthony Aravich Jr. – Ms. Helen Arena – Mr. & Mrs. Edward C. Atkinson – Mr. Robert Atkinson – Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Bartkowski – Ms. Sheena Bediako Esq. – Mr. Tom Bogia – Dr. Patrick Bren – Debra & John Breig – Ms. Susan Buzek – Mr. & Mrs. John E. Carpenter – Mr. Joseph Carugati – Mr. & Mrs. Francis Champine – Mr. Christopher Chandra – Mr. John Cleary – Mr. & Mrs. Robert Clifford – Mr. & Mrs. Roger Cook – Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Fellman – Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence G. Fisher – Dennis Fittipaldi – Edna Fleer – Louis Flege – Paul Forstater – Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fowler – Jeannette Frelick – Ann L. Genghini – Stephen W. George – Joseph M. Gilardi – Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Gillispie – Rebecca Gray – Andrea Gregory – Ann Gunberg – Donald M. Hamnett – Mr. & Mrs. David Hankins – William Pitt Hartzell – Mr. & Mrs. Venard Haubert – Mr. & Mrs. Al Hawraney – Nina L. Heitz – Rose Marie Hug – Anne Marie Hyer – Mr. & Mrs. Walter H. Jamison – Benjamin Jones – Mr. & Mrs. Donald Juhan – Dr. Larry Kalker – Anne Kasprinski – James A. King Jr. – Mr. & Mrs. Jack Kleiner – Robert R. Kraus – Albert Krause – Mr. & Mrs. C. David Krewson – Thomas Lafisca – Mr. & Mrs. Burton Lamp! – Marianne Lang – Joseph Leo – Sandra W. Long – Alice M. Mack – Mr. & Mrs. D. Malinger – JoAnn K Malta – Edward Marshalek O.D. – Mr. & Mrs. Norman Martin – Patricia Martin – Jill Martin – Paul Marvel – Don & Felicia Matlosz – Mr. & Mrs. Barry McCabe – Mr. & Mrs. Robert McCluskey – Angela McDonough – Mr. & Mrs. William F. McElroy – Patricia Murray – Dan Naylor – Donald Neirotti – Mr. & Mrs. Walter Nelson – Irene Olszewski – W. Thomas Oram – John Parry – Mr. & Mrs. Francis Petrus – Mr. & Mrs. Barry L. Pfleuger Jr. – James E. Pitra – Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Plaska – Bruce Platon – Cynthia Porter – Richard J. Pressel – Maureen E. Pugh – Mr. & Mrs. Raymond B. Reinhardt – Mr. & Mrs. Harold W. Rice – Ralph J. Rogers – Max E. Rose – Mary Ruth Rozzi – Lisa M. Sandler – Mr. & Mrs. Randall Sands – Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Sands – Eleanor S. Sands – John C. Savage – Mr. & Mrs. Gary Savrin – Mr. & Mrs. Robert Scheithauer – Mr. & Mrs. Robert Seewald – Mr. & Mrs. Peter J. Segal – Edward M. Shannon – Mr. & Mrs. Elmore Shemelny Jan – Joanna Sipple – Joan S. Skurnowicz – Christine L. Smith – Elizabeth Stabler – Patricia M. Steele – Timothy Stezzi – Charles J. Strauss – Corrine Stuehring – Mr. & Mrs. John Taska – Joan Thompson – Nancy C. Tilley – Charles Townsend – Sandra Uehling – John VanDaman – Amy Vandenburgh – Mr. & Mrs. George Wajda – Cheryl E. Weinstein – William M. Welch III – Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Werthman – Kent W. Westhelle – Jay W. White – Mr. & Mrs. Richard P. Wilson – Anne M. Winter – Mr. & Mrs. Merrill Wittmer – Mr. & Mrs. Warren Woldorf – Eileen B. Zichino – Kathleen G. Zingaro

Marylin - Facilitator of Book Club and Chorus, Low Vision Clinic, BCABVI Client
Community Organizations/Foundations

$1000-$4,999


$500-$999

Chalfont Lions Club – Northampton Township Lions Club – Springfield Township Lions Club – Pennsbury Lions Club

$100-$499


$99 and under

Bucks County Women of the Moose – Lower Makefield Seniors – Low Vision Group

In Kind Donations


We value each of our donors and want to recognize their contribution to BCABVI. If a donor was inadvertently omitted or a donation incorrectly listed on our page, we apologize and ask you please contact us at 215-968-9400.
After thirteen years of discouragement, I now see possibilities for the future.

Struggling to understand the cause of her vision loss, Karen describes how she sees as “looking at craters on the moon. There are gaps in my vision.” She can’t see certain colors and has difficulty focusing her eyes. “It’s like a camera without a zoom lens. I see a slow progression, not an automatic focus.”

Karen went to several specialists to search for a diagnosis. With each incorrect diagnosis, she became more discouraged. A registered dietician since 1980, Karen had to stop working when she could not see patients’ charts. She stopped baking from scratch and sewing her own clothes. “People started to think I was not intelligent because of my vision loss. Every small task required concentration. It became exhausting.”

Karen and her husband Frank have been residents of Newtown PA for over 20 years. They had driven by BCABVI many times, but didn’t really know what services were available. After so much discouragement, Karen wasn’t sure if there was anything that would help her. Frank suggested to Karen they should just stop in and see what BCABVI could do.

Walking into BCABVI’s Low Vision Clinic, Karen was given new hope. She met Sue, the Low Vision Services coordinator who immediately understood the unique nature of Karen’s vision loss. After discussing the challenges Karen faced, Sue suggested several low vision devices that could address Karen’s specific needs.

Karen tested a CCTV, which helped with magnification, but did not have the portability she desired. A hand held magnifier was portable, but did not address her need for contrast. Zoom Text screen magnifier software would allow her to change contrast, but required a laptop to operate.

Karen was then introduced to the Zoomax, a portable magnification device that could adapt to her changing vision over time. She could select the level of magnification, the right contrast or choose full color viewing depending on her desired task. It could also be adjusted for distance or near viewing. After working with Sue on the Zoomax, Karen knew it was the right choice for her. “I had seen some items online, but at BCABVI’s Low Vision Clinic, I could hold, touch and try the equipment. That was the best way to make sure it would work for me.”

Equipped with the right device, Karen started to regain her independence one task at a time. “For the first time in years, I could pick out a birthday card for my husband and see family pictures.” Her husband Frank noticed a significant change in Karen once she had her Zoomax. “She doesn’t say I can’t do this or I can’t do that. I saw a positive attitude emerge.”

Karen’s advice for others experiencing vision loss is “Don’t waste time. Please go talk to the staff at BCABVI. There is more there than you would ever expect to be offered and the people are more gracious than you could anticipate.”
Duane E. Buck, President, BCABVI Board of Directors, Donor
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Dominic – Preschool Vision Screening

Karen – Life Sharing Group, Adjustment to Blindness Support Group, Transportation, BCABVI Client

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