The Transitional Activities for Pre-Employment and Socialization (TAPS) Program, is a six-weekend experience designed to guide children with visual impairments ages 10–14 towards higher education and gainful employment. Held at VISIONS Vocational Rehabilitation Center (VRC) and funded by generous grants from the Reader’s Digest Partners for Sight Foundation and the William G. and Helen C. Hoffman Foundation, the TAPS Program introduces participants and their families to the tools, skills, and resources needed to succeed in college and on the job. The TAPS program offers group activities specifically tailored to share stories and perspectives as parents of children with visual impairments, while gathering valuable insight from their peers.

During the first weekend of TAPS, participants amazed both their parents and VISIONS staff with their creativity and teamwork by participating in mock interviews, creating houses out of cardboard and baking brownies and cookies. These activities were designed to build comradery and get participants to come out of their shells.

During the second weekend, participants began their capstone projects for the year, which will wrap up in a “Shark Tank” type presentation to be held on the final weekend. Participants and their families took part in a workshop called “Apps for TAPS”, which introduced smartphone applications that would be useful for increased independence at school and in the home/community. Participants explored potential vocational options with the completion of a career interest inventory and concluded the weekend with a trip to the Renaissance Fair in Tuxedo, NY.

In the third weekend, youth and their parents visited Dominican College, listened to a panel of blind college students and participated in a workshop on public speaking. After a fun day of apple picking, participants and their families spent the rest of the day preparing apple pies and decorating pumpkins.

At the time of publication, the TAPS Program concluded three of six weekend sessions. Follow us on social media to keep up with the remaining weeks!

www.visionsvcb.org
VISIONS is growing to meet the unmet needs of individuals with vision loss! We now have 104 staff with the expansion to cover all of Westchester County as well as the five boroughs of New York City, Long Island, short term residential services in Rockland County and job placements in New Jersey. We are thrilled to have been named #1 in New York State for the placement of legally blind persons in paid employment by the New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB) for the fourth year in a row! Additionally, we are proud to have received a grant from the Kessler Foundation to enable blind New Jersey residents to find employment in collaboration with the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired. From its beginnings in the 1920’s, VISIONS created programs and services to meet the gaps not covered by other providers. As some of our colleagues have decreased their footprint, VISIONS has accepted the challenge to increase our coverage even though it is expensive to serve individuals in spread out suburban communities. In addition to geographic expansion, VISIONS has created new programs for 10-14 year old legally blind students and their parents living in the counties north of New York City. This age group was particularly under served and with the support of the Readers Digest Partners for Sight Foundation and the William G. and Helen C. Hoffman Foundation, VISIONS was able to reach this isolated group with overnight weekend services at VISIONS Center on Blindness. We are excited to offer training of job coaches to work with blind, developmentally disabled adults in the workplace with a grant from The New York Community Trust. We continue to expand services for older individuals with support from the Moses L. Parmelsky Foundation and the Drue and H. J. Heinz II Charitable Lead Trust.

We are excited to welcome our new President of VISIONS Board of Directors and Trustee of VISIONS Fund for the Blind, Robert Schonbrunn. He follows Nancy T. Jones who held the position of Board President for over 30 years and continues on the VISIONS Board and as a Trustee of VISIONS Fund for the Blind. We thank Angelo Purcigliotti, Past Council Chair and Past District Governor of Lions Clubs International for his more than 20 years of service on VISIONS Board.

We are grateful for the hundreds of volunteers, including AARP, Delta Gamma, Kiwanis, Lions, Made Man Barber Shop, New York Cares, Scarsdale Reform Temple, UPS and VISIONS five borough community advisory boards, that continue to support our programs. Our volunteer golf and tennis event committee is hard at work recruiting participants and sponsors for our May 19, 2020 event. Please visit our website www.visionsvcb.org for more information. Thank you to all our readers and donors for making it possible to provide free services for low income individuals who are blind of all ages so they can reach their full potential at school, at home, at work and in the community.
Board News: VISIONS Has a New Board President

Robert “Bob” Schonbrunn was elected the new President of the VISIONS Board of Directors on September 10, 2019. He also serves as a Trustee of the Fund for the Blind, an endowment fund of VISIONS. Nancy T. Jones continues on the Board of Directors as Past-President and Trustee of the Fund for the Blind. At the September Board meeting, Nancy was honored with a gift from the Board and staff of a clock pendant representing the gift of time she has given as President since 1985. Bob has been a member of VISIONS Board of Directors since 2012. He is chair of the Board development committee. In addition to Bob, the Board Executive Committee includes Nancy T. Jones, Past-President, Dr. Cynthia Stuen, Vice President, Steven E. Kent, Vice President, Burton M. Strauss, Jr., Treasurer, Kenneth Gralak, Assistant Treasurer and Jasmine Campirides, Secretary. In other Board news, we thank Angelo Purcigliotti for his many years of service on VISIONS Board of Directors since 1998. Angelo will continue to provide counsel and support to VISIONS VCB as the Past Council Chair and Past District Governor of Lions International Multiple District 20.

Grants in Action

1. Youth participants enjoy a Goalball workshop during VCB Family Week made possible with support from the Foreseeable Future Foundation.

2. Interns speak about their summer work experiences at Selis Manor. Con Edison provides generous support for participants in youth workforce programming.

3. CHSE provides job coach training to VISIONS staff as part of a grant awarded by the New York Community Trust.

4. Seniors enjoying services are made possible with the support of the Drue and H. J. Heinz II Charitable Lead Trust, Marble Collegiate Church, Moses L. Parshelsky Foundation, and the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation.
Brooklyn

On June 12th, VISIONS Brooklyn Advisory Board hosted its most successful dinner in many years, netting $11,500 to support VISIONS free services in Brooklyn. Held at the beautiful Rex Manor, VISIONS honored Sergio Delavicci (Motivational Speaker and SAG-AFTRA Actor), Dr. James McGroarty, (Retired Retinal Specialist and VISIONS Board Member), and Dimple Willabus, (Entrepreneur and Community Activist). Zak Turner of Medix served as the evening’s guest speaker and shared the story of how he lost his vision and turned his disability into an opportunity to live life with a purpose and vision.

Queens

VISIONS Queens Advisory Board held its “Get Cool in the Pool” fundraiser on August 10th. The festivities were held in West Babylon at the home of Timothy & Jaime Ray. The Ray family’s daughter and Queens Advisory Board member Alanna Ray, who completed VISIONS Summer Transition Program (STP) as a junior in high school, was a host.

75 guests enjoyed a picture perfect day of swimming and sunbathing. Live music was generously donated by Joe DePiola (Vision Music & Entertainment, and Advisory Board member), and Chef Franco Raicovich prepared an eclectic menu that included pulled pork, meatball sliders, hot dogs, and at the bar, Franco’s “Zero Proof Mocktails” fruit filled thirst quenchers. The event raised $9,830 which will support free services in Queens and Long Island. The Queens Advisory Board is grateful to the Ray family for making this event possible!

Bronx

On July 18, VISIONS Bronx Advisory Board held its annual Celebrity Bartending Event at the Residence Inn. Ed Angelino (Power Express), John Bonizio (Metro Optics), Tommy Messina (Community Advocate), Rick Ricciardi (Community Volunteer), and Anthony Marmile (Orange Bank & Trust Company) served as our superhero bartenders. Dan Bernstein of the Fordham Road BID was the emcee. Guests enjoyed a terrific picnic themed buffet and happy hour drink pricing. The event raised $5,000 for VISIONS free services in the Bronx.

Manhattan

VISIONS Manhattan Advisory Board hosted its awards reception on September 26th at AIG’s New York City office. The event attracted 140 guests and raised $30,000 net to support VISIONS free services in Manhattan. VISIONS honored Diane Debrovner of Parents Magazine, Gustavo Sanchez of Lions Clubs International, and Cynthia Stuen, Vice President of VISIONS Board of Directors. Guests were treated to a wonderful keynote address by Bradford and Bryan Manning, Founders of Two Blind Brothers apparel company. Gary Axelbank of thisistheBronX and BronxTalk emceed the evening.

Staten Island

On October 16th, philanthropists Lois and Richard Nicotra gathered at the COMMONS café, their Bloomfield social enterprise eatery where 100% of the profits are awarded in grants and scholarships. More than 50 grant and scholarship recipients attended the event, as The Lois & Richard Nicotra Foundation presented $58,843 in awards, including a $1000 grant to support VISIONS programming in Staten Island.

The Nicotras shared their pride in gifting a total of $908,608 to 423 Staten Island based non-profit organizations and scholarship recipients from the café since it opened in 2011, Expanding on their “Eat Good. Do Good” mission.

Lois Nicotra congratulated the nonprofit grant recipients on, “the good they do for Staten Island.” She shared, “You know what it means to be socially responsible. You also know how rewarding it is to do something for someone else.”
VISIONS at Summer Streets

This summer, VISIONS participated in NYC Department of Transportation’s Summer Streets and Weekend Walks programs. VISIONS Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists (COMS), provided New Yorkers of all ages with the opportunity to experience the city streets as our clients do. By wearing vision simulators, visitors were able to see how an intersection appears to someone with glaucoma or macular degeneration. Long canes were also available for participants to use and gain an understanding of their purpose. Walking with a long cane was popular with kids and teens.

2019 Harriette K. and Burton M. Strauss Jr. Scholarship Recipients

VISIONS would like to congratulate Michexa Belizaire and Travis Joseph, the first recipients of the Harriette K. and Burton M. Strauss Jr. Scholarship! This scholarship, provides financial assistance for employees of VISIONS, who are enrolled as a college or university student. This year’s recipients are pursuing degrees in the fields of Orientation and Mobility instruction and Vision Rehabilitation Therapy at Hunter College. We thank the Scholarship Committee volunteers.

VRC Graduating Class of Fall 2019

On Friday, September 27th, VISIONS staff, NYS Commission counselors and managers assembled at the VRC to celebrate the graduation of our students who attended the Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) Program this past summer. Also present were families of the graduates who, in some instances, drove great distances to participate in this celebratory event. Keynote speakers included Nancy D. Miller, VISIONS CEO and Executive Director and Paola Nappo Ficarra, District Manager, representing the NYS Commission for the Blind. In addition to their specific individual coursework in Customer Service, Child Development and Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (HVAC), these students successfully completed the curriculum and engaged in a wide variety of tasks and skill-building assignments, including: worksite tours; informational interviews; job shadowing opportunities; work experiences and short internships. In addition to all the newly acquired work readiness skills, they also learned how to live more independently, including completing their laundry, reheating foods, cleaning their rooms, etc. For many of the graduates, this opportunity represented their first adult experience living away from home.
Summer Transition Program (STP)

VISIONS Summer Transition Program is a four-week residential experience designed for legally blind high school students between the ages of 14 and 18. Operated on the Queens College campus, students work to refine their skills for independence and career exploration through the use of technology, orientation & mobility, social interaction, fitness, and peer-to-peer learning. Students participate in activities both on and off-campus.

With the help of volunteers from New York Cares, students used their tools and skills to explore new easy-to-follow recipes, discover exciting new books to read, keep up with current events and podcasts, and even express their creativity through weekly art projects. They also participated in activities including field trips to the Andrew Heiskell Library in Manhattan to sign up for digital library book services, Brooklyn Boulders for a rock climbing session, Jamaica Bay Riding Academy for horseback riding, Flushing Meadow Park for a day of fun, which included laser tag, hula hooping and relay races, and the Intrepid Sea Air and Space Museum for an accessible tour; followed by riding The Beast, a bumpy sea splash speedboat which coasts along the Hudson River.

Pre-College Program

VISIONS Pre-College Program is an intensive learning program for high-school juniors and seniors. Held on the grounds of Manhattanville College in Purchase, NY, the program introduces students to life on a college campus. Students learn how to safely and independently navigate both the campus grounds as well as their dorm areas; learn how to maintain a tidy dorm room (including general cleaning, laundry, and sorting clothes); and learn how to prepare quick snacks and meals.

Three mornings per week, students participate in an Intro to College Life course, which covers topics such as using disability services on campus, accessing the campus library for research, and creating social connections on campus. Students also complete an online writing course, which covers crucial writing techniques needed to succeed in college, and eventually leads to the final required three-page paper.

This summer, students volunteered at Feeding Westchester, where they prepared and packaged vegetables for delivery to older persons in the area. In addition, students visited a local mall, enjoyed a day of rock climbing, and ended the program with an exciting trip to Six Flags Great Adventure.

Work Experience Training

The summer Work Experience Training (WET) Program allows young adults to build and refine their work-readiness skills. Beginning with a three-day vocational training session, participants learn important concepts such as submitting time sheets, cooperating with coworkers, and time management. Participants then complete the paid on-the-job training at any variety of work sites, including retail locations, offices, and community centers. On Fridays, participants meet to discuss their workweek and learn about concepts such as financial management and meal preparation. At the end of the program, students share their experiences at a ceremony to celebrate their hard work.
Dear Supporters,

It was 9 days after she was born, that I found out my daughter Aubrey was blind and started to research what exactly I needed to do to give her a “normal living”. Though there wasn’t enough research and VISIONS didn’t pop up in my Google search, it was VISIONS staff that came into my home and gave me all of the resources I needed to move forward.

The first search result highlighted in big bold letters was “REGISTER WITH THE COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND”. I did not know what that meant, but I knew it had to be done. I promptly made the call, scheduled to go in and there I was, receiving even more overwhelming information. Towards the end of the meeting is where the good news came in: “You and your family have the opportunity to go to VISIONS VCB Family Week”. I had absolutely no idea what that would entail. Keeping an open mind was all I could do right? I of course got the details on what VCB would offer….I just didn’t think that three years later, it would be even more fulfilling then the first two.

For me and my family, it’s been more than just what VISIONS offers as far as services, it’s more about the comfort of knowing that no matter how non-typical Aubrey’s life may be, she will still have the guidance she needs. She will always feel a part of something and she will always have the VISIONS community to rely on. VISIONS has provided my family with a lifetime of support and resources. Whenever we have needed a little more reinforcement, they have without a doubt never failed us. The amount of FREE resources and services they have supplied us with, will never be forgotten.

If there's one thing VISIONS could give to a family like mine, it is of course a smile, but best of all, PEACE. Life for a parent like myself is indeed a difficult task. Just knowing that as Aubrey grows older she can receive continued support, is everything I need to keep going. There’s no place like VISIONS if you ask me. They’ve connected me to a world where I no longer have to be alone as a parent, and where Aubrey will never have to feel alone as a child.

So many people have no idea how blessed they are to have their sense of sight. Any little bit counts and donating to VISIONS can open a world of opportunity to those who are visually impaired like my Aubrey.

Thank you,

Christine Ortiz  (Aubrey’s Mom)
DONATION FORM

☐ “For Everyone to See What is Possible” Campaign  ☐ Use my gift where it is needed most
☐ Other: ____________________________________

Yes! I want to help. Enclosed is a donation of:
☐ $25,000  ☐ $10,000  ☐ $5,000  ☐ $2,500  ☐ $1,000
☐ $500  ☐ $250  ☐ $100  ☐ Other: ____________

My Gift is in Recognition of: ______________________________________________________________
☐ Graduation  ☐ Birthday  ☐ Anniversary  ☐ Memorial

Address of Person to be Honored: ____________________________________________________________

Payment Information
☐ Pay Online at www.visionsvcb.org  ☐ Check Enclosed  OR  ☐ Credit Card

Full Name: ___________________________  Company: ___________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________________
Phone: _____________________________  E-mail: _________________________________
Card #: _____________________________  Expiration: ___________________  CVV: __________

Mail to: VISIONS, 500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302, New York, NY 10013-1354

☐ Let’s make the world a greener place! Check this box if you would like to receive newsletters, appeals, and other information from VISIONS by e-mail.
Note: In order to receive VISIONS e-mails, you must enter your e-mail address on this form.

A copy of our most recent financial statement is available by writing to VISIONS at: 500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302, New York, NY 10013 or by visiting the NYS Attorney General’s Charities Bureau’s website: www.charitiesnys.com. To learn more about charities, call (212) 416-8686

Follow VISIONS on Social Media
@VISIONSVCB

www.visionsvcb.org  888-245-8333  info@visionsvcb.org
VCB Family Sessions

Each summer, VISIONS provides two, one-week programs at VCB for children who are blind and visually impaired and their families. This summer, 59 children and their families attended.

During the first week, children under six years old and children with multiple disabilities participated in rehabilitation and activities. Their parents met in groups to share resources, learn skills under blindfold, and socialize with other families. The program included a visit from a petting zoo and police and fire departments with their equipment and trucks.

During the second week, children from 6 to 13 years old learned to play Goalball, a sport designed for people with visual impairments. Older children learned about creating their own podcasts and made tie-dye t-shirts. The families enjoyed tandem bike rides, an Arts & Crafts night and a talent show.

Follow us on social media, and mention VISIONS in your posts by using #SeeWhatIsPossible and #VISIONSVCB

Do you know how big VCB at VISIONS is? HUGE! Thank goodness we have @ups volunteers to help us get ready for the summer. We couldn’t have done it without them!

#visionsvcb #ups #volunteer #volunteerdays #volunteerwork #summer #pool #vocation #camp #visuallyimpaired #ability

Volunteers from New York Cares and Credit Suisse put together a fun morning of health and wellness activities for the seniors at VISIONS Center on Aging. The morning started with organic parfaits made with a variety of fruits and toppings, and continued with aromatherapy sessions and a ceramics workshop where participants got to create their own clay vases.

#SeeWhatIsPossible #VISIONSVCB

Do you know how big VCB at VISIONS is? HUGE! Thank goodness we have @ups volunteers to help us get ready for the summer. We couldn’t have done it without them!

#visionsvcb #ups #volunteer #volunteerdays #volunteerwork #summer #pool #vocation #camp #visuallyimpaired #ability

Volunteers from New York Cares and Credit Suisse put together a fun morning of health and wellness activities for the seniors at VISIONS Center on Aging. The morning started with organic parfaits made with a variety of fruits and toppings, and continued with aromatherapy sessions and a ceramics workshop where participants got to create their own clay vases.

#SeeWhatIsPossible #VISIONSVCB
Volunteer Testimonials


“I have volunteered with VISIONS for almost two years. I am always amazed at the range of services they provide. Many of the seniors I’ve worked with have better social lives than me! I love working with them because they’re a) extremely patient and b) genuinely fun to hang out with. I love that everyone feels comfortable in the building, sharing jokes and teasing each other. It’s been an absolute pleasure working with them.” – Volunteer, 6/13/19

“Recently I was one of a group of volunteers aiding participants from VISIONS to a trip to NYC’s Governor’s Island to the Teaching Gardens. It was a fantastic experience to ride the ferry, walk to the Gardens and experience the various plants and herbs with VISIONS. I learned a great deal and the staff at VISIONS made it all run smoothly. The participants ended the day with huge smiles on their faces and so did we. A marvelous day, a wonderful nonprofit. Thanks to everyone involved.” – Volunteer, 6/15/19

“For me as a volunteer, VISIONS was a very helpful and eye opening experience. It allowed me to get to know people different from me better. It showed me how little we can have in common and yet be able to connect. I would definitely recommend for others to volunteer here.” – Volunteer, 9/3/19

“VISIONS is a great way to connect the older and younger generations. I was able to not only help senior citizens with their daily lives, but learn about them and see the world through their perspective. It was an amazing experience and I’m extremely grateful I was able to participate again in this program.” – Volunteer, 9/4/19

“I chose to volunteer at VISIONS for the summer of 2019. This experience taught me to be more humble to people and brought out the best in me. Ever since the beginning of the year, I slowly stopped being helpful to others in any way I could. Through this program, I regained my desire to provide assistance even if it’s just reading for them. I’m grateful for VISIONS and their volunteer services.” – Volunteer, 9/27/19

VISIONS at Selis Manor Updates

Made Man Barbershop

Sam Chulpayev, founder of Made Man Barbershop offers his customers high-end hair care services in Manhattan. In early 2019, Sam and his team connected with VISIONS with the idea to provide free haircuts and shaves to consumers participating in VISIONS programs. To date, Sam and his team have provided VVISIONS consumers (young adults, jobseekers, and older persons at VVISIONS Center on Aging) with nearly 50 haircuts and shaves and they are only getting started. VVISIONS is happy to say the program is a success, and to know that compassionate people like Sam, are able to offer such a needed service.

Walking Warriors

The walking warriors club is a six week Evidence Based fitness program offered at VVISIONS Center on Aging in collaboration with New York Cares. This program aims to help older persons stay fit and active in the community through taking brief 30–45 minute walks around New York City and maintaining a step count. Some of the places participants have explored include Washington Square Park, the Highline, the Intrepid, and the Brooklyn Bridge. Participants are encouraged to walk on days when class is not in session, and have reported that they feel stronger, take more steps during the day, and their health has improved through participating in this program.

Caregiver Respite Trip

Members of VVISIONS Unpaid Caregiver Program were in for a sweet treat as they ventured to Dr. Davies farm for their October respite trip. The day started with a hayride around the farm, followed by apple and pumpkin picking, a picnic at the farmhouse, and sampling apple cider donuts. As one caregiver stated, ”This was the best outing; I feel energized; I can’t wait to do it again!” Respite trips give caregivers a needed break and a chance to recharge, so they can be better caregivers; and offer care recipients the chance to meet new people and participate in activities at VVISIONS Center on Aging.
VISIONS Would Like to Thank the Following Donors:
06/01/19 – 09/30/19

$10,000 or more:
Con Edison Company of New York, Inc.
Lavelle Fund f/t Blind, Inc.
Reader’s Digest Partners for Sight Fdn.
Robert A. Schonbrunn
Harriette K. and Burton M. Strauss Jr.
The Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Fdn.
The New York Community Trust

$1,000 - $9,999:
1919 Investment Counsel
Mr. & Mrs. Mal L. Barasch
Sandra Bass
Blauvelt Lions Charities, Inc.
Jasmine M. Campirides
ConocoPhillips Co.
Marie Dolan
Christina H. Eisenbeis and Ralph Martin
Con Edison Company of New York, Inc.
Lavelle Fund f/t Blind, Inc.
Reader’s Digest Partners for Sight Fdn.
Robert A. Schonbrunn
Harriette K. and Burton M. Strauss Jr.
The Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Fdn.
The New York Community Trust

We Also Want to Thank the Following for Their Donation of Goods and Services:

Verna DuBerry Ademu-John
Aaron Akselrud
Antonio’s Trattoria
Bed Bath & Beyond/
John Coppinger
Bronx Design Group/Geri Sciortino
Carnegie Hall/Deanna Kennett
Judy Goldman Corman
Diana Cruz
Ann DeShazo
Matthew Eng
Ericks General Construction, LLC
Eye Shoppe on 7th
Robert Friedland
Galvanize/Marcia Jordine-Green
Georgina Restaurant
Hotel Hugo/Pablo Migoya
Law Offices of Joseph A. Romano,
P.C./Joseph Romano
Gaetana Manuele
Mazars USA/Bruce Balsam
Nancy D. & Gerald Miller
Neo U/Susie Prieto
New Eyes for the Needy/Dr. Hecht
New York Country Club/
Garret Hirsch
Michael V. O’Neal
Prime Coat Painting,
Inc./Timmy Ray
Puerto Viejo
Quaker Ridge Golf Club
Franco Raicovich, Chef
Ridgewood Saving Bank/
Vanessa Baijnauth
Sight Improvement Center, Inc./
Charles S. Hollander, O. D., FAAO
Steve Olken Digital Design/
Steve Olken
Paskowski & Weitz
Optometry/Jan Weitz
Debbie Stingone
Harriette K. and Burton
M. Strauss, Jr.
Two Blind Brothers/Bryan
and Bradford Manning
Vision Music Entertainment/
Joe DePiola
Wildlife Conservation Society/
Daisy Rodriguez
Zapadeedoodah Tent Rentals
& Balloon Decorating
Michael Ziminski

Growing Numbers of Donors are Giving Through DAFs: Is a DAF for You?

Every year, more and more donors are giving through donor-advised funds (DAFs). Disbursements from DAFs tripled from about $6.5 billion in 2007 to $19 billion in 2017. These funds are established as pools from which donors make grants and they are hosted in a variety of types of organizations including community foundations, federations, and commercial funds like Fidelity Charitable, Schwab Charitable or Vanguard.

Here Are Other Ways You Can Contribute to VISIONS:

- Make an online donation at www.visionsvcb.org/donate
- Naming VISIONS as a beneficiary in your will
- Choose VISIONS when making a purchase on Amazon Smile
- Hosting a Fundraiser on Facebook
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) from an IRA
- Gifts of Appreciated Securities

To learn more, or to donate to VISIONS, please call Russell (212) 625-1616 Ext. 128

A copy of our most recent financial statement is available by writing to VISIONS at: 500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302, New York, NY 10013, or by visiting the NYS Attorney General’s Charities Bureau’s website: www.charitiesnys.com.

To learn more about charities, call the Attorney General at 212 416-8686
500 Greenwich Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10013

About VISIONS

VISIONS services are partially funded by the New York State Commission for the Blind and the NYC Department for the Aging; support from the Borough Presidents of the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens; Assembly Member Richard Gottfried; New York City Council Speaker Corey Johnson, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer and Council Members Adrianne Adams, Margaret Chin, Robert Cornegy Jr., Ruben Diaz, Sr., Mark Gjonaj, Barry Grodenchik, Ben Kallos, Peter Koo, Keith Powers, Ydanis Rodriguez, and Deborah Rose.

VISIONS was incorporated in 1926 and is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions to VISIONS are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law. A copy of our most recent financials and IRS 990 are available by writing to VISIONS or to the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271, or on-line at www.guidestar.org. VISIONS achieved platinum status at Guidestar.

GOING GREEN! If you want to receive future newsletters and appeals by email, please send an email to marketing@visionsvcb.org with your name, email and mailing address. As we transition, you may receive email and print copies.

How to Reach Us

VISIONS Main Office:
Phone: (212) 625-1616
500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302
New York, NY 10013-1354
Email: info@visionsvcb.org
Fax: (212) 219-4078

VISIONS at Selis Manor/Senior Center
Phone: (646) 486-4444
135 West 23rd Street
New York, NY 10011
Email: selisdirector@visionsvcb.org

VISIONS Center on Blindness/VRC
Phone: (845) 354-3003
111 Summit Park Road
Spring Valley, NY 10977
Email: rcoellar@visionsvcb.org

VISIONS does not sell or otherwise make available the names, addresses or phone numbers of our donors to anyone. However, donors of major gifts or grants may be thanked by name in this newsletter, in VISIONS Annual Report, on the VISIONS website, in other print materials such as brochures, or at appropriate events. If requested, we will refrain from thanking a donor publicly. VISIONS will honor all requests to be removed from our mailing list or to limit the mailings you receive from us. We appreciate the generosity of our supporters and are respectful of the privacy of our donors and friends.