

ACVREP NEWSLETTER – JUNE 21, 2007

ACVREP – Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals

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Guide Dogs For The Blind (San Rafael, CA) – New “Friends Of ACVREP” Member

ACVREP is pleased to announce that Guide Dogs for the Blind is now a “Friends of ACVREP” member. The article that follows this ad will explain the various levels of advertisement opportunities available through ACVREP.

Guide Dogs for the Blind is Proud to be a Sponsor of ACVREP

Our hats off to you, the dedicated professionals who share our goal to enhance independence and opportunities for people who are blind or visually impaired. You provide the foundation upon which successful Guide Dog partnerships are made.

In celebration of our sponsorship of ACVREP, we'd like to welcome you to visit our website, www.guidedogs.com/ACVREP. This is a special section devoted to you, the vision rehabilitation and education professional. In recognition, we would like to develop a relationship with you so that we can best assist those who are considering a Guide Dog to further improve their confidence and mobility. As an integral part of the skill development for people who are blind and visually impaired, Guide Dogs would like to honor you for the work you do and learn more about the experiences you have had in the field.

We'd like to ask for your involvement in a very short survey that can be found at www.guidedogs.com/ACVREP regarding the people you serve. By way of thanks, we'll include your name in a raffle. The winner will be selected on July 31, 2007 and will be sent a Guide Dogs for the Blind backpack. The winning name will also be included in the next newsletter.

And speaking of newsletters, we have a quarterly electronic publication that's just for you, the vision rehabilitation and education professional. It's called Canes and Tails and includes feature stories on individuals like you, who are making a difference.

Follow this link: <http://www.guidedogs.com/ACVREP> for news and information to connect you with the Guide Dog Lifestyle. Here are some examples of what you'll find:

1. Youth programs, such as our K9 Buddy program which matches specially selected dogs to become wonderful pets as companions to visually impaired children and young adults.
2. Hands-on workshops that will give you and your clients the opportunity to work with a Guide Dog.
3. Participation in Mardi Gras Mutts Fun Day - this is an annual recognition event for our 1500 volunteer puppy raisers, who give their time and love to our puppies in the eight western states, and it is also an opportunity for new people to become a part of the Guide Dogs' community. Dates: Saturday, August 4th, at the CA campus (San Rafael) and Saturday, August 11th, at the OR campus (Boring).
4. Graduation ceremonies (these occur monthly). For July, these dates are:
Saturday, July 28th at 1:30 p.m. at the CA campus (San Rafael).
Saturday, July 28th at 1:30 p.m. at the OR campus (Boring).

Again, welcome to Guide Dogs! Our email address is information@guidedogs.com or you can call us anytime at 1-800-295-4050.

ACVREP Website Advertisement Opportunities*

ACVREP offers website advertisement opportunities to organizations/companies that provide services to, or products for, persons who are blind or visually impaired. If your organization is looking for ways to promote its programs, services, devices or technologies; increase visibility; and/or profit from a tremendous marketing value, consider becoming an official ACVREP website advertiser.

Through its website (www.acvrep.org), ACVREP supports and promotes high-quality vision rehabilitation and education programs, services, and products to persons who are blind or visually impaired through the certification of professionals who work with these individuals, specifically Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists, Certified Vision Rehabilitation Therapists, and Certified Low Vision Therapists. We encourage you to share our vision and, in the process, market your organization through our website advertisement program. Because of our commitment to actively promote our website, advertisers will gain an advantage in being an ACVREP website advertiser.

A variety of ACVREP website advertisement opportunities exist and are as follows:

Platinum Level Advertiser - \$12,000/year

This level offers the greatest exposure and demonstration of your organization's commitment to the provision of high-quality services to and/or products for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Home page bottom banner (234 x 60 pixels) including the organization's logo and mission.

Your organization's logo and identity on all pieces of direct marketing and advertising used to drive traffic into the ACVREP website.

Your organization's own page on the ACVREP website (not to exceed one page).

Three links that go directly to:

Your organization's website

Your organization's e-mail address

Advertisement space in every ACVREP email newsletter.

Gold Level Advertiser - \$8,000/year

First-level page bottom banner (234 x 60 pixels) including your organization's logo and mission.

Your organization's own page on the ACVREP website (not to exceed one page).

Three links that go directly to:

Your organization's website

Your organization's e-mail address

Advertisement space in every ACVREP email newsletter.

Silver Level Advertiser - \$5,000/year

Your organization's own page on the ACVREP website (not to exceed one page).

Three links that go directly to:

Your organization's website

Your organization's e-mail address

Advertisement space in every ACVREP email newsletter.

Bronze Level Advertiser - \$2,500/year

Three links that go directly to:

Your organization's website

Your organization's e-mail address

Advertisement space in every ACVREP email newsletter.

Friends of ACVREP - \$1,500/year

One link that goes directly to:

Your organization's website

Your organization's e-mail address

Advertisement space in every ACVREP email newsletter.

For more information regarding ACVREP website advertisement opportunities, please contact Sharon L. Mikrut, ACVREP President, at 520-887-6816 or smikrut@acvrep.org.

*PLEASE NOTE: ACVREP does not approve or disapprove of the products, services, policies, procedures, etc. of any advertiser. However, all advertisers are expected to conduct their business in a legal manner and in accordance with all municipal, county, state, and federal laws.

The Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Inc. - Follow-Up And Follow Through

The relationship with our clients doesn't end when our "In-community Placement" process concludes. In many ways, it's just the beginning. In 2006, our 16 trainers traveled more than 100,000 miles to conduct follow-up visits, to work on guide team issues and to share the Fidelco story from coast to coast.

Our policy is to schedule a six-month evaluation from the time a Fidelco guide dog is placed and the team trained. At that time, we'll talk with our client, observe how they interact with their guide dog and, if necessary, make adjustments. We'll then follow up with them in 12 months. It's a process that helps ensure the safety of our clients and the quality of their guide dogs.

It's important to note that our training staff is always just a phone call away. And if the situation warrants, we'll be on the next plane out to help our clients in any way possible.

In one recent occurrence, a Fidelco guide dog had been shocked by a faulty fan while walking down a staircase at the entrance of a local rail service. The dog was traumatized by the event and, on future trips to the train, either rapidly pulled our client down the stairway or tried to escape backwards up the stairs. Both scenarios put our client at risk. Rather than discard a guide dog that the client loves and in which we have a significant investment in time and money, we chose a more proactive approach.

Over the course of three months, Desmond O'Neill, our supervisor of student services and a certified guide dog trainer, worked with the dog to desensitize it to the danger it perceived from the fan. It was slow process that required a great deal of patience and practice, but eventually the dog was returned to service, much to our client's delight.

In other cases, our training staff has helped clients learn to deal with aggressive dogs that are allowed to run free and threaten their guide dogs. At other times we talk with our clients about accessibility issues and help them understand the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. In these situations, it's up to our clients to discover their level of tolerance and how determined they are to stand up for their rights.

Our work is never dull and always rewarding. And as Fidelco continues to expand coast to coast, our challenge is find ways to deal with the increasing demand for our guide dogs while preserving our philosophy of follow-up and follow through.

For more information, visit our Web site at www.fidelco.org.

Judy van Naerssen – OTRL & CLVT New Chair Of ACVREP's Board Of Directors

At ACVREP's April board meeting, Martin Yablonski resigned as chair of ACVREP's board due to other commitments. To replace Martin, ACVREP's former Vice-Chair, Judy van Naerssen, became the new Chair of ACVREP's board. Judy is a Certified Low Vision Therapist. She received her Bachelor's degree in Occupational Therapy from Virginia Commonwealth University and her Master's degree in Vision Rehabilitation from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry.

Before becoming a board member, Judy chaired ACVREP's Continuing Education Committee. After becoming a board member, she became Co-Chair of ACVREP's Low Vision Committee and still serves in that capacity today.

Judy is employed by the Overbrook School for the Blind in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and serves as Coordinator of the Therapy and Orientation and Mobility Department. In addition, she also coordinates a Low Vision Clinic at the school that is held in collaboration with the William Feinbloom Clinic of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. Judy also has a private low vision OT practice that serves children and adults. Judy brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to ACVREP's board and is

truly an asset to the vision rehabilitation and education field. Please help us in welcoming Judy as the new Chair of ACVREP's Board of Directors.

PLEASE NOTE: The ACVREP Board of Directors and staff would like to thank Martin Yablonski for his leadership and chairing the ACVREP Board of Directors for three and a half years!

ACVREP Seeks Nominations For Three New Board Members

The Nominations Committee of the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation & Education Professionals (ACVREP) Board of Directors is seeking nominations for **three** positions on the ACVREP Board. These positions will be open **January 1, 2008**. The ACVREP Board elects each position by ballot. For consideration, a completed nomination packet must be received no later than **September 27, 2007**.

Current ACVREP Board Openings

There are **three (3)** director positions open on the ACVREP Board of Directors. Board members normally serve three-year terms and may be elected to a second three-year term. The selection of board members is a competitive process and one that also helps us to identify potential candidates for future board positions.

The **three** open positions for the year **2008** must be filled by two ACVREP certificants and one non-certificant. The non-certificant position must be filled by an individual who is blind or visually impaired and is not a vision professional.

Conflict of Interest Policy

ACVREP officers, directors, committee chairpersons, committee members, staff, and designated representatives shall undertake full disclosure of any actual, apparent or potential conflict of interest.

ACVREP is an organization that values diversity in background, perspective, beliefs, and traditions, in order to better serve its certificants and to assist them in the provision of quality services. ACVREP does not discriminate against any individual because of race, ethnicity, gender, age, creed, disability, or national origin.

All expenses for attendance at official ACVREP board meetings are reimbursed.

Completed nomination packets must be received no later than September 27, 2007 to be considered. All nominators and nominees will be notified upon receipt of the nomination packet submitted. Elections will be conducted at the annual meeting of the ACVREP Board of Directors on October 27, 2007. Notification of the results of the selection will be made following the board meeting.

2007 Nomination Application Form

Please complete this application. It will be used by the ACVREP Nominations Committee to review candidates for ACVREP Board of Director positions.

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

ACVREP certificate(s) held: _____

Daytime phone: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Name of Nominator: _____

Address: _____

ACVREP certificate(s) held: _____

Daytime phone: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Current position with a brief description of duties:

Certifications/licensures held: _____

What is the profession and professional title with which you most identify yourself?

Are you aware of any matters that present you with any actual, apparent, or potential conflicts of interest in your service to ACVREP? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, please explain in detail on a separate sheet.

Experience

Please list additional professional and life experiences that you believe will benefit the Board in its policy-making duties. Use additional space if necessary.

Education: Degree Month/Year Major Name of Institution

Baccalaureate				
Master's				
Advanced				

Name and telephone numbers (day) of two ACVREP certificants who may be contacted as references:

1. _____ Telephone number _____

2. _____ Telephone number _____

How does the ACVREP credential affect your professional life now? What are your hopes for the future direction of ACVREP?

Were You Previously Certified And Would Like To Be Certified Again? – Second Post

If you were previously certified in Low Vision Therapy, Orientation & Mobility or Vision Rehabilitation Therapy (formerly Rehabilitation Teaching), and would like to be certified again, but don't want to have to prove that you're eligible to sit for the exam, then please read on. If you can prove that you were previously certified by AAWB, AER or ACVREP (e.g., by submitting an old certificate or being in ACVREP's database), then you can bypass the eligibility application process and go directly to taking the respective ACVREP exam. That means you don't have to submit official transcripts documenting your degree or submit a Clinical Competency Evaluation Form, completed by the CLVT, COMS or CVRT who supervised your 350 hour internship, etc.

As one way to increase ACVREP's certificant pool, especially in light of the Medicare Low Vision Demonstration Project, the ACVREP board of directors approved this waiver at its April 20-21, 2007 board meeting.

Please contact Sharon L. Mikrut at 520-887-6816 or smikrut@acvrep.org if you can prove prior certification and would like to be certified again.

Changes Voted On By ACVREP's Board Of Directors – Second Post

1. The board decided that once an eligibility application has been submitted, the applicant will have to proceed to the exam phase within one year. For example, if you submit an eligibility application on June 1, 2007, you will need to submit an Exam Registration Form, with the \$100.00 exam fee, prior to June 1, 2008. **The implementation date for this new procedure is January 1, 2008.**
2. The board decided to implement a \$25.00 rescheduling fee if an exam is canceled by an applicant and isn't rescheduled within 15 days. For example, if an exam is scheduled for June 1st and the applicant decides to cancel it (regardless of the reason), the exam would need to be rescheduled by June 16th in order for the applicant to avoid the \$25.00 rescheduling fee. **The implementation date for this new procedure is January 1, 2008.**
3. The board decided to implement a \$50.00 fee for any certificant requesting that his/her recertification application be processed outside of the normal application process. For example, if your recertification expiration date is June 30, 2007, you would typically need to submit your recertification application by June 1st in order for us to submit applications to the board for review and approval by June 10th. If your application comes in after the report has gone to the board and you can't or don't want to wait for the board to review and approve your application in the next cycle, which would be in September, then you would be charged \$50.00 to expedite your application (to have the board review and approve it prior to September). **The implementation date for this new procedure is July 1, 2007.**

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact Sharon L. Mikrut at 520-887-6816.

Visionaware.org Announces A Special Free Publication On Macular Degeneration

An estimated 15 million Americans live with age-related macular degeneration (AMD), an incurable and progressive retinal eye disease and the leading cause of low vision, severe vision loss, and legal blindness for people aged 60 and older in the United States. In response to this growing public health concern, VisionAWARE is pleased to present “Are You AWARE? A Special Newsletter Issue on Macular Degeneration”, with Lylas G. Mogk, MD as guest author. Dr. Mogk, a renowned expert on AMD, is Director of the Visual Rehabilitation and Research Centers, Henry Ford Health System, and co-author of “Macular Degeneration: The Complete Guide to Saving and Maximizing Your Sight.”

Contents and Special Features:

1. Causes of AMD.
2. The differences between “wet” and “dry” AMD.
3. Symptoms of AMD and diagnostic procedures.
4. Current research and treatments for AMD.
5. Coping with vision loss from AMD.
6. Publications, organizations, and support services for adults with AMD.
7. AMD news from around the Web.

Whether you’re concerned about your own vision loss, or are a family member or professional seeking to understand more about AMD, this free special issue newsletter contains information that can help you.

Visionaware.org Announces A New Craft Publication

“Craft Adaptations for Adults with Vision Impairments (Revised 2007)” is the first publication in VisionAWARE’s New Independence! series. It contains 17 favorite crafts, along with detailed instructions and adaptations for crafters who are blind or have low vision. The contents have been field-tested for many years by Vision Rehabilitation Therapist and author Stephanie Stephens Van, a highly qualified and experienced vision rehabilitation professional. This updated and expanded large print (18 point APFont) version includes five additional crafts, and a new introduction, “hints” section, and resource list.

Contents and Special Features:

1. Adaptive “Tricks of the Trade”: Hints for measuring, using scissors, threading needles, and labeling.
2. Seventeen Craft Projects (beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels): Each craft includes a materials list, recommended adaptations, detailed step-by-step instructions, and clear black-and-white illustrations.

3. A complete Table of Contents is located on the VisionAWARE web site and includes previews of two sample crafts: the Fun Mug and Hand-Painted Note Cards.
4. Appropriate for use in senior centers, assisted living and long-term care facilities, and university programs.

The craft book is available for online purchase as a download for \$25.00.

For more information, visit www.visionaware.org or e-mail Maureen A. Duffy, AWARE's Editorial Director, at maureen.duffy@visionaware.org.

AWARE is a not-for-profit organization. Its primary focus is VisionAWARE, a "Self-Help for Vision Loss" website that contains free, practical information to enhance quality of life and independence for adults with vision loss, their families and friends, caregivers, and vision professionals. The site includes Questions & Answers on a wide range of topics, including eye diseases and disorders, home management, home modification, reading and writing, recreational activities, crafts, Braille, computers and technology, and helpful services and resources.

"Are You AWARE? Special Issue on Macular Degeneration, Volume 1, Number 3, May 2007" and "NEW INDEPENDENCE! Craft Adaptations for Adults with Vision Impairments (Revised)" are published by AWARE (Associates for World Action in Rehabilitation and Education), PO Box 96, Mohegan Lake, New York, 10547, USA; 914-528-5120.

Blind Rehabilitation Outpatient Specialist (BROS) Job Opening – Palo Alto, California

The Blind Rehabilitation Service at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System has a brand new opening for a Blind Rehabilitation Outpatient Specialist (BROS). The incumbent will provide blind rehabilitation training to veterans in our Polytrauma Transitional Rehabilitation Program and work with outpatients in the community. The incumbent will work closely with the BROS assigned to the Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center and other outpatient therapist. On the job training will be providing to learn about the special needs of clients with brain injuries with functional vision loss. Salary starts at \$73,377. Hiring bonus is available. Must have a Master's degree or higher in Orientation & Mobility and have experience in at least one other area of blind rehabilitation, such as Low Vision or Rehabilitation Teaching. We will provide supplementary training in additional areas to round out knowledge base, if needed. The position is located at the Palo Alto Division of VAPAHCS and will require the incumbent to travel to the central valley for home based rehabilitation. Flex time will be offered. For additional information, contact Elizabeth Jessen, Director of Blind Rehab. Services, at 650-852-3431 or e-mail at Elizabeth.Jessen@va.gov. Government jobs are posted on the <http://www.vacareers.va.gov/> or <http://www.usajobs.gov> website. Go to search for occupation under Blind Rehabilitation to find the latest openings. This position will be open until filled.

Supervisor/Instructor Blind Rehabilitation (Living Skills) Job Opening – Palo Alto, California

The Western Blind Rehab Center (WBRC) has a position open for a Supervisor/Instructor Blind Rehabilitation (Living Skills). The incumbent will supervise, provide instruction and administer the Living Skills (rehabilitation teaching) section in a 32 bed comprehensive residential blind rehabilitation program. Salary rate is \$61,221 - \$95,394 (dependent on experience). Hiring bonus may be available. Must have a Master's degree or higher in Rehabilitation Teaching. WBRC is a part of the VA Palo Alto Health Care System and is located at 3801 Miranda Ave., Palo Alto, CA, 94304. For additional information, contact Elizabeth Jessen, Director of Blind Rehab. Services, at 650-852-3431 or e-mail at Elizabeth.Jessen@va.gov. Government jobs are posted on the <http://www.vacareers.va.gov/> or <http://www.usajobs.gov> website. Search for occupation under Blind Rehabilitation to find the latest openings. This position will be open until filled.

Student Success Advisor – Orientation & Mobility Instructor For The Blind Job Opening – Jacksonville, Florida

Position # 033462

Agency: Independent Living for Adult Blind (ILAB) in Jacksonville, Florida. ILAB is a community rehabilitation program supported by grant funding and administered by the Florida Community College at Jacksonville.

Qualifications: Prefer a certified (or certifiable skills) Orientation and Mobility Specialist. Bachelor or Master's degree.

Duties: Primary duties include providing indoor and outdoor travel skills training to persons who are blind and visually impaired. Students are all ages from teen to seniors. Other duties include case management and transition skills training for teens to include work with schools, families and students.

Salary: \$31,104 starting salary. Generous benefit package

Apply on line at www.fccj.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact Becky Simpson at 904-633-8307.

Assistive Technology Specialist Job Opening – Boise, Idaho

Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind (ISDB) is seeking an Assistive Technology Specialist. Candidates should be knowledgeable and experienced with assistive technology for the blind/visually impaired. Qualified candidates should possess considerable knowledge of screen enlargement and speech access software, electronic

note takers, scanners, Braille translation software, Braille displays, speech synthesizers, and Braille embossers. Responsibilities of this position include, but are not limited to, researching new assistive technology and formulating recommendations, facilitation and coordination of staff training, collaboration with local education agencies, technical support, outcome reporting, and grant writing. Minimum qualifications include a BA/BS degree plus 3 years experience with B/VI technology in an education or rehabilitation setting, and demonstrated knowledge and application of educational accommodations for blind/visually impaired students. Certification is preferred, but is not required. This position requires statewide travel. Pay range depends upon experience and education. This position will be based in Boise, ID.

To apply, contact Shelley Comstock, Personnel Technician, at Shelley.comstock@isdb.idaho.gov or Jeff Woods, Director of Financial Services, at jeff.woods@isdb.idaho.gov, with a letter of interest, resume, and contact information (name, phone, e-mail) of three (3) references.

Regional Consultant For Blind And Visually Impaired Job Opening – Gooding, Idaho

The Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind has a job opening for a Regional Consultant for the Blind and Visually Impaired beginning in August of 2007.

The consultant's duties include, but are not limited to, providing home intervention programs for parents of blind and visually impaired children from birth through three and providing educational and consultative services to students from birth through 21 who are blind or visually impaired on an itinerant basis.

Qualifications include an Idaho Exceptional Child certificate with Teacher of the Visually Impaired endorsement and experience working with parents and infants, school districts, and related service providers. Minimum of a Bachelor's degree, Master's degree preferred.

A comprehensive fringe benefit package is included. Employees and spouses receive reduced tuition at state universities (\$5 per credit hour).

Interested persons are to submit a letter of application, resume, official transcripts, copies of certification and three letters of recommendation to:

Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind
ATTN: Human Resources
1450 Main St.
Gooding, ID 83330

The position is located in Eastern Idaho. The closing date is open until filled.

Orientation & Mobility Specialist Job Opening – Rochester, Michigan

Leader Dogs for the Blind, located in Rochester, MI, has a full time opening for an Orientation and Mobility Specialist. This position is responsible for the delivery of Orientation and Mobility services to Leader Dog consumers, employees, associated professionals, and the community. This position also actively participates as a member of a multidisciplinary team providing other assistive technology and mobility services to consumers. Leader Dog offers a state of the art accelerated mobility training to our consumers as well as new services such as Trekker GPS training and other exciting extended services. Duties for this position would include, but not be limited to, assessing consumer orientation and mobility levels, determining needs, recommending services, and conducting training to meet needs; providing field services to O&M consumers in home, school and work environments; providing other assistive technology instructional services to consumers, including GPS and other adapted devices; and participating in the ongoing development and implementation of all O&M consumer and professional related services and training materials.

We are looking for an enthusiastic team player with a Bachelor's degree. Graduate of an AER recognized O&M curriculum is required. A Master's degree is preferred. Must have proper and current ACVREP certification. At least two years of professional experience in O&M is strongly preferred. Must have interpersonal skills and the ability to instruct the visually impaired in a respectful and effective manner. Must have a thorough knowledge of orientation and mobility principles and techniques and maintain current certification in O&M. Must have an aptitude for and ability to develop and administer new programs as well as develop and modify curriculum design. Must have the aptitude and ability to use assistive technology such as JAWS, GPS, etc. Must possess a valid driver's license and/or the ability to travel as needed for the job. Must be able to walk distances consistent with delivery of mobility training in a variety of weather conditions and be able to work outside of normal business hours to meet consumer needs.

Leader Dogs for the Blind has competitive salary offerings and excellent benefits that include medical, dental, 401K, and life insurance. Salary range is \$34,000 to \$51,000, based on experience. Please apply online at www.leaderdog.org or send cover letter and resume to humanresources@leaderdog.org or mail to Leader Dogs for the Blind, Attention: Human Resources, PO Box 5000, Rochester, MI, 48308.

Teacher Of The Visually Impaired/Blind Job Opening – St. Paul, Minnesota

Effective date of employment is the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year on August 27, 2007.

Job summary includes teach curriculum of ISD 196 or Rosemount/Apple Valley/Eagan School District, near St. Paul, MN; carry our responsibilities as defined by the master contract; carry out responsibilities as defined by the principal; maintain good communication and cooperation with staff and parents; possess effective behavior management skills; and be able to maintain routine in a student's day.

Qualifications include certified by the State of Minnesota; preferred certification as an Orientation and Mobility Instructor; ability to relate positively to students, staff and the community; and excellent written/oral communication skills.

Apply on line at <http://www.district196.org/>. Contact is Nancy Recibe at 952-431-8991.

O&M Instructor Job Opening – St. Louis, Missouri

There is a job opening for an O&M Instructor at the Missouri School for the Blind.

Duties: Serve as part of a multi-disciplinary team to determine O&M eligibility for VI/blind students; design and provide instruction in the school building, community and in the dormitory for each assigned student; work with classroom teachers, on-site staff, parents, and student to implement IEP specified modifications/accommodations; document student progress on IEP goals; and communicate progress to IEP team members on regular basis.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with Master's degree preferred from an accredited college/university with O&M specialization. Current O&M certification issued by ACVREP or be eligible to take exam for certification.

Send resume by fax, mail, or email to Missouri School for the Blind, 3815 Magnolia Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110. Fax: 314-772-1561. Email: cflynn@msb.k12.mo.us.

Vision Supervisor Job Openings - St. Louis, Missouri

There are three job openings for a Vision Supervisor at the Missouri School for the Blind: These are twelve-month positions providing statewide outreach services to stakeholders addressing the educational needs of blind/VI children.

Duties: Develop, coordinate, and deliver FVAs; work with APH Supervisor; provide training; coordinate mentoring activities; and provide O&M services.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with Master's degree preferred, with vision education certification or ACVREP O&M certification complete. Experience in teaching/assessing blind/VI students; Missouri State Teacher Certification in VI/blind.

Submit resume to Human Resources, Missouri School for the Blind, 3815 Magnolia Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63110. Fax: 314-772-1561. Email: cflynn@msb.k12.mo.us.

Orientation & Mobility Specialist Job Opening – Concord, New Hampshire

The New Hampshire Association for the Blind has an immediate opening for an Orientation and Mobility Specialist. The position, located in Concord, will provide itinerant services to school age students in school districts in the state of New Hampshire.

Qualifications: ACVREP certification as a COMS is preferred or eligible for taking the national exam in O&M. A reliable vehicle and a valid NH license are required.

Salary: Negotiable and dependent on education and experience. The Association provides a competitive benefit package, including assistance with dues/membership and continuing education opportunities.

Forward cover letter and resume by June 30, 2007 to:

Guy M. Woodland, Senior Vice President
McGreal Sight Center
New Hampshire Association for the Blind
25 Walker Street
Concord, NH 03301
gwoodland@sightcenter.org

Director Of Research Job Opening – New York, New York

The Arlene R. Gordon Research Institute of Lighthouse International is seeking a Director of Research to join its dynamic multidisciplinary research team. The Director will provide leadership and conduct research to further build on the excellent reputation of the Research Institute in areas of psychosocial, vision/accessibility, and evaluation research for persons with vision impairment and other co-morbidities. Supports the building of evidenced-based practice to enhance services. Provides direction to research institute investigators while insuring publication and broad dissemination of results of scientific investigation and evaluation. Promotes the translation of all research to peer reviewed publications and internal and external lay/publc audiences.

Must possess a Doctoral degree in relevant scientific discipline with a minimum of seven (7) years previous experience in externally sponsored research, with supervisory and administrative experience. Has a record of funded research as a principal investigator with demonstrated leadership skills. Has a publication record in peer-reviewed journals and excellent writing and presentation skills.

From its founding in 1905, Lighthouse International, a leading resource worldwide on vision impairment and vision rehabilitation, has both advocated for and conducted research in the field of vision impairment and rehabilitation. Today, investigators in its Arlene R. Gordon Research Institute, the only research institute existing within a vision rehabilitation agency, conduct this work. The Institute's multidisciplinary team consists of psychologists, sociologists, vision scientists, computer scientists, and social scientists.

Please send a cover letter and CV by postal mail or email to:

Dr. Cynthia Stuen
Senior Vice President, Policy and Professional Affairs
Lighthouse International

111 East 59th Street
New York, New York 10022
212-821-9484
cstuen@lighthouse.org

Certified Low Vision Therapist Or Occupational Therapist Job Opening – Asheville, North Carolina

The Low Vision Center of Mission Hospitals has a job opening for a Certified Low Vision Therapist or Occupational Therapist.

Position summary: Evaluates patients, develops care plan to treat patients, uses procedures and techniques to change condition/function consistent with diagnosis and prognosis, supervises and coordinates low vision care with low vision optometrist and other team members, evaluates equipment needs and procures low vision devices, facilitates low vision support group, administers low vision device loaner program, and communicates evaluation results to patients, families, and school and outside agency personnel. Teaches and mentors other staff and participates in the management of resources for patient care and organizational improvement.

Qualifications: Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Therapy or Certified Low Vision Therapist.

Required Experience: OT/R - 3 years clinical experience in occupational therapy, preferably with a background in low vision. CLVT - 2 years clinical experience.

Apply online at www.missionhospitals.org.

Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist Job Opening – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services
Job Announcement # 07-157

Position Title/Code/Level: Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist, Level IV, K21D

May be filled at Level III, K21C or Level II, K21B or Level I, K21A

Location: VR#47 - OKC

Number of Positions/PIN: (1) – Classified / 80500967

Monthly Salary Range:	Minimum	Midpoint	Maximum
Level IV - Pay Band M	\$3,200.00	\$3,878.58	\$4,848.25
Level III - Pay Band L	\$2,800.00	\$3,494.25	\$4,367.83
Level II - Pay Band K	\$2,633.00	\$3,176.67	\$3,970.83
Level I - Pay Band J	\$2,361.00	\$2,906.17	\$3,632.75

Beginning Date: Friday, June 15, 2007

Ending Date: Thursday, June 28, 2007

Essential Functions: This is a leadership level of job family where employees carry a full caseload/workload and act as a team leader. Employees at this level will function independently and assign work and supervise lower level vocational rehabilitation staff and/or develop new initiatives and serve as project manager. Provides services to clients in meeting problems of personal, social and vocational adjustments. Interprets and analyzes applicant's physical or mental condition, social/economic situation, attitude/aptitudes, work experience, functional limitations, educational background and personality traits to determine disability and rehabilitation possibilities. Consults with physicians, psychologists and appropriate disability professionals regarding findings of exams, administers/interprets psychological tests when indicated, and determines eligibility for rehabilitation services according to state and federal regulations. Must be willing to perform all job related travel. Probationary period (or trial period if applicable) is required.

Education and Experience Requirements: Level I - Bachelor's degree in rehabilitation counseling, vocational evaluation, or vocational rehabilitation or a Bachelor's degree in a related area and one year of experience in a disability related field. Level II - Master's degree in rehabilitation counseling, vocational evaluation, or vocational rehabilitation or a Master's degree in any subject and one year of professional experience in counseling, job placement, vocational evaluation or rehabilitation. All applicants at this level must be eligible to sit for certification specific to the professional job duties such as Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC), Certified Vocational Evaluator (CVE), or the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) examination. Level III – Same as Level II plus two years of professional experience in counseling, job placement, vocational evaluation or rehabilitation. Level IV – Same as Level III plus two years of professional experience in counseling, job placement, vocational evaluation or rehabilitation.

Method of Application: Current State of Oklahoma employees with permanent status in the classified service or those having reinstatement rights need to submit three (3) complete sets of all of the following application materials: 1) a cover letter that must contain the Job Announcement #, job title and job code of the position of which you are applying, telephone number where you can be reached during office hours, your home mailing address, and your current classification and job code, and 2) a completed Office of Personnel Management Personal Data Summary Sheet (OPM-4B) that clearly indicates how you meet the education and/or experience requirements. DRS requires applicants to provide copies of performance evaluations at the interview process. Applicants who have no previous classified state service, in unclassified status or currently in probationary status, must apply at the Office of Personnel Management (www.ok.gov/opm/).

Send to: Department of Rehabilitation Services
Attn: Personnel
3535 NW 58th Street, Suite 500
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112

If you have questions regarding this position or the application process, contact Calvin Small at 405-951-3527.

Itinerant Vision Rehabilitation Therapist - Allentown, Pennsylvania

Agency: Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Qualifications: Current or pending ACVREP certification in Vision Rehabilitation Therapy. Candidates dually certified in Orientation and Mobility and/or with knowledge in adaptive technology will be given preference.

Duties:

1. Assess clients' knowledge and skills in all areas of Vision Rehabilitation Therapy including personal and home management, communication skills, and medication management, and develop individualized plans of instruction to meet clients' needs.
2. Carry out programs of instruction including food preparation, money management, diabetes management, house cleaning, clothing care and identification, personal grooming, eating skills, and communications.
3. Conduct small group classes.
4. Work as part of a team that includes case workers and other rehabilitation professionals to achieve the highest level of independence for each individual.

Salary: Competitive salary commensurate with education and experience. Benefits package. Annual stipends for relevant certification and continuing education are available. May be required to provide own transportation with mileage reimbursement.

Contact: John Ford at 610-433-6018, ext. 32, or jfordabvi@verizon.net.

Quote Of The Day!

“In matters of principle, stand like a rock; in matters of taste, swim with the current.” – Thomas Jefferson