

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Area Agency on Aging
- Blind Veterans Administration
- Braille Club
- Center for Independent Living
- Division of Blind Services
- Florida Council for the Blind
- Florida Lions
- Florida Talking Books Library
- Mae Volen Senior Center
- National Federation of the Blind
- Office of Equal Opportunity
- Palm Tran Connections

LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERS

The Center is governed by a volunteer board of directors of which fifty percent are required to be blind or have a family member who is blind.

The dedicated staff bring skills and an enthusiasm for teaching that has brought favorable results to and recognition by clients and members of the community. Independent living skills are taught by qualified instructors. Support staff and additional generous volunteers assist with the Center's ever-growing needs and in the clients' journey towards living independently. FOCB works to uphold the State of Florida's Plan for Independent Living (SPIL 2010).

JOIN OUR PROGRAM

We accept:

- Physician's referrals
- Division of Blind Services referrals
- Self-referrals

All participants will be supported in creating personal goals for living independently.

ACCREDITATION

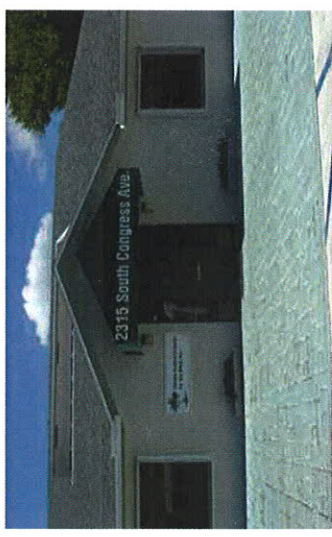
The FOCB is accredited by the National Accreditation Council for the Blind and Low Vision Services (NAC). It is registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Registration No. CH17058, to collect charitable donations.

MAKE A DONATION

The Florida Outreach Center for the Blind is a not-for-profit agency largely dependent on community contributions. If you or someone you know would like to make a donation or a request to help the Florida Outreach Center for the Blind continue its important work, please call Carolyn Lapp, the Executive Director, at (561) 642-0005, by email at info_focb@bellsouth.net or visit our website at www.flblindcenter.org.



Florida Outreach Center for the Blind, Inc.
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The FOCB is a community resource, serving individuals and families experiencing vision loss.

OUR MISSION

The Florida Outreach Center seeks the total integration of the blind into their communities. The Center provides training in skills for blindness and encourages the development of positive attitudes, while facilitating advocacy, self-reliance, confidence, independence, quality of life for all people experiencing vision loss.



Accredited by:

National Accreditation Council
for Blind and Low Vision Services

ABOUT FOCB

The Florida Outreach Center for the Blind (FOCB) is a not-for-profit agency formed for the express purpose of providing services to people in Palm Beach County and surrounding areas that are blind or visually impaired. It was founded in 2003 by Carolyn Lapp. Carolyn, who lost her sight at age fourteen, realized that although there were services available for blind and visually impaired people, there were simply not enough direct services to go around in Palm Beach and surrounding counties. Ms. Lapp established the FOCB with a mission to address the needs of the estimated 48,000 blind and visually impaired individuals in the County. FOCB believes if you give blind and visually impaired people the tools and services they need, they will develop a positive attitude toward their blindness, cope with their visual challenge, and contribute to their community. It was Ms. Lapp's belief that students could benefit from the perspective and insight of a blind person and would respond well and more rapidly to someone who knows first-hand what they are experiencing and has successfully met the challenge. Therefore, FOCB is unique among local organizations serving blind and low-vision persons, because the CEO, many of the staff, and at least half of the board members themselves are blind or visually impaired. The FOCB takes great pride in creating jobs for the visually

impaired by serving the visually impaired. In turn, this creates an integrated community for the blind and their families.



OUR SUPPORT SERVICES

- Provide encouragement for the blind and their families.
- Provide demonstrations of low vision adaptive aids and appliances.
- Provide information for other community agencies and make referrals.
- Provide information and assistance for the blind concerning their civil rights.
- Provide Blind awareness resource material and education for the community.
- Provide opportunities for socialization, recreation and hobbies through a variety of special interest groups.

OUR CLASSES & PROGRAMS

- Braille
- Braille Literacy for Kids (BELL)
- Technology
- Independent Living Skills
- Personal Care Skills
- Cooking
- Kids' Club for Blind Children
- Peer Support
- Recreational Therapy
- Audible Books Reading Center
- Equipment Loan Program
- Financial Management
- Job Skills Readiness
- Store with Visual Aids

