

SOUTH DAKOTA

Blind/Visual Impairment Resources



South Dakota Blind/Visual Impairment Resources

Adaptivation, Inc.

2225 W. 50th Street, Suite 100

Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Phone: (800) 723-2783 (605) 335-4445

Fax: (605) 335-4446

E-mail: info@adaptivation.com

Website: <http://www.adaptivation.com/>

Contact Name: Amy Koch

Organization Type: General, Assistive Technology

Disabilities Served: Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Communication and Speech, Developmental Disabilities, Multiple Disabilities

Adaptivation, Inc. designs, manufactures, and distributes assistive technology to people with disabilities throughout the world. They are committed to providing the most useful, long-lasting products and accompanying services to their consumers. This company is based in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. In their philosophy of focusing on the customer, they often take their customers' input and suggestions and incorporate it into new versions of their products, which are known to be affordable and durable.

Dakotalink (Assistive Tech Project)

1161 Deadwood Ave. Suite #5

Rapid City, SD 57702

Phone: 1-(800) 645-0673 (605) 394-6742

Fax: (605) 394-5315

E-mail: info@dakotalink.net

Website: <http://www.dakotalink.tie.net/>

Contact Name: David Scherer

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, State and Local Organizations

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

DakotaLink can provide up-to-date product information on assistive devices for people with disabilities, elderly, family members, educators, medical professionals, advocates and others. DakotaLink specializes in providing installation, setup and training on equipment for computer access.

Division of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired

3800 E. Hwy 34, 500 East Capitol

Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Phone: (605) 773-4644 1-(800) 265-9684

Fax: (605) 773-5483

E-mail: jeff.kisecker@state.sd.us

Website: <http://dhs.sd.gov/sbvi/>

Contact Name: Gaye Mattke, Division Director

Organization Type: General

Disabilities Served: Visual Impairment / Blind

Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI) is a state agency in the Department of Human Services. SBVI employs professionally trained rehabilitation specialists who work with eligible individuals via jointly developed individualized service programs. Services are provided that result in employment outcomes and independent living outcomes. Through counseling and teaching people to overcome limitations caused by the visual disability and work in jobs and live in their own homes. Services may include training in the specialized skills of blindness to include cane travel, communications, Braille, daily living skills, home management, and computer skills. SBVI has a modern training center at the South Dakota Rehabilitation Center for the Blind in Sioux Falls. Each individual works with a counselor or teacher in their home community to develop a plan that fully reflects the choices of the individual. Services that may be part of a plan include tuition for training at college or vocational school, physical restoration, assistive devices, and job placement. Some services do require a financial needs test. All areas of the state are covered by district offices. SBVI provides services in order that citizens who are blind and visually impaired may overcome the impediments imposed by the disability and lead productive meaningful lives.

South Dakota Braille and Talking Book Library

South Dakota State Library
800 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501
605-773-3131

The mission of the Library is to provide equal access to print materials in a format acceptable to all citizens of South Dakota who cannot read standard print. The inability to read standard print may be caused by a visual impairment that prevents seeing the print, a physical disability that prevents holding the materials and/or turning the pages, or a learning disability caused by an organic dysfunction. The alternative formats include large print, Braille, cassette recording or electronic files.

South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

423 17th Ave. SE
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Phone: (605) 626-2580 1-(888) 275-3814
Fax: (605) 626-2607
E-mail: kaiserm@sdsbvi.northern.edu
Website: <http://sdsbvi.northern.edu/>
Contact Name: Dr. Marjorie Kaiser, Superintendent
Organization Type: General
Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The role and mission of the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired to provide statewide services to meet the educational needs of sensory impaired children from birth through twenty-one in South Dakota by serving in a dual leadership and resource role in the statewide efforts to serve these students. This mission shall be carried out through cooperative efforts with all appropriate state agencies, educational cooperatives, local education agencies and college and

universities. It is recognized that the mission of the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired is a significant part of the continuum of services in the statewide delivery system for children in need of special education OR special education and related services. The South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired understands this responsibility to include: Direct educational programs and services to blind and visually impaired students including the multi-handicapped and deaf-blind, in Aberdeen and at other designated locations, with appropriate emphasis on the "disability specific skills" of Braille, orientation and mobility, technology, daily living, leisure, community interaction and work experience; Residential services for those students whose needs are better served in such an environment; Educational evaluations and interpretation of results for parents and public school teachers and recommendations for appropriate educational programming and placement; Consultative services for local school districts, cooperatives and parents to assist them in developing child identification procedures and an appropriate education program; Supplementary services, including summer programming to reinforce educational growth, provide for special skills training and assist students in understanding their vision loss and their own abilities; Development of the school in Aberdeen as a resource center for information about vision loss, educational materials, methods and equipment to serve educators, parents and the public; Parental and family involvement in all aspects of the child's educational program with a full explanation of parental rights and responsibilities as well as an understanding of vision loss; Cooperative efforts with the Division of Education in the identification of visually impaired students and the delivery of appropriate educational programs and services as a part of the continuum of services; Cooperative efforts with the colleges and universities in personnel preparation and staff development in the field of vision loss through internships, seminars, research projects and other professional development activities; Cooperative efforts with the Office of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired in the development and implementation of transition plans and vocational readiness; Cooperative efforts with the South Dakota State Library in the provision of curriculum and support materials for students, teachers and parents; and Cooperative efforts with blind consumers through the S.D. Association for the Blind and the National Federation of the Blind of South Dakota to increase public knowledge and acceptance of blindness and to support quality programs and services.

The Low Vision Store

2200 University Avenue West, Suite 200

Saint Paul, MN 55114

800-871-8780 (Toll free)

651-203-2200

651-203-2203 (Fax)

www.thelowvisioncenter.com E-mail: lowvisionstore@yahoo.com

The Low Vision Store carries a full line of daily living products and reading machines for people who are blind or have low vision. They cover the five-state area of North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa and will do free in-house demonstrations for all reading machines.

Sources of Custom-Produced Books

Pierre

South Dakota State Library for the Handicapped
800 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501
(605) 773-3131
(605) 773-4950 fax
Director:
Daniel W. Boyd

Recording: general, textbooks, computer science; cassette masters; 4-track and 2-track cassette duplication

Large print: textbooks; comb binding; by photoenlarging

Other Information: sponsors transcribing classes, maintains book-master collection, provides title list

Sioux Falls

Confined Leading the Blind
Pleasantland Industries
P.O. Box 5911
Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5911
(605) 335-5139
(605) 367-5102 fax
Chairperson:
Bill Heim
Cochairperson:
Ted M. Miller

Braille: literary, textbooks, math, computer notation; tactile drawings and maps; thermoforming; spiral binding; computer-produced; software (Duxbury); embosser (VersaPoint)

Large print: general, math, music, textbooks, computer science; 19-hole spiral binding; photoenlarging