

UTAH

Blind/Visual Impairment Resources



Utah Blind/Visual Impairment Resources

Access Utah Network

155 South 300 West, Suite 100

Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Phone: (801) 533-4636 1-(800) 333-8824

Fax: (801) 533-3968

E-mail: mlsmith@utah.gov

Website: <http://www.accessut.state.ut.us/>

Contact Name: Mark Smith

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, State and Local Agencies

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

Access Utah Network is a state wide referral service providing information on issues related to people with disabilities. The website provides information as well as services and products available for download. Access Utah Network doesn't just provide information and referral services for people with disabilities, but they also work with people with disabilities. They sponsor events, such as Bingo Nights, Canoeing Trips, Workshops, and all other types of fun activities.

Deaf & Blind Children's Fund, Inc.

P.O. Box 12655

Ogden, UT 84412-2655

Phone: (801) 390-3838

Fax: (801) 525-9411

E-mail: kskilgore@yahoo.com

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

Contact Name: Kerrie Kilgore, Chairperson

Organization Type: General

Disabilities Served: Deaf / Blind

The Deaf Blind Children's Fund believes that there are many possible ways to help children with sensory impairments. Some services they offer are eye examinations, prescription glasses, low vision aids, medical examinations, special projects, educational materials, adaptive and assistive technology, hearing aids, and classroom assistance.

Friends For Sight®

661 South 200 East

Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Local: (801) 524-2020

Toll-Free: (800) 675-LOOK

Friends For Sight® is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving sight through comprehensive vision screenings such as screening children for Amblyopia, which is lazy-eye blindness, Visual Acuity testing, and Glaucoma screening. We encourage regular eye examinations, because early detection and strict adherence to treatment is vital to keep your eyes for a lifetime.

FREE screenings are available by calling 801 - 524-2020
If you have comments or suggestions, email us at: 2020@for-sight.com

Low Vision Rehabilitation Services LL.C.

439 East 3100 North
North Ogden, UTAH 84414
1-801-547-5903
info@lowvisionrehabservices.com

Low Vision Rehabilitation Services, LL.C. is established to help persons with a vision loss to be able to continue to read, maintain their check book, sew, see TV and faces better, and do other things that are difficult because of their eye condition. Low Vision Rehabilitation Services is owned and operated by Bryan Gerritsen, Certified Low Vision Therapist (CLVT). Bryan works in conjunction with ophthalmologists and optometrists in about 13 doctor's offices in most major cities of the state of Utah, and in two offices in Idaho.

He has worked as a low vision therapist at doctor's offices and eye centers since September, 2002 serving persons of all ages with a vision loss, assisting them to use the vision they have to be able to do the tasks that they enjoy. Prior to that, he worked as a low vision therapist for the Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired for 14 years, and for 11 years at the Utah School for the Blind as an orientation and mobility specialist. Bryan also worked at the Atlanta Area Services for the Blind from 1975 to 1977 as an orientation and mobility specialist and trained in their low vision clinic under Dr. Randy Jose.

Bryan is the former chair of the Low Vision Rehabilitation Division of AER (Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired), an international organization of professionals serving the visually impaired. He served for 8 years in several positions at the international level, and for 6 years as the chapter president of the Utah organization of professionals serving the visually impaired. He has also served for several years on an advisory board with the National Eye Institute (NEI) and with the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB).

Bryan has enjoyed working with thousands of persons who have a vision loss throughout his career, to help them have the blessing of seeing and doing the things that they once thought would not be possible again. Low Vision Rehabilitation Services is organized to help people with a vision loss to remain independent, to assist them and their families with the challenges and struggles they face, and to give them help and hope.

Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center

1780 North Research Parkway, Suite 112
Logan, UT 84341
Phone: (435) 752-0238 (435) 753-9750 (TDD)
Fax: (435) 753-9750
E-mail: John.Copenhaver@usu.edu
Website: <http://www.rfcnetwork.org/mprrc>
Contact Name: John Copenhaver
Organization Type: Assistive Technology, National Organizations and Associations
Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center (MPRRC) is one of six Regional Resource Centers and is part of the Federal and Regional Resource Centers Network (RRFC), which provides services to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Trust Territories, and the schools of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The MPRRC serves Arizona, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. The entire network is part of the Office of Special Education Programs, which is under the umbrella of the U.S. Department of Education. MPRRC's services included assisting with the improvement process as a result of OSEP visit in 1999, assisting with the self assessment, specifically assisting with focus group process and analysis of data; assisting with a statewide project to address issues of secondary transition by assisting with design of the project and delivery of training; assisting with the development of an action plan for addressing issues of disproportionality; and assisting with developing and implementing a major system for recruitment and retention of special education professionals.

The Computer Center for Citizens with Disabilities

1595 W. 500 South

Salt Lake City, UT 84104

Phone: (801) 887-9533 or 1-(888) 866-5550

Fax: (801) 538-7522

E-mail: cboogaar@usor.state.ut.us

Website: http://www.usor.utah.gov:81/ucats/ucats_computer_center.htm

Contact Name: Craig Boogaard, Director

Organization Type: Assistive Technology

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The fundamental goal of The Computer Center for Citizens With Disabilities is to help improve the lives of children and adults with disabilities by introducing them to the many ways in which computer technology can enhance their jobs, careers and education. Their services include: cost-free consultations, workshops, information, and Internet access.

Utah Assistive Technology Foundation

6835 Old Main Hill

Logan, UT 84322-6835

Phone: 1-(800) 524-5152

Fax: (435) 797-2355

E-mail: uatf@cpd2.usu.edu

Website: <http://www.uatf.org/>

Contact Name: Marilyn Hammond

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, Information Centers, Parent/Family Support, State and Local Organizations, University-Affiliated Programs

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The Utah Assistive Technology Foundation is a private, non-profit organization that works with Zions Bank of Utah to provide zero and low-interest loans to purchase assistive technology and telework devices. The UATF also offers some small grants (\$250 or less) on a limited basis through non-federal funding to families who meet federal poverty guidelines. The goal of the UATF is to enhance the independence, education, employment, and quality of life for Utah citizens with disabilities.

Utah Assistive Technology Program (Utah State University)

6855 Old Main Hill

Logan, UT 84322-6855

Phone: 435-797-7185

Fax: (435) 797-3944

E-mail: Stan.Clelland@usu.edu

Website: <http://uatp.usu.edu/>

Contact Name: Stan Clelland, AT Lab Coordinator

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, University-Affiliated Programs

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The Utah Assistive Technology Program was created to help individuals access the technology they need to gain independence and pursue opportunities to the fullest extent of their abilities. This site provides Resources, Information Sheets, Funding Information, Events, Technology, and a list of other organizations that relate to Assistive Technology.

Utah Center for Assistive Technology

1595 West 500 South

Salt Lake City, UT 84104-5236

Phone: 1-(888) 866-5550 (801) 887-9500

E-mail: tjackson@usor.state.ut.us

Website: <http://www.usor.utah.gov:81/ucat/>

Contact Name: Tom Jackson

Organization Type: General

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The Utah Center for Assistive Technology (UCAT) serves as the center point of assistive technology services statewide. There are branch resources available throughout the state and services are coordinated to ensure that devices and services are accessible to all residents of Utah who have a disability. Their mission is to enhance human potential through facilitating the application of assistive technologies for people with disabilities. UCAT works to provide accurate information regarding appropriate technologies and where to purchase them. The information and referral staff at UCAT work along side other professional resources where needed so that they can provide individuals with the knowledge necessary to make appropriate equipment decisions.

Utah State Office of Rehabilitation

USOR Administrative Office may be contacted at: Voice/TTY 801-538-7530 Toll-Free 1-800-473-7530 FAX 801-538-7522

Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DSBVI)

The Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DSBVI) has developed programs to help meet the needs of Utah citizens who are blind or have significant visual impairments. In addition to providing vocational rehabilitation services, DSBVI offers a multitude of training and adjustment services. These services include computer evaluation and training, orientation and mobility services, daily living skills, home repair courses, low vision screening, magnification and

other assistive aids, and a variety of adjustment-to-blindness classes and services. These services are provided to individuals at the Center for the Blind and in the community statewide.

The DSBVI also provides preschool vision screening, services to individuals who are both deaf and blind, and Independent Living services to older blind Utahans'.

The Utah State Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped and the Utah State Library Division are co-located with the DSBVI in their new facility at 250 North 1950 West, Salt Lake City. This puts all Utah state agencies for the adult blind under one roof, thus greatly enhancing consumer services.

Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind

742 Harrison Blvd.

Ogden, UT 84404

Phone: (801) 629-4700 (801) 629-4701(TTY)

Fax: (801) 629-4896

E-mail: kimberleys@usdb.org

Website: <http://www.usdb.org/>

Contact Name: Kimberly Smale

Organization Type: State and Local Organizations

Disabilities Served: Deaf / Blind, Hearing Impairments / Deaf, Visual Impairment / Blind

The mission of the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind is to serve as a resource to the educational programs, age birth to 21 years of age, in the state of Utah. USDB provides direct and indirect, high quality, educational services and consultations to children with hearing and/or vision impairments as well as to their families and services providers.

Utah State Library for the Blind & Disabled

250 North 1950 West, Suite A

Salt Lake City UT 84116-7901

801-715-6789 in the SLC area

800-662-5540 Inside Utah

800-453-4293 Outside Utah

TTD 801-715-6721

Email: blind@utah.gov

The Utah State Library for the Blind and Disabled provides special public library services for people who are blind, visually disabled, physically disabled, and reading disabled. We are part of the Library of Congress network, the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, which has 56 regional and 93 sub regional libraries throughout the United States.

The Utah Library for the Blind and Disabled has expanded to serve over 10,000 patrons in Utah and Wyoming with cassette, large print, and Braille service. Wyoming residents register and receive the special equipment through Wyoming Vision Consultants, and then receive books and other materials through Utah.

Additionally, twenty states (Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming) contract for Braille service. People throughout the United States and Canada receive LDS (Mormon) materials through the Utah State Library for the Blind and Disabled. Over 300,000 books and magazines on recorded cassette, in Braille and large print, are circulated annually. The collection has over 14,000 Braille titles, 53,000 cassette titles and 14,000 large print titles. Catalogs and special bibliographies of the material available are provided. Books of regional interest are produced locally through a volunteer program.

Sources of Custom-Produced Books

Ogden

*Utah School for the Blind
Education Resource Center
742 Harrison Boulevard
Ogden, UT 84404
(801) 629-4810
Director of Education Resource Center: Lorri Quigley*

Braille: literary, priority to textbooks and classroom materials, tactile drawings; spiral binding; computer-produced; software (Duxbury, MegaDots, Pokadot); embosser (Braillo, Juliet)

Other information: material available through direct loan to schools in state and material resource centers; fee for services for private requests

Salt Lake City

*Utah State Library
Program for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
1950 North 200 West, Suite A
Salt Lake City, UT 84116-7901
(801) 715-6789
Chairperson: Sharon Crandall*

Braille: literary, textbooks; computer-produced; embosser (TED-600)

Recording: general, textbooks; cassette and open-reel masters; 4-track cassette and open-reel duplication

Other Information: accepts no assignments outside state, maintains master-tape collection