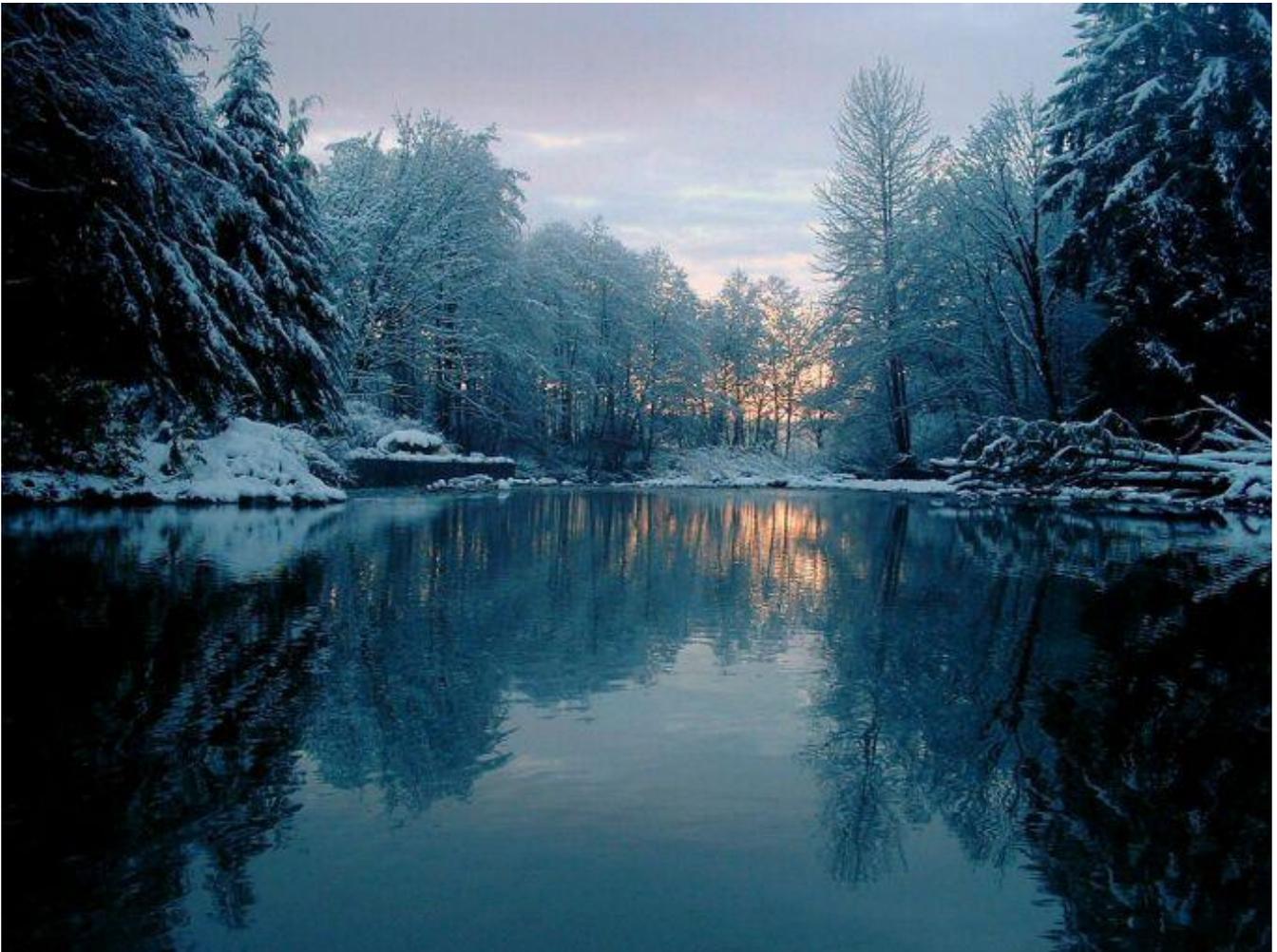


WASHINGTON

Blind/Visual Impairment Resources



Washington Blind/Visual Impairment Resources

Colligo: Digital Content and Assistive Technology

1304 Meador Ave, Ste B5
Bellingham, WA 98229

Phone: (360) 239-9815

Fax: (360) 239-4427

E-mail: info@colligo.us

Website: <http://www.colligo.us/>

Organization Type: General, Assistive Technology, Private Sector Companies

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific, Communication and Speech, Deaf / Blind, Learning Disabilities, Visual Impairment / Blind, ADHD/ADD, Dyslexia

Colligo's technology makes knowledge accessible and affordable for all. They are partnering with several agencies, libraries and schools to publish books in formats that will aid people with low vision, dyslexia, learning disabilities, reading obstacles, or other disabilities. Colligo continues to create cost effective assistive technology that opens accessibility for many.

Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted

9709 Third Avenue NE, #100
Seattle, WA 98115-2027

Phone: (206) 525-5556 (800) 458-4888

E-mail: csbps@csbps.com

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

Contact Name: Robert Leighton, Chair

Organization Type: General

Disabilities Served: Visual Impairment / Blind

Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted works with individuals, families, and communities to restore, maintain and enhance the independence and well-being of people with impaired vision. CSBPS provides the following services based out of the agency's headquarters in Seattle, Washington. Some of these services are free and some include a fee. No one is turned away due to inability to pay. These above mentioned services are: Low vision clinic, SightConnection: Products for living with vision loss, CCTV sales and rentals, Assistive technology center, and Educational services. CSBPS also provides the following services free of charge in the homes of people living in King, Snohomish, and Skagit counties in the state of Washington. These services include: Counseling, Safe and independent travel and independent living skills, and Volunteer assistance.

Crick Software Inc.

14687 N.E. 95th Street
Redmond, WA 98052

Phone: 1-(866) 332-7425 (425) 467-8260

Fax: (425) 467-8245

E-mail: info@cricksoft.com

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

Organization Type: Assistive Technology

Disabilities Served: Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Communication and Speech, Deaf / Blind, Developmental Disabilities, Hearing Impairments / Deaf, Learning Disabilities, Mental Retardation, Mobility Impaired, Multiple Disabilities, Multiple Sclerosis, Visual Impairment / Blind, Dyslexia

Crick Software, based in Seattle, Washington, is solely focused on producing innovative educational software. The company concentrates particularly on software tools for literacy. Crick Software promotes the inclusion of children of all abilities by creating flexible products that can be tailored to the needs of individuals. Most products have the option of switch access, for people with a disability who are unable to use a mouse or keyboard.

Deaf-Blind Service Center

1620 18th Ave., Suite 200

Seattle, WA 98122

Phone: (206) 323-9178

Fax: (206) 328-8497

E-mail: info@seattledbsc.org

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

Organization Type: Information Centers

Disabilities Served: Deaf / Blind

The Deaf-Blind Service Center is committed to assisting individuals who are deaf-blind in reaching and maintaining their highest possible quality of life and degree of personal autonomy. The Center believes communication is the core issue in providing quality services to Deaf-blind individuals. They do everything they can to assure that communication is not a barrier. DSBC believes in the importance of information to enable individuals to make educated choices. DBSC provides as many opportunities as possible for individuals who are deaf-blind to receive the information they need, and to be informed about the variety of possible options.

EnableMart - Technology for Everyone!

4210 E. 4th Plain Blvd.

Vancouver, WA 98661

Phone: 1-(888) 640-1999

Fax: (360) 695-4133

E-mail: Sara@enablemart.com

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

Contact Name: Sara Derkacht, Public Relations

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, Private Sector Companies

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

EnableMart is a comprehensive assistive technology vendor. EnableMart currently has a product offering of over 800 products from over 60 different assistive technology manufacturers. At EnableMart they believe that an increase in awareness of the products that are available TODAY will enable more individuals with disabilities to live independent and productive lives at home, work, school and play. Their mission is to make it easy for you to research, locate and purchase assistive technology products.

Ershig Assistive Technology Resource Center (E-ATRC)

E-ATRC – Miller Hall 212; Woodring College of Education; MS 9090; Western Washington University; 516 High Street
Bellingham, WA 98225-9090

Phone: (360) 650-2783

E-mail: Linda.Schleef@wwu.edu

Website: <http://www.wce.wwu.edu/Resources/ATRC/>

Contact Name: Linda Schleef, Coordinator

Organization Type: General

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The Ershig Assistive Technology Resource Center (E-ATRC) contains a collection of over three hundred Assistive Technology items, equipment and products, with a focus on technology supports for students with diverse learning needs in preschool through grade 12.

School of Piano Technology for the Blind

Phone: (360) 693-1511

Fax: (360) 693-6891

2510 E. Evergreen Blvd.

Vancouver, WA 98661-4323

We have provided specialized quality education since 1949 to blind and visually impaired individuals leading to successful careers in piano technology.

Our graduates perform quality tuning, regulation and repairs to the actions and other working parts of both vertical and grand pianos. Upon graduation, many of our students start their careers at the entry level as a tuner-technician employed by music stores, schools, piano manufacturers, recording studios, concert halls and wherever pianos are used and enjoyed. Many of our graduates start their own small businesses serving the piano care requirements of their clients by regularly tuning and repairing their instruments. Either career path can lead to personal, professional and financial rewards.

Lilac Services for the Blind

1212 North Howard St.

Spokane, WA 99201

(509) 328-9116

E-mail: info@lilacblind.org

Web site: www.lilacblind.org

The Independent Living Program provides in-home training, which includes communication methods, home management, activities of daily living, and more. Both on-site and in-home training is available. Another significant service is our adaptive computer lab. Within the lab, participants learn how to use adaptive software and other adaptive computer products.

Other important services include our expanding Braille transcription services and Braille library, a low vision department that includes adaptive aid demonstrations, low vision evaluations, and a magnifier program. Lilac also hosts support groups. Please see the activities page for meeting details. In addition, we provide information and referral services within the community. We

continually update our services in order to meet the needs of our blind and visually impaired participants, while enabling them to meet their potential.

Next Level Assistive Technology

12811 NW 29th Court
Vancouver, WA 98685
360-326-8031
360-397-0491 (Fax)
www.nextlevelat.com

Next Level specializes in technology solutions for those with visual impairments and learning disabilities. Michael Hooks, president and founder, has over ten years of experience teaching and working in the field of blindness and low vision.

SightConnection

9709 Third Avenue NE, #100
Seattle, WA 98115-2027
800-458-4888 (Toll free)
206-525-5556 (Voice/TDD)
206-525-0422 (Fax)
www.sightconnection.com E-mail: csbps@csbps.com

SightConnection is the retail operation of Seattle-based Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted (CSBPS). CSBPS works with individuals, families, and communities to restore, maintain, and enhance the independence and well-being of people with impaired vision, and specializes in working with age-related vision loss. SightConnection revenue helps support the broad range of programs provided by CSBPS.

SightConnection products include books and reading accessories, braille tools, calendars, writing and recordkeeping, canes, cassette players and audio accessories, CCTVs and video magnifiers, clocks and watches, cooking and kitchen, eyewear and eye patches, games and playing cards, health & personal care, home & office, lighting, magnifiers, Spanish talking products, telephones.

Special Education Technology Center: Central Washington University

400 East University Way
Ellensburg, WA 98926
Phone: (509)963-3350
Fax: (509)963-3355
E-mail: connolly@cwu.edu
Website: <http://www.cwu.edu/~setc/index2.html>
Contact Name: Jerry Connolly, Director
Organization Type: General
Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The Special Education Technology Center (SETC) is located at Central Washington University. The Center supports all public school districts in the state of Washington and the personnel who work in those districts. They also support any student, preschool through age 21, who formally received special education services and who may require assistive technology to access their education. Finally, SETC supports families of students with special needs. They provide collaborative technology planning for specific students whose disabilities require that they use some form of assistive technology in order to fully access their education. The Center also features a lending library of toys, switches, augmentative communication devices, alternate keyboards and other computer input devices, environmental control devices and software designed for students with special needs. Finally, they provide staff development on topics including assistive technology overview, augmentative communication, alternate computer input, software solutions and environmental control.

Washington Assistive Technology Act Program

University of Washington; Box 357920
Seattle, WA 98195-7920

Phone: (800)841-8345 (206)685-4181 (206)616-1396 (TTY)

Fax: (206) 543-4779

E-mail: uwctds@u.washington.edu

Website: <http://watap.org/>

Organization Type: General

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

The Washington Assistive Technology Alliance (WATA) is a consumer advocacy network that includes the University of Washington Center for Technology and Disability Studies (UWCTDS), and the AT Resource Center at Easter Seals Washington (EATRC). WATA also receives guidance from a Consumer Majority Advisory Board. WATA activities include: information and referral; consultation, and training related to selection of AT devices, services and funding; legal advice and advocacy; policy development and legislative action; technical consultation and training; publications; and development and maintenance of online resources.

Washington Assistive Technology Foundation

100 South King Street, Suite 280
Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: (206) 328-5116 1-(800) 214-8731

E-mail: info@watf.org

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

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, Independent and Community Living, State and Local Organizations

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific, Autism, Brain Injury and Stroke, Cerebral Palsy, Communication and Speech, Deaf / Blind, Developmental Disabilities, Health Impairments, Hearing Impairments / Deaf, Learning Disabilities, Mental Health Impairments, Mental Retardation, Mobility Impaired, Multiple Disabilities, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Neurological Disorders, Spina Bifida, Visual Impairment / Blind, Orthopedically Impaired, Cystic Fibrosis, ADHD/ADD, Leukemia, Bipolar Disorder, Tourette Syndrome, Apraxia of Speech, Dyslexia, Epilepsy

The Washington Assistive Technology Foundation (WATF) provides low interest loans to purchase assistive technology or business equipment. WATF also rents CCTV magnifiers for a reasonable monthly fee. WATF is a nonprofit organization serving Washington State residents.

WATAP—the Washington Assistive Technology Act Program—serves Washington residents of all ages with disabilities of all types, their families, employers and employment service providers, educators, health care and social service providers, and others seeking information about assistive technology (AT) and accessible information technology. WATAP is located within the UW Center on Technology & Disability Studies and is guided by a consumer-majority advisory council.

Washington State School for the Blind

2214 E. 13th Street

Vancouver, WA 98661-4120

Phone: (360) 696-6321

Fax: (360) 737-2120

Website: <http://www.wssb.wa.gov/>

Contact Name: Craig Meador, Principal

Organization Type: Schools and School Districts

Disabilities Served: Visual Impairment / Blind

This mission of the Washington State School for the Blind is to provide specialized quality educational services to youth ages birth to 21 who are blind or visually impaired within the state of Washington. Their purpose is to serve as a statewide demonstration and resource center and provide direct and indirect services to students both on campus and in the children's local communities. They envision a place where children who are blind and visually impaired can live independently.

Washington Residents

Lions Foundation of Washington works with each chapter in the state of Washington and will typically pay for half the cost of a video magnifier with the chapter picking up the other half. The end-user needs to be evaluated at one of the Lions Low Vision Clinics in the state in order to start the process. For more information about this program please contact Gael at the Lions Low Vision Clinic of Bellevue at 425-558-4228.

Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

2021 9th Avenue

Seattle, WA 98121-2783

(206) 615-0400 Voice

(206) 615-0418 TTY

Toll free outside Seattle dialing area: 1-800-542-0866

E-MAIL: wtbbl@secstate.wa.gov

Services Offered by Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

- **Talking Books**

The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library houses a varied collection of books and magazines on cassette. Special cassette players needed to play these materials are provided free of charge to registered users.

- **Braille Books**

The braille book collection includes adult and children's books. A special children's collection of books combines print and braille so that blind and sighted readers may share their reading enjoyment.

- **Large Print**

Large print books are available for registered readers who cannot easily read conventional size print.

- **Magazines**

WTBBL offers free subscriptions to many popular magazines, newsletters, and sports schedules on cassette, in braille, and in large print. Lists of available magazines:

- [Adobe PDF Format List of Available Magazines](#)
- [Microsoft Word Format List of Available Magazines](#)
- [Web-braille Format List of Available Magazines](#)

For more information about available magazines, contact WTBBL's magazine desk directly at 206-615-0416 or through our receptionist using the phone numbers listed below.

- **Youth Services**

WTBBL offers braille, large print, and audio cassette books for children of all ages, from toddlers to teens, for home and school. The Library offers a by-mail summer reading program, performances and events for children and their families, and an accessible children's room with toys, a VCR player, and computer equipment. For details, use the link above to go to the Children's Services page or send an e-mail to the children's librarian at kidsread@wtbbl.org or contact the children's librarian through our receptionist using the phone numbers listed below.

- **Deposit Collections**

Deposit collections of large print and cassette books may be loaned to libraries, schools, senior centers, and long-term care facilities throughout the State of Washington.

- **Audio Book and Brailled Book Production**

Audio books and brailled books by Pacific Northwest authors and about the Pacific Northwest are produced at WTBBL and are available, as are children's books and special interest subjects not available elsewhere.

Partial lists of braille books produced locally at the Washington Talking Book & Braille Library can be viewed and the books are available on-line for download as web-braille books at these links: [adult braille books](#), [children's braille books](#).

Partial lists of digitally-mastered cassette books produced locally at the Washington Talking Book & Braille Library can be viewed by the year produced at this link [adult and children's audio books](#).

The [Collection Development Policy](#) of WTBBL includes selection criteria for local production of audio and braille material.

- **Braille Transcription Class**

WTBBL offers a free course in braille transcription in 22 lessons on Wednesday evenings from January to June. This is a six-month class with computer homework and pc-based software provided. Classes meet at the Library. For more information, contact the Library and ask for the Volunteer Coordinator.

- **Evergreen Radio Reading Service**

Information of immediacy such as newspapers, grocery ads, shopping news, magazines, and special news for those who cannot easily read regular print is provided in the Puget Sound area and parts of Eastern Washington. Special radio receivers are provided free of charge. [Seattle Times article](#) of June 6, 2005, describing WTBBL's Evergreen Radio Reading Service. The [ERRS brochure](#) is available as a Word document. [Listen to the Live Webstream of the Evergreen Radio Reading Service](#)

- **Reference**

The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library offers reference service on issues of blindness, physical disabilities, and issues of general interest. You can contact the reference librarians through our receptionist using the phone numbers listed below. Reference services are also available by using [InfoEyes](#), an online virtual reference and information service for the visually impaired.

- **Live Online Conference Room**

The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library offers live online Internet/Web voice conferencing for programs, conferences, and other online chat and conference services. Use the link directly above to link to WTBBL's online conference room. An audio-recording of the Library's most recent online book discussion program can be accessed at [Persepolis](#).

- **CCTV Demonstrations**

Demonstrations of closed circuit magnifiers (CCTV) are available by appointment.

- **On-line Public Access Catalog (OPAC)**

If you use a computer connected to the internet, you can find out about all the books in the Washington Talking Book & Braille Library's (WTBBL) collection.

- **WTBBL Brochure**

The Library's informational brochure provides basic information about the Library and many of the services provided.

Sources of Custom-Produced Books

Ferndale

Northwest Braille Services
P.O. Box 234
Ferndale, WA 98248
(360) 384-6494
(360) 714-1630 voice mail
(360) 384-1819 fax
nwbsbeth@cio.net
Messages also accepted at:
Health Support Center
(360) 733-6714
Chairperson: Beth Marsau
6162 Aquarius
Ferndale, WA 98248
(360) 384-6494

Braille: literary, math, textbooks, general leisure, menus, schedules; tactile drawings; thermoforming and spiral binding for small projects; computer-produced; software (Duxbury, Pokadot); embosser (Juliet)

Other Information: accepts small orders from any location, requests annual dues of \$5 from individuals and \$25 from agencies plus 25 cents per braille page to help defray expenses, sponsors transcribing classes

Oak Harbor

Whidbey Island Braillists
1325 South East 10th Court #1
Oak Harbor, WA 98277
Chairperson: Maxine Bjorling
(360) 675-0608

Braille: print/braille children's books (preschool and primary)

Other Information: maintains lending library

Seattle

Seattle Area Braillists, Inc.
1325 North Allen Place, #540
Seattle, WA 98103
President: Jeanne Horsey
(206) 675-1588
Chairperson: Martha Millegan
(425) 455-4255

Braille: literary, math, music, textbooks, French, German, Spanish; tactile drawings and maps; computer-produced

Washington Talking Book and Braille Library
2021 9th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121-2783
(206) 615-0400

Braille: literary, math, music, computer notation, French, German, Italian, Latin, Spanish; tactile drawings; thermoforming; spiral binding; computer-produced; software (MicroBraille, TransEd-It local software); embosser (Braillo 200)

Braille coordinator: Joyce Van Tuyl

Recording: general, Northwest interest materials; open-reel masters; 2-track and 4-track cassette duplication
Recording coordinator:
Theresa Connolly

Other Information: accepts no assignments outside state, sponsors transcribing classes, maintains book-master collection

Spokane

Father Palmer Memorial Braille Service, Inc.
A division of the Lilac Blind Foundation
1212 North Howard Street, #111
Spokane, WA 99201-2401
(509) 325-1442
(800) 422-7893

*President/office manager: Carole Means
(509) 624-8557*

Braille: literary, textbooks, French, Spanish; tactile drawings and maps; thermoforming; spiral binding; computer-produced with HP scanner; embosser (Index D)

Other Information: sponsors transcribing classes

Vancouver

*Braille Access Center
2214 East 13th Street
Vancouver, WA 98661-4120
(360) 696-6321, ext. 158
(360) 737-2120 fax
Braille@wssb.wa.gov
Contact: Colleen Lines*

Braille: literary, menus, textbooks, foreign language, some computer notation, forms, bus schedules; can receive material via e-mail, hard-copy, fax; can also emboss Braille-ready files; spiral binding; embosser; computer-produced

Other Information: fee for service, has two-level fee structure: one for transcribing and proofreading and one for the per-copy price