

VISUAL IMPAIRMENT SERVICES TEAM

Provides a comprehensive program of services for eligible, visually impaired veterans.

These services include:

- ◆ Assistance with eligibility and enrollment
- ◆ Assessment of the individual's rehabilitation & training needs
- ◆ Support and adjustment counseling for veteran and family
- ◆ Review of individual's needs for adaptive aids, equipment, & training
- ◆ Review of veterans benefits
- ◆ Complete eye examination
- ◆ Low vision evaluation
- ◆ Physical examination with additional evaluation and/or treatment by specialists as necessary
- ◆ Hearing examination
- ◆ Comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation services



Department of
Veterans Affairs

Amy Tague
VIST Coordinator

Michelle Mason
BROS

VA Maine
Healthcare System
(207) 623-8411
Ext. 5944

***Serving Veterans
in the State of Maine***



A member of the VA New England
Healthcare System

Veterans

***Are you
visually
impaired or
legally blind?***



Visual Impairment Service

Can Help

Purpose

Vision loss is a condition which can affect every aspect of the involved person's life. In many instances, veterans and families are not aware of the health and rehabilitation services available to veterans with visual impairments.

The *Visual Impairment Services* program ensures that veterans are referred to services and programs that can assist with the adjustment to sight loss.

The program is designed to improve quality of life for participants through the development and enhancement of skills and capabilities needed for personal independence, adjustment, and successful reintegration into the community and family environment.

Objective

- ◆ To inform veterans and their families about services and benefits available through the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA).
- ◆ To ensure the provision of health care and rehabilitation training to visually impaired veterans.
- ◆ To help the individual & family adjust and manage sight loss.

Eligibility

To be eligible for *Visual Impairment Services* a veteran must:

- ◆ Be eligible for VA Health Benefits.
- ◆ Be visually impaired or legally blind (this diagnosis is made by an eye doctor).
- ◆ Be established with VA primary care.

Blind Rehabilitation Programs

Provides:

Comprehensive training for visually impaired veterans to include:

- ◆ Low vision evaluation and training
- ◆ Computer access training
- ◆ Orientation and mobility
- ◆ Activities of daily living
- ◆ Hands on training with adaptive equipment

All prosthetic devices such as hearing aids, glasses, magnification devices, etc, are provided free of charge.

Referrals

For further information or to enroll in the *VIST* program please contact the *VIST* Coordinator, Amy Tague at (207)623-8411 ext 5944.