

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Clovernook Center recognizes low vision awareness month

January 31, 2018 – Cincinnati, OH – In honor of February being National Low Vision awareness month, Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, is spreading the word about this cause. Founded in 1903, Clovernook Center exists to empower people who are blind and visually impaired to be self-sufficient and full participants in their communities, but also works to assist the sighted community in understanding the meaning of low vision.

The purpose of this month is to raise awareness about the meaning of low vision and the resources available to assist people in making the most of their remaining eyesight. Clovernook Center defines low vision as a term commonly used to mean partial sight, or sight that is not corrected with contact lenses or standard glasses. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the leading causes of blindness and low vision in the United States are primarily age-related eye diseases such as age-related macular degeneration, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma.

Do you find yourself or a loved one, suffering from low vision - and you have been notified by your regular eye-care physician that nothing else that can be done to correct your eyesight? Clovernook Center can help. We offer Low Vision

Support Groups to introduce our blind or visually impaired individuals to others in their community who face similar challenges. Friends and family are welcome to attend these Support Groups who meet the fourth Thursday of every month at 10:00 a.m. and are led by Clovernook's Vocational Habilitation Coordinator.

For additional information, or for more about our services, please contact Clovernook Center by calling 513-522-3860 or visiting our website at www.clovernook.org.

Fast Facts:

- *National Eye Institute* reports that 4.2 million American ages 40 and older are visually impaired. Of these, 3 million have low vision.
- In that same study, *National Eye Institute* reported by 2030, when the last baby boomers turn 65, the number of American who have visual impairments are projected to increase to 7.2 million, with around 5 million of those having low vision.

About Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Since 1903, Clovernook Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired has been providing life-enriching opportunities and empowering people who are blind or visually impaired to be self-sufficient and full participants in their communities. Program Services annually assists more than 1,200 individuals, helping them to adapt and overcome the challenges of vision impairment. Employment Services provides job opportunities and coaching for consumers who want to work in their local community, or in Clovernook Center's own Social Enterprises which provide a variety of employment opportunities for more than 55 people with vision loss. Clovernook's Arts and Recreation department provides a powerful outlet for individuals to express themselves artistically, share personal insights, and join together with others who face similar challenges. Youth Services include six-weeks of summer day camps. As well as year-round activities for youth ages 4 to 22 who are blind or visually impaired. Additionally, our Braille Printing House prints books, magazines and other materials for the National Library Services and braille patrons worldwide. More information can be accessed at www.clovernook.org.

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