REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION FROM THE TOWN OF MARSHFIELD
September 28, 2023

The Town of Marshfield has a Budget Committee consisting of 5 members. They will review all requests that are received prior to December 12th. Please use the attached form. It is helpful if you also include your most recent annual report.

Please note that in the past, organizations submitted requests, or believe they submitted them, but the requests were not received. **To make sure this doesn't happen again, I will post requests on the town's website. It will be your responsibility to check the website to verify that your request has been received.**

We require electronic submission. Please convert and merge all of your documents into a single pdf to facilitate posting; at this time of year I do not have time to print and scan or convert and merge dozens of requests. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Budget Committee meets once each year, on the third Tuesday in December. Check the Town's website for meeting information: http://marshfieldvt.gov

I will post the results of their meeting on the Town's website.

If the Budget Committee approves your request, it will be placed on the warning. If they don't approve it, or they approve less than you requested, you have the right to petition. You would need approximately 60 signatures, depending on the timing of your petition and the number of voters on the checklist on that date. The deadline for submitting a petition is 47 days before Town Meeting; this deadline is set in statute. In 2024 the deadline to receive petitions is January 15th.

If the voters approve the article, you will receive a check from the Town during the month of September.

Name of organization: Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Address: 60 Kimball Avenue, South Burlington, VT 05403

Telephone number: (802) 863-1358 ext. 219

Brief Description: The Selectboard will include a one-line description in the warning for town meeting. How would you like your services to be described in the warning (no more than 10 words):

VABVI provides valuable services to blind and visually impaired Vermonters.

Article: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of $150 to The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired for services provided in the town and state

The Town will also include a description of your services in the Town report.
What type of services do you provide? (no more than 100 words)
The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (VABVI) was founded in 1926 to enable blind and visually impaired Vermonters to be more independent, cultivate adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life. We are the only private, non-profit organization in Vermont to provide comprehensive support and services, free of charge, to the growing population of blind and visually impaired Vermonters from birth to end of life. After a century of service, VABVI has become integral to the health and well-being of Vermont children and adults.

How do your services directly impact the citizens of Marshfield? .
Each of our programs works to minimize the impact of living without sight on the education, career, social life, mobility, recreation, civic duty, and personal welfare of our clients. Our services include rehabilitation training, coaching in orientation and mobility strategies, instruction in adaptive techniques for daily living, procurement and training of assistive technology, social networking opportunities, and a statewide volunteer transportation system. By providing clients with support, VABVI allows clients themselves to build the skills that will enable them to lead active, independent lives.

How many Marshfield residents were served in the past year? 2 adults and 1 student in Marshfield. Each year, VABVI provides approximately $1,000 of services to each individual client, free of charge.

How much are you requesting? $150

How do you calculate or justify the amount of money that you are requesting from us?

Consistent with last year's request.

Last year's appropriation request: $150

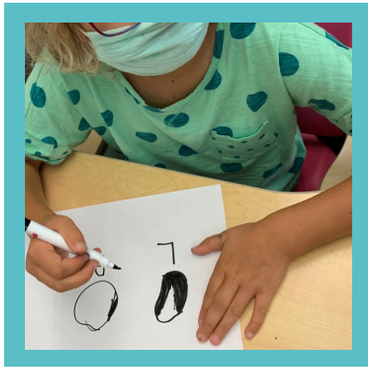
Last year's grant from the Town: $150

Explanation of any increase in this year's request (if applicable):
N/A

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

VABVI Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2022 (July 2021 - June 2022)



Free Matter
for the
Blind & Print
Handicapped

VABVI
Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
60 Kimball Avenue
South Burlington, VT 05403

Letter from the Executive Director

In Fiscal Year 2022, the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (VABVI) saw success not only in continuing to offer adaptive services due to the ongoing pandemic, but also in resuming normal operations. As COVID-19 vaccines have become widely available, we are now able to offer in-person options for many of our programs and services. Peer-Assisted Learning and Support (PALS) groups were able to meet in person when deemed safe, and the Intensive Residential Living Experiences (IRLE) camp for kids and teens visited Upstate New York. Our signature fundraising event, Dancing with the Burlington Stars, returned to the Flynn for the first time since its debut in 2019. We have also started work on our Second Century campaign, which will commemorate 100 years of VABVI's good work. VABVI truly rose to the occasion of 2022, a transitional year promising a bright future ahead. Thank you, as always, for your support!

Steve Pouliot
Executive Director

Our Mission

The Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (VABVI) was founded in 1926 to enable Vermonters who are blind or visually impaired to be more independent, cultivate adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life.

Donations in Tribute & Honor

Jacqueline Ackel
Antoinette Arms
Mr. & Mrs. George Arnold
C. & G. Ash
Barbara Bissonnette
Wesson Bolton
Patricia Bonnett
Oscar & Therese Boucher
Harry Browe
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William B. Buck
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Elizabeth Collins
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Margaret Coty
Leonard Courcelle
Emma Cross
Rose Crowley
Evelyn Davis
Parker Davis
Joann De Reyna
Una Donnelly
William Donnelly
John Dorey
Ida Fischer
Mary Flannagan
Carlton Floyd
Kim French
Silvia D. Fuller
Rebecca Gibson
Jackie Gilman
Don Giroux
Helen Goldstein
Stan Greenburg
Gloria Griffith
Azel Hall
Dr. Fred Harrington
Shirley Hartley
Paulita Heath
Arnold Highfield
Maureen Johnson
Floyd Lapidow
Mary Larose
Margaret & Sheridan LaFebrve
Charles Leonard
Albert Lysak
Nicholas Mangieri
Joan McDonald
Thomas McConnell
Betty Miles
Priscilla Mocek
Marie Monroe
Strew Niklasson Otis
Dorothy Parker
Helen Paul
Beatrice Phalen
Luther Pirkin
Dolores Poole
Pony Pornelos
Orilla Powell
Willie & Annette Racine
Howard Reynolds
Matthew J. Richard
Ted Richards
Lillian & Marcel Riendeau
Edgar Robinson
Yvonne Sargent
Jere Scanlon
Irene Schillhammer
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Merrell & Winnifred Sherburn
William Sullivan
Kevin Taylor
Neil Taylor
Marcelle Viens
Harry Von Tuyl
Marcella Walsh
Doris Whitcomb
Greg Wilcox
Edward Young

FY22 Donors

Thank you to the generous donors who make our services possible.

$101 - $500 (Continued)
Kuno E. Olson
Louise Peach
Jason Perreault
Lisa A. Pizzagalli
Ronald Plante
Mary & John Pratt
Charles R. Putney
Shirley M. Reid
Lyse Riendeau
Andrea Rogers
Joshua Sassi
Leo Schiff
Alan Schillhammer
Melvin Shakun
Melvin W. Simmons
Mark Spartz
Walter Stugis
James Taylor
Thorpe Trust
Sheila Thurston
Norbert Vogl
Daniel Walsh
Elizabeth Warren
Todd Webb
Joseph Welch
Wanda Wilking
Elizabeth Woods
William Wright
American Legion Post 91L
Cabot Creamery
City Market
Fair Haven Eagles Aerie #3907
Georgia Lions Club
Hannaford's Food & Drug
Jericho-Underhill Lions
Springfield Lions Club
United Church
Vermont Eastern Star Home, Inc.

$501 - $1000
Gary F. Berian
Frederick Buechner
Ilene Chase
Margaret F. Coty
Margaret DeRivera
Elizabeth Edmunds
Hubey Folsom
David Gaylord
William P. Herbst
Lynn Miles
Penny Peterson
James Pizzagalli
Steven P. Pouliot
Jeffrey Schroeder
Hilaire Thomas
Trina Young
Alice Marcy Trust
Apple Orchard School
Castleton Lions Club
Comcast Corporation
Concept 2, Inc.
Eyecare of Vermont
NorthCountry Federal Credit Union
Northfield Savings Bank
Norwich Lions Club
Perrigo Company
Troy Area Lions Club
Vermont Lions Charities Inc.
Vermont State Employees Credit Union
Walmart

$1001 - $5000
Joan Beauchemin
William A. Catto
Anne Conlin
Ray & Mary Doyle
Gwendolyn Evans
Stephen A. Feltus
Thomas Horner
Hope Leichter
Robert McEwing
Marilyn McQuaide
Elizabeth Steele
Eugene & Lili Walsh
Community National Bank
Essex Junction Lions Club
J & E Gifford Memorial Fund
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
People's United Bank
Special People in Need (SPIN)
United Way of Northwest Vermont
Vermont Mutual Insurance

$5001+
Thomas E. Chase
Mark Davis
Joseph Giancola
Marion Mueller
Evelyn Chevalier Irrevocable Trust
Hope Hubbard Irrevocable Trust

Foundations
Alma Gibbs Donchian Foundation
Ben & Jerry's Foundation
The Byrne Foundation
Charitable Foundation of Bryant Chucking Grinder Co.
Cooper Family Foundation
Francis & Louise Nichols Foundation
Freeman Foundation
French Foundation
George W. Mergens Foundation
The Gibney Family Foundation
Golub Foundation
Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation
The Mimi Fishman Foundation
Morris and Bessie Altman Foundation
National Life Group Charitable Foundation
Oakland Foundation
Patrick Foundation
Red Sox Foundation
SCHIP
Tarrant Foundation, Richard E. & Deborah L.
Town Fair Tire Foundation, Inc.
Walter Cerf Community Fund

Towns & Cities
Town of Albany
Town of Arlington
City of Barre
Town of Berlin
Town of Bethel
Town of Bloomfield
Town of Brattleboro
Town of Bridport
Town of Brighton
Town of Brookline
Town of Cabot
Town Calais
Town of Cambridge
Town of Castleton
Town of Charlotte
Town of Clarendon
Town of Craftsbury
Town of Danby
Town of East Montpelier
Town of Eden
Town of Fairfax
Town of Fairlee
Town of Fayston
Town of Glover
Town of Goshen
Town of Guildhall
Town of Hartford
Town of Highgate
Town of Jay
Town of Lowell
Town of Lunenburg
Town of Manchester
Town of Marshfield
Town of Middlesex
Town of Middletown Springs
City of Montpelier
Town of Mt. Holly
Town of North Hero
Town of Northfield
Town of Orange
Town of Pawlet
Town of Peacham
Town of Poultney
Town of Randolph
Town of Readsboro
Town of Richford
Town of Roxbury
Town of Royalton
Town of Saint Johnsbury
Town of Shaftsbury
Town of Sharon
Town of Shelburne
Town of Sheldon
Town of Springfield
Town of Starksboro
Town of Stowe
Town of Tunbridge
Town of Underhill
Town of Waitsfield
Town of Waterbury
Town of Weathersfield
Town of Wells
Town of Weston
Town of Williston

What is VABVI?

VABVI has provided clients with life-changing services for nearly a century. While we are best known for our direct services, our organization also connects clients to a larger network of resources and additional support. We are proud to both provide services and act as a gateway for our clients as they become more independent, cultivate adaptive skills, and improve their quality of life.

VABVI Services

- Orientation and Mobility
- Volunteer Transportation
- Adaptive Equipment and Technology
- Peer Assisted Learning and Support (PALS)
- Low Vision Services and Vision Rehab
- SMART (Speech, Magnification, Access, Reading, and Telecommunications) Device Training
- Infant and Toddler Family Service Planning
- IRLE (Intensive Residential Life Experiences) Program
- HAPI (Helping Adolescents Prepare for Independence) Program
- Partners with LEAP (Learn, Earn, Prosper) Program
- Special Education
- Provides professional support to Vermont Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DBVI) clients
- Refers clients to the ABLE Library for large print, electronic, braille, and audio books

Adult Services

During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the pandemic continued to impact the daily lives of Vermonters. Despite this, adults with vision loss continued to need to travel in the community and learn to maximize their low vision to live independently. We taught them how to use nonvisual techniques to manage their medications, safely cut vegetables, manage their blood glucose levels and more. We helped connect seniors and adults with the VT Audio Braille Large Print and Electronic (ABLE) Library. We helped others gain access to the news, through the online and telephone resource “NFB Newsline." VABVI hosted its annual Technology Fair, for the second year online, to ensure that despite the pandemic, Vermonters were still aware of the continued advances in assistive technology. Our volunteer transportation program continued to help people get to the grocery stores, pharmacies, medical appointments and more. In total, VABVI delivered 1176 services to adult Vermonters with vision loss.

Barre PALS attend a presentation from the ABLE Library.

A white cane on the pavement.

FY22 Donors

Thank you to the generous donors who make our services possible.

$1 - $100 (Continued)

Edith Myers
Eugene Newman
Lea Newman
Janey Nido
George & Gerry Noor
Robert D. Northrop
Lynn O'Brien
Peter W. O'Brien
Thomas O'Donovan
Bengt & Polly Ohman
Michael Osborne
Roger Otis
Barbara Otsuka
Shirley Overbaugh
Jane Packard Bryant
Patricia Page
Kathryn Parks
Candace Parks
Jay & Kim Paterson
Avram Patt
Allan Paul
Dot Pelkey
Susan Pellegrino
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Albert Perry
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Richard L. Pettengill
John R. Phalen
Rebecca Philio
Alyce Piche
Tim & Pam Pickering
David Pierson
Joanne Pillsbury
Trudi Pinney
Robert Piotrowski
Edward Piro
Kathleen Pirruccello
Deborah Plant
Cheryl Poor
Sandy Post
Cecile Potter
Donna Powell
Elissa Powell
Bret Powell
Caroline Pratt
Michael Racine
Katharine Raiche
Colleen Rathburn
Norma Raymond
Clara Rego-Murphy
Rebecca Reynolds
Thom and Mary Richards
Doug Richmond
Helen Riendeau
Don Robbins
Richard Robinson
Henry Romanovsky
Kathleen Ross
Selma Ruskin
Carmine Sargent
Donald B. Sargent
Katie Saunders
Arlene Scanlon
Jeremy Schrauf
Katherine Scribner
Charles Seguin
John Senning
Fancese Setien
Don Seville
Cecile R. Sherburn
Bernie & Barbara Shooner
Raymond Sicotte
Geraldine Siple
Vera Sjolander
Janice Smith
Willard F. Smith
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Brigid Sullivan
Sara Sussman
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Dean Todd
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Kenneth & Susan Turgeon
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Chee Chee Tyrrell
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Susan Van Wie
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Steven B. Vittum
Aline Washburn
Marjorie Westphal
Walter Wheel
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Donald Zilch
F.A. Zimmer
Jeanne Zimmerman
Ann Ziter
American Legion Post #3
Elks Club #1665
Elks Lodge #1499
Fraternal Order of Eagles #1861
Fraternal Order of Eagles, Auxiliary 2445
Gay & Lesbian Fund of Vermont
Grewal Family Charitable Gift Fund
Hannaford #343
Ladies Benevolent Society
Lionheart Trust
Manosh Corporation
Mt. Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc.
Mt. Lebanon Lodge #46 F & AM
Mutuo Inc.
New England Vision
Northfield Savings Bank
rk Miles, Inc.
South Newfane Baptist Church
Strafford Area Lions Club
VELCO
Veterans of Foreign Wars
White River Lodge #90

$101 - 500

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Elisabeth Bossi
Frank Braile
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Community Bank
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Frank Melendy
Liza & Shawn Mercy
Alice Michalak
Stephanie Mills
Eunice Newell
Jean O'Connor

FY22 Donors

Thank you to the generous donors who make our services possible.

$1 - $100

Michael Abajian
Larry A. Abbott
Jeannette Grace Abrams
Karen & Bob Allen
John Arnold
Joan Arp
Susan Avery
Kathleen Ball
Seth H. Barovick
Dori Beardsley
Marcel Beaudry
Leo Beaulieu
Judith Beaupre
Sally Bedard
Lorraine Bedard
Erin Begnoche
Ash Benjamin
Debra Berlanstein
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Barbara Bissonette
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Becky Fontana
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Nancy Fournier
Milton G. Fowler
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Calani Gambero
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Edwin Gelinas
David Gelinas
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W. Russell & Kathryn Mace
Betsy Mack
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Sue MacMartin
Barbara Magaliff
Leo Maguire
Patrick J. Mahoney
Vicki Major
Barney Malone
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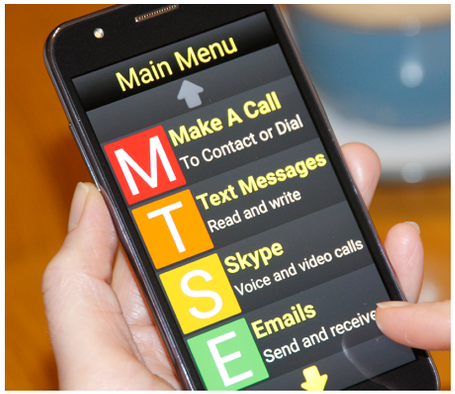
Stephanie Miner
Cecily Monro
Sara Moore
Barclay Morris
Hannah Morse
Kelly Munger
William Murray
James Murray

Adult Services

SMART Device Training Program

(Speech, Magnification, Access, Reading, Telecommunications)

In its fifth year, the SMART Device Training Program is needed more than ever. We continue to see an increase in the population of Vermonters who are seniors. We continue to have an increasing demand to help this age group learn how to use the accessibility features that are built into smartphones, tablets, and computers. The demand for this training was already on the rise prior to the pandemic, dramatically increased during the lockdowns, and has yet to subside. While VABVI has secured partial permanent funding from the State of Vermont for this program, we continue to seek full funding through the Second Century campaign to sustain this critical program well into the future.



Children's Services

In 2022, we had 16 staff members (full and part-time) in the Children's Services Department including licensed Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI), Certified Orientation & Mobility Specialists, and Certified Assistive Technology Instructional Specialists. VABVI staff provided services to 240 students, ages birth through high school, with a wide range of visual impairments. During the summer of 2022, TVIs provided summer school services to 25 students throughout the state.

Children's support services include instruction in the use of assistive technology, braille, orientation and mobility, independent living skills, social skills, and sensory efficiency skills.

Spotlight on Students

A VABVI TVI taught auditory speed listening skills to a high school student who is now listening and comprehending 600 words per minute, who then inspired an 11 year old at the VABVI camp to learn this super power too.

Virginia Goodman and Jeanne Neu advocated for a trial run of an eye gaze device for students who have quadriplegia and a visual impairment. They are elementary aged students who are communicating their choices using their eye gaze, for the first time in their life! See photo (left) below:

Get Connected

www.vabvi.org • general@vabvi.org

VABVI will provide services to any Vermonter. From infants to seniors, anyone directly experiencing or connected to a person experiencing vision loss can contact us for information and assistance.

@vabvi802 @_VABVI @vabvi802

South Burlington
60 Kimball Ave
South Burlington, VT 05403
(802) 863-1358

Rutland
1 Scale Ave, Ste 117 #18
Rutland, VT 05701
(802) 775-6452

Brattleboro
130 Austine Dr, Ste 280
Brattleboro, VT 05301
(802) 254-8761

Berlin
13 Overlook Dr, Ste 1
Berlin, VT 05641
(802) 505-4006

Support Our Services

Online Giving

Online donations allow donors a hassle-free process and the knowledge that donations are put to work immediately.

It's easy to donate online.

1. Visit our simple, secure online donation form at **www.vabvi.org/make-a-donation/**
2. Select the "Donate Here" option.
3. Choose your amount. Every dollar helps.
4. Provide your contact information, payment method, and any optional details.

Leave Your Legacy

Many of our supporters have discovered that with a little planning, you don't need to be wealthy to make a profound difference to VABVI's mission. We're here to help you explore the various donation methods to ensure your future gift is tax effective and takes your family's needs into consideration. For more information on making VABVI a beneficiary in your will, please visit **http://vabvi.org/planned-giving/** or call John Thomas at (802) 863-1358 Ext. 224

FY22 Statistics

VABVI provided services to 240 children and 1,179 adults in Fiscal Year 2022.

64

clients participated in PALS groups across 8 counties in Vermont.

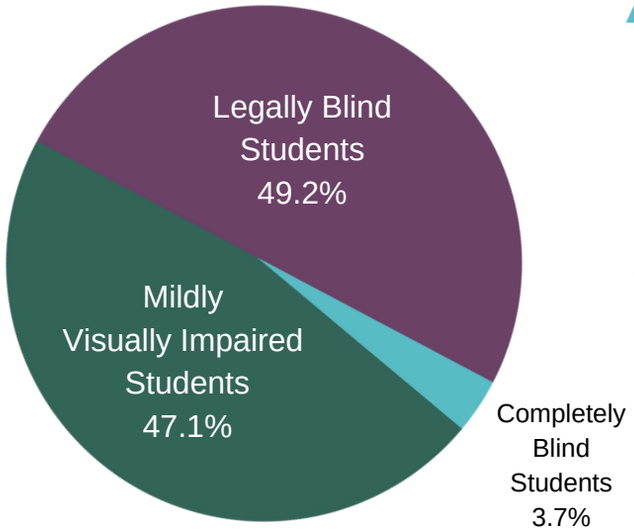
70

towns and cities supported VABVI with $27,704 in donations.

47

volunteers donated 2,733 hours of service and drove 39,691 miles.

Students Served in FY22



755

tickets sold to Dancing with the Burlington Stars, and $51,000 raised to benefit VABVI

Events in FY22

Intensive Residential Life Experience (IRLE)

June 21-23, 2022 • Great Escape Lodge, NY

IRLE is a fun, instructional camp that intertwines recreation and socializing with peers with lessons and experience in practical needs for independent living and future employment. This year VABVI staff and 11 students stayed at the Great Escape Lodge in Lake George and enjoyed the water park, rail biking, bowling, pizza and ice cream, all while learning valuable living skills such as cooking. The IRLE camp was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Freeman Foundation and DBVI.

Dancing with the Burlington Stars

September 11, 2022 • The Flynn, Burlington

VABVI's signature fundraising event took place on September 11th, 2022 at the Flynn and was a shining success! Congratulations to winners Serena Magnan O'Connell and Jon Bacon, runners-up Tino Rutanhira and Alexis Kamitses, and fan favorites Adam Bunting and Olivia Schrantz, as well as all who participated and attended. Next year's event will take place on September 17th, 2023, and the official Reveal Party is on May 7th, 2023!

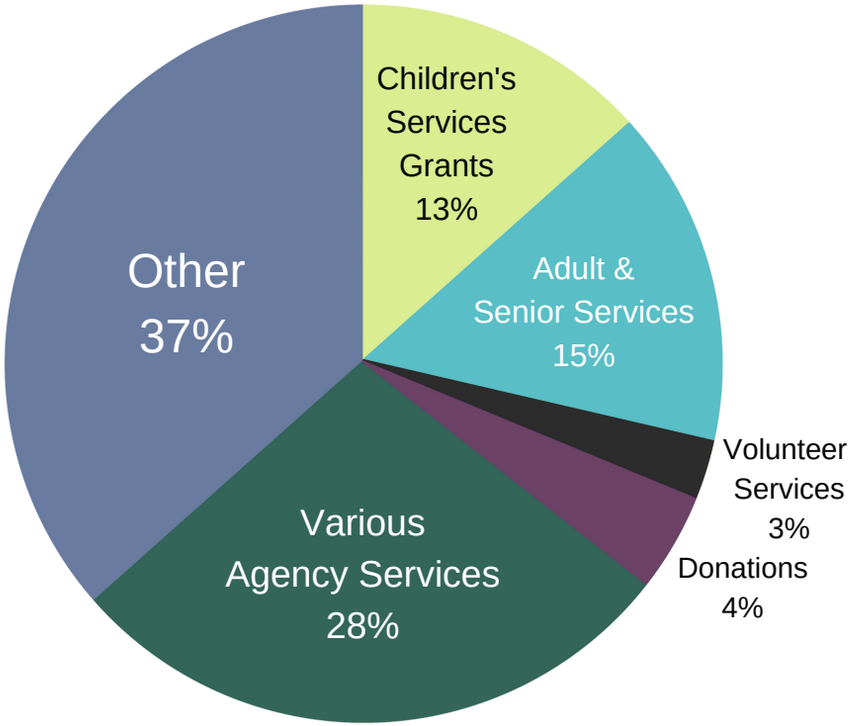
White Cane Awareness Day

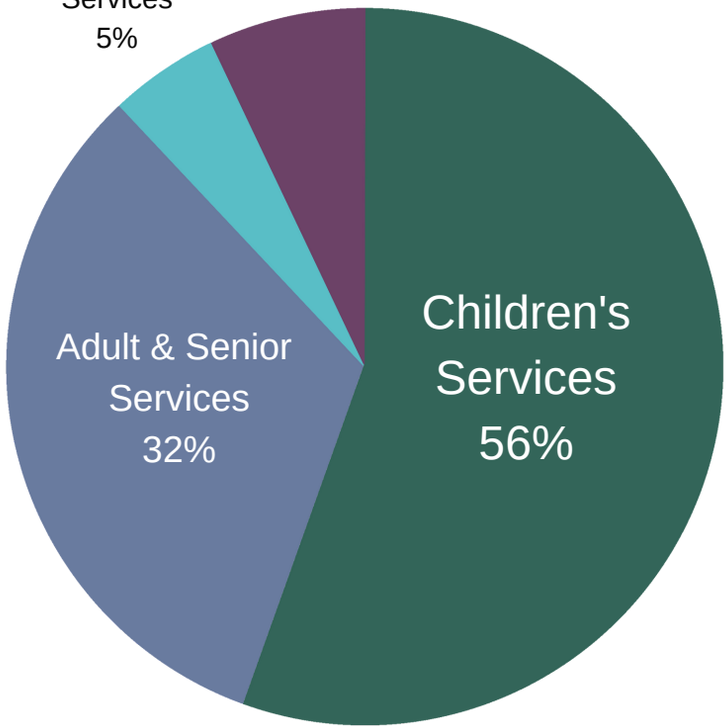
October 15, 2022

Several White Cane Awareness Day events took place in the state of Vermont on and around October 15th this year. In Barre, a group walked through the downtown area and concluded with a PALS meeting with a representative from the ABLE Library. In Burlington, a similar walk down Church Street led to a screening of the documentary film Vision Portraits. Other WCD events occurred in Springfield, Rutland, and Montpelier. Thank you to everyone who attended, and we hope to see you again next year!

Revenue

Children's Services Grants	$653,267
Adult & Senior Services	$745,000
Volunteer Services	$121,837
Donations	$217,374
Various Agency Services	$1,348,645
Other	$1,806,345
Total	**$4,892,468**



Expenses

Children's Services	$1,704,572
Adult & Senior Services	$998,081
Volunteer Services	$150,166
Development, Public Ed. & Administration	$220,409
Total	**$3,073,228**