



NCVR serves individuals who have a documented disability that is either:

- Physical, sensory (hearing or vision loss), mental, emotional or intellectual, including learning and substance abuse disabilities; and
- The disability is an impediment to employment; and
- VR Services can help them find or retain a job; and
- They are able to participate
 - eligible to work in US
 - not incarcerated/no pending charges, sentencing or fugitive status that would prevent participation in plan



Substantial Services Provided by VR include:

- Diagnostic Evaluations
- Assessment of Abilities and Needs
- Counseling and Guidance
- Physical and Mental Restoration Services
- Training
- Job-Related Supports & Placement, Supported Employment
- Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Services & Modifications
- Support Services



Support, auxiliary and ancillary services may be provided in conjunction with and in support of any substantial services listed on previous slide.

Support services may include:

- Transportation
- Maintenance
- Tutors, note takers
- Interpreters/Translators

Auxiliary/ancillary services may include:

- Hospital, doctor, surgeon charges
- Radiology and Pathology
- Follow up



Rehabilitation Process:

- Referral is received
- Application taken
- Gather, sponsor, coordinate diagnostic data
- Determine eligibility
- Conduct comprehensive assessment
- Develop Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE)
- Case closure

VR Independent Living (IL)



IL services may be provided to an individual with a significant disability:

- With substantially limited ability to function independently in the home or community or to maintain employment; **and**
- Who will actively participate in IL process and be involved in making meaningful, informed choices about goals/objectives; **and**
- Who will be a full partner, sharing responsibility for planning and implementing their IL plan; **and**
- For whom the delivery of IL services will:
 - Improve or maintain the ability to maximize independence in the home or community; **or**
 - Enable employment; **or**
 - Enable transition to VR.

INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND (OIB)



Serves individuals age 55 or older* whose severe visual impairment makes competitive employment difficult to obtain, but for whom independent living (IL) goals are feasible.

- Increases IL options, improves independence and self-sufficiency.
- Extensive adjustment services may be provided, including, but not limited to:
 - supportive/adjustment counseling
 - instruction in techniques of daily living (personal and home care management skills, consumer management skills and communications)
 - leisure/recreation activities
 - adaptive and assistive devices
 - self-advocacy
- Available statewide and provided individually to consumers in their homes or to small groups in community-based learning “mini-centers.”

*Services for the Blind also serves individuals under age 55 through an IL program with identical eligibility criteria/scope of services as VR’s IL program.

Services for the Blind employs social workers who serve individuals with significant vision loss statewide.

We are fortunate to partner with DSS and most social workers are housed within the local DSS offices.

- Services delivered by social workers for the blind help individuals attain the following goals:
 - Achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency, or
 - Preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing for community-based care, home-based care, or other forms of less intensive care, or
 - Preventing and remedying neglect, abuse, or exploitation of persons unable to protect their own interests, or preserving, rehabilitating or reuniting families.

The Medical Eye Care program* serves individuals who:

- Reside in North Carolina and are not living in the US illegally
- Have a need for eye care services
- Meet the income criteria (110% of the federal poverty level)
- Do not have comparable benefits to pay for needed services

*Medical Eye Care program is not currently paying for eye exams and glasses.

Services for the Blind has a Vocational Rehabilitation program that serves individuals who have significant visual impairments.

- To be eligible for services, the **primary disabling condition must be a visual impairment**. Scope of services, eligibility criteria and rehabilitation process are comparable to services provided by NCVR.

The Business Enterprises Program (BEP) evolved from VR program and provides business ownership opportunities for individuals who are blind or visually impaired who operate vending and food service facilities on federal, state and other properties.

- There are currently 62 legally blind operators managing 74 vending and food service facilities statewide.