



The Canadian Deafblind Association- BC Chapter assists individuals who are deafblind in BC to achieve their best quality of life through intervention. CDBA-BC has two main programs. The Early Intervention Program for children ages 0-5 and their families helps children develop their true potential during a crucial age for learning, and the Intervention Program for children and youth 19 and younger support children to more fully interact with their environment and to utilize their communication and social skills. For more information visit www.cdbabc.ca or contact us at: theresa@cdbabc.ca or call 604-528-6170

The BC Provincial Outreach Program for Students with Deafblindness is mandated to support school districts enrolling students with deafblindness during their school years. We start seeing students in Kindergarten. A request for service must come from district personnel. Visit <http://public.sd38.bc.ca/DeafblindWeb>



Children's Low Vision Project of British Columbia (CLVP-BC) is hosted by School District

23 Central Okanagan. The project is designed to provide comprehensive low vision assessment to school age children throughout British Columbia. This project brings together professionals trained in ophthalmology, optometry, orientation and mobility, assistive technology and education to evaluate each child, prescribe and dispense low vision devices, and make recommendations to support the child, family, teachers, schools and other professionals working with the child.

To find out more information, please visit: <http://clvp-bc.sd23.bc.ca> or call 250-470-3268



Business card here

Additional Resources for all Children



Success By 6 is an early childhood development initiative dedicated to providing all children with a good start in life. www.successby6bc.ca/home



Supported Child Development (SCDP) is a community-based program that assists families of children with extra support needs to access inclusive child care that meets family needs. www.scdp.bc.ca



Child Development Centre provides individualized services to children, including occupational and physical therapy, and speech and language therapy. Please contact your local Centre.



The Infant Development Program is a family centered, home visiting program that serves children from birth to three years old with a disability or developmental delay. www.idpofbc.ca

Shared Vision BC



Services for Parents and Children with Visual Impairments

In British Columbia we are fortunate to have many services for the intervention, support and education of children with visual impairments. While you may currently be working with one of the services listed below, you will also find support from these other community resources.

Please take the time to call, email or visit the websites included in this brochure.



The Visual Impairment Program at Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children (Vancouver) is a provincial resource program which provides diagnostic assessment and treatment planning services for children birth to 19 years who have a suspected or known vision loss. Family and community education and consultation services are also provided. Children birth to school entry receive support in their community by vision consultants who provide service and resources to optimize functional vision development, concept and language development, daycare/preschool inclusion, preschool orientation and mobility, self-help and recreational skills as well as support the transition to kindergarten.

Contact Dr. Roberta Heaven, Team Leader, Visual Impairment Program; Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children, 3644 Slocan Street, Vancouver, BC V5M 3E8; 604-453-8300 x 8454. For more information: www.bcchildrens.ca/Services/SunnyHillHealthCtr/default.htm



On Vancouver Island, the Queen Alexandra (QA) Centre for Children's Health offers an affiliated program.

In the the Greater Victoria-Gulf Island region a local vision consultant works with the QA Early Intervention program. For other children on Vancouver Island community and home visits are provided by the Vision Consultant in partnership with Sunny Hill Health Centre.

On the Island, contact Hillary Luis, Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health, 2400 Arbutus Road, Victoria, BC V8N 1V7 250-519-5390



Provincial Resource Centre for the Visually Impaired (PRCVI) is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program established to support school districts in the education of students in kindergarten through to grade 12, whose access to learning is restricted due to a visual impairment or blindness. PRCVI provides professional development and consultation support to BC Vision Teachers (www.bcvt.ca) and other school district personnel along with coordinating outreach opportunities that foster interagency collaboration. We provide resources including Braille and large print as well as digital books through ARC-BC (www.arcbc.org). Visit www.prcvi.org or call 604-266-3699.



BC Blind Sports supports children with and without additional disabilities who are blind, visually impaired, or deafblind and their families throughout BC. Play and physical activity results in physical, social and emotional benefits. We work with parents, instructors, and others to facilitate development of motor skills

and physical literacy. Our parents' guide and video (DVD) "Encouraging Physical Activity in Preschoolers with Visual Impairment" is available to get you started. We are also available to work with students in their schools to facilitate participation in PE. We travel to communities throughout BC visiting children/youth and their families in their schools and community programs.

Please contact us to see how we can assist you and your child, toll free at 1-877- 604-8638 or in the Lower Mainland at 604-325-8638 or visit our website at www.bcblindsports.bc.ca



Blind Beginnings supports BC families who are raising a child who is blind or

visually impaired by networking families through our Parent-to-Parent Support and Youth Leadership programs, by providing experiential learning and social opportunities through our Community Discovery program and Junior Explorer's Club, and by connecting children and families to appropriate resources. We promote self-confidence, leadership skills, and a no limits philosophy through all our workshops and programs.

Please visit our webpage www.blindbeginnings.ca or call 604-434-7243, 1-866-736-8620.



The CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind) offers support and services for parents

and children who are blind or partially sighted in British Columbia, Yukon and across Canada. The Children and Youth Services team in British Columbia includes specialists in children and youth services, orientation and mobility, low vision, independent living skills, and assistive technology. CNIB staff facilitates Parent Support Seminars, Youth Group, Early Intervention Family Camps held throughout the year, Summer Camp, and a Preschool Technology Loan Program. For information regarding CNIB, including library services visit: www.cnib.ca

For information regarding programs, services or support contact:

Vancouver Island: Mary Kay Kennedy 250-519-1102, marykay.kennedy@cnib.ca or 1-800-563-2642

Mainland British Columbia and Yukon: Sarah Hooge 604-431-2050, sarah.hooge@cnib.ca, or 1-800-563-2642