

Letter from the Executive Director

Thank you for generously giving your time, talent, treasure, and influence to create opportunities for your neighbors living with vision loss or blindness to learn new skills, try new things, and learn ways to continue doing what they love.

With your support, over 6,000 hours of technology training and engaging activities were provided to hundreds of individuals who can't see or can't see very well. You helped us affect many lives for the better — developing skills and memories to last a lifetime and changing perceptions toward a more inclusive community.



At the time this Impact Report goes to print, we are six months into the coronavirus pandemic. As I practice “Stay home. Stay safe.”, I find myself thinking that maybe each of us, through this pandemic, has experienced a touch of what it's like when your vision fails: the loss of mobility and freedom to come and go as one pleases, the isolation of being unable to interact with others, the need to find different ways to do everyday activities — and the grief over experiences lost and what could have been. The difference with vision loss is that we know a path forward. We can come alongside our neighbors in their Journey Beyond Vision. Your gift to Outlook ensures hope is part of their journey.

In October 2019, Outlook Enrichment, a separate charitable entity, was formed to lead the community-supported life-enhancing programs begun by Outlook Nebraska. As support and services grow, our aim is to be the first place our community turns to for resources for those with vision challenges.

Thank you for supporting Outlook Enrichment's mission and for positively impacting your neighbors living with vision loss.

Donna Aman, Executive Director

“ We can come alongside our neighbors in their Journey Beyond Vision. ”

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Journey Beyond Vision

4125 S. 72nd Street
Omaha, NE 68127

Save-the-Date

Vision Beyond Sight | October 23, 2020

Giving Tuesday | December 1, 2020

Omaha Gives! | May 26, 2021

Tee It Up Fore Sight | June 3, 2021



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Oncology nurse finds passion in writing after vision loss

Help reinvent careers like Heather's

Four years ago, a side effect from a medication damaged both of Heather's retinas, forcing her to give up her nursing career. Because of your support, Outlook Enrichment helped Heather find a new path when her vision failed her. Lost and confused, Heather found support at Outlook.

Heather missed visual cues, both in the workplace and in social situations. This led to feelings of anxiety when she faced unfamiliar environments and kept her from wanting to try new things. She had trouble describing the changes in her vision and explaining her visual limitations to others. Heather found the support and validation she needed at Outlook and gained the confidence she needed to set her mind at ease.

During difficult times, Heather recalled the courage exhibited by her patients over the years. She admired the bravery and determination they modeled as they continued to move forward despite their cancer diagnosis. Heather draws strength from the experiences she shared with them.

"My patients inspired me every day. I used their example of strength to create a new path for myself."

Outlook introduced Heather to resources and low vision aids for reading and identification, giving her hope and self-confidence. Your support of Outlook Enrichment's tech training programs for the blind equipped Heather with tools to accommodate her low vision and introduced her to tools that may be useful to her in the future.

With the help of the services provided by Outlook Enrichment, Heather launched a new career as a freelance writer. Her first article, "The Way I See It," was published last year. In May 2020, inspired by the cascade of emotions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Heather wrote her second article, "The Vision of a Nurse".

"The COVID-19 pandemic sparked my desire to help as a nurse, leading to new pangs of grief for the career I have lost. Writing gives me a positive way to cope with these feelings and a new way to share my gifts with others. If something I write inspires someone else facing a life change, I feel fulfilled as a person."

Your gift equips people like Heather with the skills, resources and hope they need to move forward with their lives despite vision loss.



Determined to overcome obstacles

Vision loss can't stop this teen from college and a bright future

Like other teens, Emily loves hanging out with friends and has big plans for her future. Unlike other teens, Emily happens to have a vision impairment and cerebral palsy that created a few more challenges for her. Her vision fluctuated enough to make math and science projects hard to complete without added help from teachers and friends. But thanks to your support and Outlook's computer training, she doesn't need that help anymore. Because of generous people like you, her self-confidence blossomed through her experiences with Outlook Enrichment. Your gift gave Emily access to technology training that helped her advance her educational goals.

"When I went to Outlook, I was amazed by all the different technology tools that are available. Because I learned computer skills at Outlook, I will be successful in college and in my future."

With your support, Emily went rock wall climbing, paddle boarding and fishing in Outlook's recreation programs, challenging her perception of her own abilities. She interacted with other visual impaired teens and even made a best friend.

"Before I met Outlook Enrichment staff, I would

have never thought I could do any of these things. I have learned so much about myself. I am ready for my next challenge."

Your gifts helped Emily realize she can overcome any challenge she faces. She knows she can do anything she chooses because she believes in herself and others should too.

Double Your Impact!

The Rupert Dunklau Foundation has offered Outlook a matching challenge grant of up to \$40,000. Every dollar you give now will be matched up to \$40,000 - doubling your gift.

If you haven't given to Outlook in the past, you can now double your initial gift. If you haven't given for some time, your renewed gift will be doubled. And, if you give regularly, consider doubling what you normally give - with the match, your gift is tripled.

And, as a reminder, if your employer has a matching gift program, your gift will have an even greater impact. Help others like Emily, Ellen and Heather by making your gift at outlooken.org/donate.



Vision loss suddenly interrupts career

Your support helps those losing vision in an instant

Ellen went from scheduling an eye appointment to preparing for emergency surgery in a single day. She was scared. Her job and her independence hung in the balance. Your support of Outlook helps those with a visual impairment know they are strong, able and do not have to be afraid.

Last year, while at work, a shadow developed in the corner of Ellen's eye. A black curtain descended over her entire eye within hours. After learning of this sudden change, her doctor wanted to see her right away. Four days later, he performed emergency surgery.

"I thought a surgery and corrective lenses would fix everything. My story does not end that way. I will be visually impaired for life."

Ellen returned to work with an eye patch and sunglasses. Her vision loss stole her independence and freedom. Her supervisor and work colleagues didn't understand her struggles. Because of your support, Ellen connected with Outlook Enrichment and found the assistance she needed. She learned about technology useful to maintaining her employment. The

emotional support she received showed her she was not alone in her vision loss journey.

"Because of Outlook's help and programs, I can now ask for what I need in my job and realize I'm not broken because I need it."

Your gift allows Outlook Enrichment to help people like Ellen when their vision instantly fails them. A visit to Outlook gave Ellen hope and confidence. Her manager gained insight into her situation, and she could express what tools she needed to continue employment.

Ellen is hopeful about her future. Her next big step is to pursue a new purpose. She believes she can do it because she is strong. Your support of Outlook Enrichment will ensure Ellen will have the tools she needs to succeed in this next phase of her life.

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Outlook Enrichment 2019 Income and Expenditures Oct-Dec 2019

Contributed Support.....\$146,348
Program Revenue.....\$3,083
Total Income\$149,431

Expenses
Programs\$93,681
Management and General\$45,192
Fundraising.....\$14,233
Total Expenses\$153,106

In 2019



Arts & Culture
219 participants
500 hours
62 opportunities



Recreation
324 participants
2,694 hours of fun
78 Opportunities



Community Outreach
6,826 hours
130 occasions
3,267 people engaged
137+ employers and schools



Adaptive Technology Training
236 people trained
2,207 hours

Thank Your for Supporting Our Mission

In Honor of Aaron Peterson
Eric R. Peterson
Joseph M. Gasnick

In Honor of Alex Guenther
Joan Smith
Theresa Miller

In Honor of Ashlyn Michael
Daniel Michael

In Honor of Blind Golfer
Deb Peterson

In Honor of Camille O'Neill
Mr. & Mrs. William R. O'Neill

In Honor of David Treinen
Paul Ludacka

In Honor of Elmer Peters
Patricia L. Berscheid

In Honor of Jerry & Kari Peters
Catherine Simmelink

In Honor of Jerry Dorcy
Cynthia C. Miserez

In Honor of Jonathan Daniel Ellis
Sally Schulz

In Honor of Makenzie Gray
Sara Frink
Sabrina Meiners
Donna Walsh
Donna Nelson
Richard Ervin Andersen

In Honor of Molly Troxel
Ryan Troxel

In Honor of Perla Gomez,
Doug Wampler, and Finn
Jamie M. Studenroth

In Honor of Principal
Jason Trine

In Honor of Rachel Carver
St. Paul United Methodist Church
Women

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In Memory of Marvin Foy
Allison Foy

In Memory of Squeak Truhlsen
Ann & Don Hosford

In Memory of Stanley Truhlsen, Jr.
Chuck Garlock
Dr. Peter J. Whitted
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In Memory of Terry Scott
Brig. Gen. Robert R. Scott

Find our tribute to all
Outlook supporters at
outlooken.org/donors