

Blindness and Low Vision

Service Provider Resource

Organisation and Services Provided	Contact Information
National Peer Support Organisations	
<p>Blind Citizens Australia</p> <p>BCA is the national representative organisation of people who are blind or vision impaired.</p> <p>Inform: Regular communication on topical issues via BC News and the weekly New Horizons Radio Program.</p> <p>Connect: Peer support opportunities created through BCA's local and special interest branches, state and national conventions and associated email lists and teleconferences.</p> <p>Empower: BCA provides individual advocacy, advice and support to members who face discrimination due to blindness or vision impairment. It also advocates for systemic change through campaigns and by providing advice to government, corporations and the community.</p>	<p>T: 1800 033 660</p> <p>E: bca@bca.org.au</p> <p>W: www.bca.org.au</p>
<p>Glaucoma Australia</p> <p>Peak body providing free 'sight saving' education and support to people with glaucoma. Awareness campaigns and interventions are aimed at improving appointment and treatment adherence and improving quality of life measures. Once a referral is received, a four stage patient support journey is activated, and a collaborative relationship is established and strengthened.</p>	<p>T: 1800 500 880</p> <p>E: glaucoma@glaucoma.org.au</p> <p>W: www.glaucoma.org.au</p>
<p>Keratoconus Australia</p> <p>Helpline to answer questions about keratoconus, outreach services to connect people with keratoconus, advocacy on issues affecting the keratoconus community, public information campaigns and seminars, and involvement in eye-carer training.</p>	<p>T: 0409 644 811</p> <p>E: nfo@keratoconus.org.au</p> <p>W: www.keratoconus.org.au</p>
<p>Macular Disease Foundation Australia</p> <p>National helpline and resources, providing information on: macular disease, including age-related macular degeneration and diabetic eye disease, risk factors, importance of treatment and appointment adherence, self-monitoring, AREDS2 supplementation, preparation for ophthalmologist appointments, Medicare rebates and safety nets, transport, accessing low vision services, latest research and carer support.</p>	<p>T: 1800 111 709</p> <p>E: info@mdfoundation.com.au</p> <p>W: www.mdfoundation.com.au</p>
<p>Retina Australia</p> <p>Facilitate support to individuals, families and friends affected by inherited retinal disease, provide information related to inherited retinal disease, increase community awareness of inherited retinal disease, and raise and distribute funds for research into prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure of inherited retinal diseases.</p>	<p>T: 1800 999 870</p> <p>E: info@retinaaustralia.com.au</p> <p>W: www.retinaaustralia.com.au</p>
National Service and Support Organisation	
<p>Guide Dogs Vision Services</p> <p>Provides tailored services throughout Australia including: Orientation and Mobility (O&M) services for children, teens, adults, including those over 65 years. O&M services also include Guide Dog Mobility and equipment to support independence (including white canes and electronic aids). Other services include; functional vision services for people who have low vision (Orthoptists), Independent Living Services (Occupational Therapy), Assistive Technology services to support access to information, as well as Peer Support and Social Programs.</p>	<p>Visit guidedogsaustralia.com, or contact your local Guide Dogs office:</p> <p>Guide Dogs Queensland T: 1800 810 122 W: www.guidedogsqld.com.au</p> <p>Guide Dogs NSW/ACT T: 1800 484 333 E: chatswood@guidedogs.com.au W: www.guidedogs.com.au</p> <p>Guide Dogs Victoria T: 1800 804 805 W: www.guidedogsvictoria.com.au</p> <p>Guide Dogs South Australia & Northern Territory T: 1800 757 738 W: www.guidedogs.org.au</p>
<p>Vision Australia</p> <p>Age-appropriate emotional support groups, occupational therapy, orientation and mobility training, orthoptists and functional vision assessments, education and employment support, aids and equipment sales, technology training, early intervention specialised services, Seeing Eye Dog – Dog guides, audio book library and radio services, practitioner and client Information and accredited low vision seminars, NDIS and My Aged Care funding experts for support, braille training and transcription service.</p>	<p>T: 1300 847 329</p> <p>E: info@visionaustralia.org</p> <p>W: www.visionaustralia.org</p>

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National Program	
KeepSight A national program led by Diabetes Australia and Vision 2020 Australia, funded through a public-private partnership to send alerts and reminders to people with diabetes to keep their diabetes eye check appointments to reduce the current level of late presentations of diabetic retinopathy.	T: 1800 533 774 E: support@keepsight.org.au W: www.keepsight.org.au
South Australia	
Blind Welfare Association of SA Inc. Social and peer support groups, social activities, day trips and overnight travel groups, subsidised holiday apartment at Glenelg, volunteer support with friendly visits and telephone calls, no interest loans, half the cost of adaptive technology, technical peer support, recreational or educational, bucket list subsidies, telephone and power subsidies, home maintenance subsidy and volunteer odd jobs program.	T: 08 8367 6088 E: info@blindwelfare.org.au W: blindwelfare.org.au
See Differently Independent living training, assessment services for NDIS/My Aged Care, adaptive technology assessment and training, low vision clinic, wellbeing and social participation, open and supportive employment services, orientation and mobility services, Guide Dog and assistive animal provision and training, print alternative and digital library service.	T: 1300 944 306 E: contact@seedifferently.org.au W: www.seedifferently.org.au
Tasmania	
Guide Dogs Tasmania Guide Dogs, Autism Assistance Dogs, Therapy Dogs and Companion Dogs.	T: 1800 484 333 E: info@guidedogstas.com.au W: www.guidedogstas.com.au
VisAbility Tasmania Occupational therapy, speech pathology, physiotherapy, exercise physiology, counselling, orientation and mobility, assistive technology, aids for daily living, Accessible Information Service, Talking Book Library, Dog-Assisted Therapy, home modifications, National Panel of Assessors.	T: 1800 484 333 E: info@visabilitytas.com.au W: www.visabilitytas.com.au
Victoria	
Australian College of Optometry Public health optometry, ongoing ocular health monitoring and low vision care, low vision care including refractive, magnifier and functional vision assessments, access to aids including spectacles, magnifiers, electronic aids and adaptive devices available, bulk billed consultations, subsidised spectacles and magnifiers (available to Victorian Pension Concession and Healthcare card holders), working in collaboration with Vision Australia to allow patients access to multidisciplinary services.	T: 03 9349 7400 E: aco@aco.org.au W: www.aco.org.au
Western Australia	
Guide Dogs Western Australia Guide Dogs, Autism Assistance Dogs, Therapy Dogs and Companion Dogs.	T: 1800 847 466 E: info@guidedogswa.com.au W: www.guidedogswa.com.au
VisAbility Western Australia Occupational therapy, speech pathology, physiotherapy, psychology, dietetics, exercise physiology, social work, orthoptist, orientation and mobility, assistive technology, aids for daily living, Accessible Information Service, Talking Book Library, Community Activity Centre, Dog-Assisted Therapy, home modifications, employment services, National Panel of Assessors.	T: 1800 847 466 E: info@visability.com.au W: www.visability.com.au



For more information visit:
www.vision2020australia.org.au/resources/adult-referral-pathway

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