



Hoopono

Services for the Blind
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
State of Hawaii



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New Visions Program

Mission: We create an environment where students gain the knowledge, skills and positive attitude they need to achieve success in life.

Ho`opono's New Visions Program empowers students through exploratory learning and training in various skills of blindness and confidence building also known as "Structured Discovery". Its core curriculum consists of the following areas:

- * Braille Literacy Skills
- * Cane Travel Training & Techniques
- * Industrial Arts (Woodshop)
- * Community Outings
- * Computer & Technology Training
- * Personal & Home Management
- * Group Discussions on Blindness, Advocacy & Mentoring
- * Introduction to local and national consumer organizations

***The New Visions Program is certified as a Structured Discovery Training™ Program by the National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB)**



*Blindness is Not a
Barrier to Success*

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State of Hawaii
Department of Human Services
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Older Individuals Who Are Blind (OIB) Program

Ho`opono's Older Individuals Who Are Blind Program (OIB) is a statewide program which assists elderly blind and visually impaired adults 55 years or older to adjust to their vision loss by developing new skills.

Rehabilitation Teachers meet with individuals in their homes to assess the need for and provide instruction in the following:

- * Personal Care
- * Home Management
- * Food Management
- * Communication
- * Mobility
- * Socialization Skills



Low Vision Clinic

Upon referral from your eye doctor, clinic services are available to blind and visually impaired children and adults and provide:

- * Free eye examinations and annual re-examinations
- * Prescriptions for optical aids.
- * Fittings of optical aids and other devices to improve the visual acuity of persons with low vision or who are diagnosed as legally blind.
- * Hands on demonstrations and training in the use of low vision aids and appliances.
- * Counseling to individuals and families
- * Referrals to community resources.



Ho`opono Services Include:

- * Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling
- * Older Individuals Who Are Blind (OIB) Program
- * Business Enterprise Program (BEP)
- * Job Club/Career Assessment/Job Placement
- * Help with applying for Library for the Blind services, Home Care Referrals, Tax Filing Assistance, Counseling for Consumers and Family, Referral to Blind Consumer Organizations, Newsline™ for the blind and more
- * New Visions Program (Blindness Skills Training)
- * Low Vision Clinic (LVC)
- * Public Outreach/Presentations
- * Transition Program

Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Mission: VR exists to serve its participants. We work as a team so participants can achieve their hopes and aspirations for meaningful employment through timely and individualized vocational rehabilitation services.

- * Career Counseling
- * ADA Consultation for Employers & Employees
- * Worksite Assessment & Follow Up
- * Adaptive Devices & Access Technology
- * Assistance with Vocational & College Education
- * Peer Advocacy & Mentoring
- * Job Coaching/Job Placement
- * Supported Employment Assistance
- * Self Employment Planning
- * Blindness Counseling & Education
- * Referrals to Community Resources
- * Transition Services for High School & College Students



Business Enterprise Program (BEP)

Mission: To empower Hawaii's blind people to achieve social and economic self sufficiency through business opportunities.

Vending facilities are located in federal, state and county buildings. The BEP Staff evaluate applicants and provide ongoing management services to operators. They provide training in areas such as advertising & promotion, bookkeeping, inventory control, customer service, tax filing, financial management, maintenance, ordering merchandise, bill payments, selling merchandise and other tasks entailed with operating a small business. Ho`opono actively participates in decision making with the elected Hawai'i State Committee of Blind Vendors.

Transition Program

Ho`opono's Transition Program is for blind and visually impaired young individuals transitioning from high school to adulthood. The program emphasizes employment and focuses on job skills and work experience, as well as getting students to know what community resources are available to assist them in reaching their vocational goals.