# **BLIND REHABILITATION SERVICE** BLIND REHABILITATION OUTPATIENT SPECIALIST (BROS)

The mission of Blind Rehabilitation Service (BRS) is to assist eligible Veterans and active duty Service members with a visual impairment in developing the skills needed for personal independence and successful reintegration into the community and family environment.

### ELIGIBILITY

The eligibility of prospective patients to receive BRS care is determined by the review of 3 key criteria:

- 1. Veteran is eligible for VA health benefits (or is an active duty Service member) and
- 2. Possesses a visual impairment or
- 3. Has received a designation of excess disability (impact on functional abilities).

#### BROS

Blind Rehabilitation Outpatient Specialists provide assessments and therapeutic instruction within a variety of settings.

## **SERVICES PROVIDED**

- Community and/or home-based assessment to determine rehabilitation needs
- Goal development and individualized treatment planning
- Interventions and counseling to help with adjustment to sight loss
- Assessment and instruction to increase awareness of the environment and improve safety
- Provide therapeutic instruction on how to maximize remaining vision to complete tasks, such as accessing printed material, financial management and food prep/kitchen safety
- Training on how to use assistive technology to address functional deficits as a result of visual impairment

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Insert Local Contact Information

Blind Rehabilitation Outpatient Specialist are not available at all VHA Medical Centers. Please contact your local VIST Coordinator, BROS or speak to your Primary Care Provider for additional information.



VA Blind Rehabilitation Service Website www.rehab.va.gov/blindrehab/ Last Updated: November 2020



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