

PROGRAMS & SERVICES



Introduction

At Helen Keller Services for the Blind (HKSB), we believe in the power of possibility. For over a century, we've been dedicated to promoting self-empowerment among individuals who are blind and have low vision to live, work, and thrive in the communities of their choice.

Individual Journeys

At HKSB, we recognize that every individual's journey is unique, and we strive to offer tailored support and opportunities for each person to achieve their personal aspirations. Our programs span from early intervention for children, to vocational training and job placement for adults, to specialized services for seniors adjusting to vision loss. We also provide state-of-the-art assistive technology training and resources, ensuring participants have access to the tools they need to succeed in an increasingly digital world.

Whether you're seeking to enhance your independence, pursue education, advance your career, or simply improve your quality of life, HKSB is here to support you every step of the way. Our team of experienced professionals is committed to providing personalized, compassionate care that addresses the whole person – not just their vision.

Discover how HKSB can help you or your loved ones unlock potential, overcome challenges, and embrace a future full of opportunity.



Core Rehabilitation Services

Orientation & Mobility

Navigate Your World with Confidence: Our certified specialists provide personalized training to help you move safely and independently. Whether at home, work, or in the community, we'll teach you techniques to navigate various environments with confidence. From learning to use a white cane to mastering public transportation, our comprehensive program empowers you to explore your world without limits.

Independent Living Skills

Embrace Everyday Independence: Regain control of your daily life with our adaptive techniques for home management, personal care, and community integration. Our expert instructors will guide you through practical strategies for cooking, cleaning, financial management, and effective communication. We tailor our approach to your specific needs, ensuring you have the tools to live life on your terms.

Social Casework Services

Support for Your Journey: Adjusting to vision changes can be challenging, but you don't have to face it alone. Our experienced social workers offer individual counseling and group sessions to help you navigate emotional hurdles and connect with peers. We provide resource guidance and benefits assistance.

Assistive Technology

Harness the Power of Technology: Our assistive technology programs cover a wide range of cutting-edge devices and software designed to improve communication, information access, and productivity. From screen readers and magnification tools to smart home devices, our expert trainers will help you find and master the right solutions to enhance your independence. Our technology centers in Brooklyn, Hempstead and Islandia offer comfortable environments for one-on-one and small-group training, allowing you to explore mobile, desktop, and handheld technologies.

Whether you're looking to stay connected, boost your productivity, or simplify daily tasks, we'll guide you through the world of assistive technology to achieve greater efficiency and independence in your life.

Employment Services

Your Path to Career Success: Our comprehensive employment services guide you from initial assessment through job placement and beyond. Whether you're entering the workforce for the first time or adapting to vision changes in your current role, our vocational specialists will help you unlock your career potential. Through personalized coaching, hands-on experience, and internship opportunities you'll develop the skills, confidence, and strategies needed to thrive in today's competitive job market. Our vocational rehabilitation services include:

- ✓ Vocational assessment and career exploration
- ✓ Job-skills training and work readiness preparation
- ✓ Resume development and interview techniques
- ✓ Job placement and on-the-job support

Work Experience Training

Real-World Skills for Lasting Success: Gain valuable experience through our diverse internship programs. We partner with a wide range of businesses and organizations to provide meaningful work opportunities tailored to your interests and career goals. Our vocational specialists offer on-site support, help identify necessary accommodations, and provide ongoing coaching to ensure your success in the workplace. Our vocational specialists will:

- ✓ Help you secure placements in your chosen field
- ✓ Provide on-site support during your initial days
- ✓ Identify necessary accommodations and adaptive equipment
- ✓ Offer ongoing coaching to ensure your success





Employment-Focused Technology Programs

Leveraging Technology for Employment: We offer technology training designed for teens and young adults as well as for work-bound adults preparing participants to pursue their career goals. Training incorporates hands-on experience and personalized support to ensure participant success. Each program emphasizes practical skills that can be applied to real-world situations, leveraging technology in achieving personal, academic and professional goals.

Low Vision Services

Helen Keller Services for the Blind provides full eye examinations performed by New York State certified low vision specialists at its Hempstead, Brooklyn and Islandia locations. Our low vision doctors will give you guidance on the best way to use your sight and preserve your remaining vision. The more you understand how and why your vision is changing, the better prepared you will be to make modifications that will enable you to use your remaining sight to your best advantage.

Low vision aids can help you visually navigate the day-to-day challenges posed by eye conditions like retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy.

Low Vision Aids We Offer:

- Glasses
- Magnifying Glasses
- Handheld Telescopes
- Glasses-mounted devices
- Digital magnifiers/CCTV
- Prismatic reading glasses

Eschenbach Max TV Glasses



Mobilux Hand Held Magnifiers





Adaptive Living Program: Independent Living for Seniors

**Are you over 55 and experiencing vision loss?
Do you have difficulty recognizing familiar faces?
Are you struggling to read printed material?**

Vision loss from age-related eye disorders like diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, and glaucoma can be a life-altering experience. Whether it's a gradual or sudden change, HKSB is here for you, and we have the answers or will help you find them.

Our specialized services for adults 55 and older help you maintain independence and quality of life despite changes to your vision. Our comprehensive approach addresses all aspects of daily living, from home adaptations to community integration.

We bring our expertise directly to you, helping adapt your living space and daily routines for greater independence. Our team assesses your home environment, implements personalized strategies, and provides ongoing support to ensure you can navigate your space with confidence and ease.

Daily Living Skills: Mastering Everyday Tasks

Our trainers provide personalized, one-on-one instruction on a wide range of devices and technology designed to enhance daily living, communication and access to information and independence. Our mindful, step-by-step approach ensures seniors gain confidence in using these tools. Whether you are managing medications, staying in touch with loved ones or enjoying your favorite hobbies, embrace the power of technology and stay connected.

Orientation & Mobility: Travel Safety Strategies

Our mobility experts provide instruction to seniors to navigate their homes and communities with confidence despite their vision changes. We provide personalized training covering essential skills from indoor safety to outdoor travel and public transportation use, helping seniors maintain independence, engage in social activities, and preserve their quality of life.

Low Vision Services: Maximizing Your Remaining Vision

Receive a comprehensive evaluation from our New York State certified low vision specialist. Learn how to maximize your remaining vision, and explore the latest adaptive and ocular equipment available to enhance your quality of life. Through comprehensive evaluations, adaptive equipment recommendations, and personalized strategies, we help you continue enjoying your favorite activities and maintain your independence.



OUR LOCATIONS

Kings County / Headquarters

180 Livingston Street, 2nd Floor

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One Helen Keller Way

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