

VISION BERMUDA *formerly THE BERMUDA SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND*
PROGRAMME OUTPUTS & IMPACT FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY – DEC 2024

694 UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS SERVED by VISION BERMUDA 2016-2024 (Vision Rehab & Critical Needs)

JAN-DEC 2024: 190 UNIQUE INDIVIDUALS SERVED for VISION REHAB & CRITICAL NEEDS PROGRAMS

VISION REHABILITATION PROGRAM – emotional support and personalized training to help individuals maximize remaining vision, adapt to vision loss, maintain independence and quality of life, and foster hope for the future.

Active Client Caseload 48, +34 additional long term clients Wait List : 19 individuals

341 ONE-ON-ONE VISION REHABILITATION SESSIONS DELIVERED TO 70 CLIENTS

- **44 VISION ASSESSMENT SESSIONS**
- **68 MOBILITY / WHITE CANE SKILLS SESSIONS.** Clients are trained to safely and independently navigate their homes, neighbourhood, travel on buses, move around Hamilton, access work at the office, attend social & leisure activities and to have the ability to carry out everyday tasks.
- **72 ASSISTIVE EQUIPMENT SESSIONS.** Clients are informed of and trained to utilize technology and assistive equipment to effectively aid everyday tasks, including communications, use of smartphones, iPads, computers, Alexa/Siri, desktop magnifiers, portable digital magnifiers, speech software, voice recorders, to name a few.
- **55 INDEPENDENT LIVING SESSIONS.** Clients are trained and supported in everyday activities – assistance in identifying items, food preparation and kitchen safety, removing hazards, paying bills, ways to keep notes, phone numbers and shopping lists, grooming and personal hygiene, cleaning and maintaining a home, using home appliances, shopping and managing money and home finances.
- **64 EMOTIONAL SUPPORT SESSIONS.** Clients are supported as they come to terms with their sight loss and begin to learn to adapt their lives.
- **38 LOW VISION AID SESSIONS.** Clients are supported with magnifiers, task lighting and advice to manage deteriorating sight.

46 PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE SESSIONS DELIVERED TO 33 CLIENTS

- Client and the public are given advice and support for good vision care, to include the use of glare shields, importance of regular medical checks and medications, controlled management of diabetes.

CLIENT SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

139 classes & support groups held with **746** attendances

74 group social activities held with **385** attendances

225 welfare calls to individuals with vision impairments

OUTREACH – PROMOTING GOOD VISION CARE

19 : presentations / open days / community fairs / trainings

Approximately **229** attendees, + Ocean 89 audiences

CRITICAL NEEDS PROGRAM – Addressing those with financial need access essential services to manage and prevent lost vision. Includes specialist referrals to optometrists and ophthalmologists for consultations, screenings, eye procedures and surgeries, the supply of critical eye medications and adaptive equipment.

147 INDIVIDUALS FINANCIALLY ASSISTED BY VISION BERMUDA’S CRITICAL NEEDS PROGRAM

367 consultations, examinations, screenings and procedures were delivered to **121** patients helping to prevent avoidable blindness, or slow / halt the progression of sight loss.

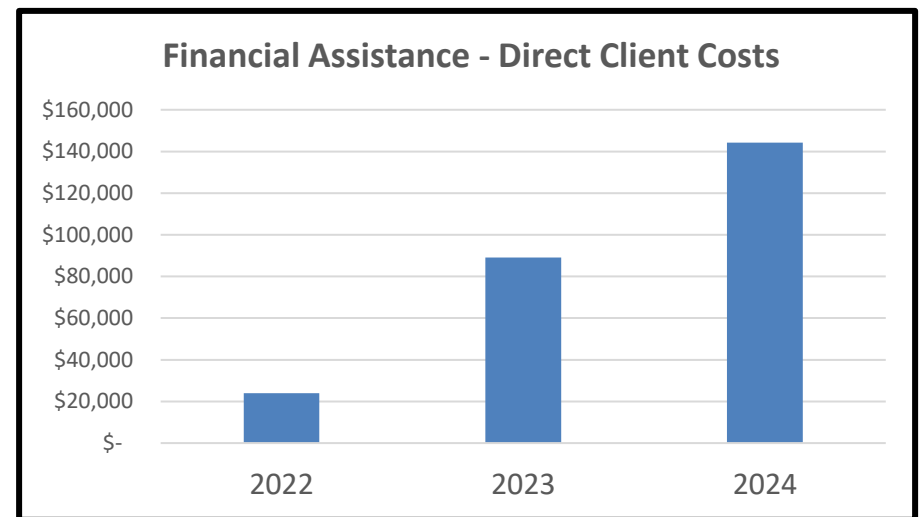
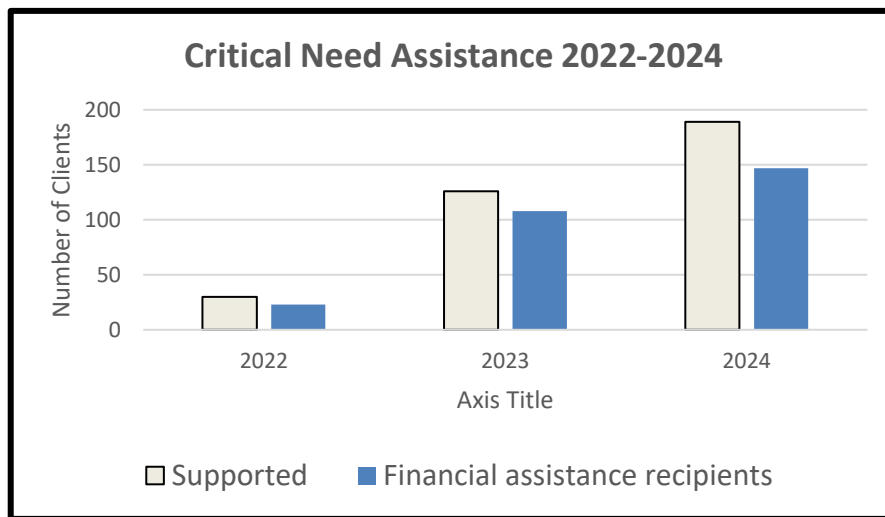
36 cataract surgeries were performed on **29** patients resulting in restored sight

152 medication prescriptions were filled for **31** patients to assist managing eye disease

14 patients received assistance to help pay health insurance premiums and undergo necessary costly medical procedures

60 assistive equipment items were provided to **46** vision impaired clients to aid independence

12 visually impaired patients were assisted in other ways



IMPACT: Vision Rehabilitation Services & Critical Needs Services

Canadian National Institute of the Blind Quality of Life Core Measures

KEY:

(a) YES (b) SOMEWHAT (c) NO

Services received improved confidence in individual’s own abilities : (a) 72% (b) 28% (c) 0%
 Feel more in control of own life and able to make more independent choices : (a) 81% (b) 14% (c) 5%
 Demonstrated improved mental health and a greater sense of self-worth : (a) 90% (b) 10% (c) 0%
 Feel more able to cope with difficulties and stress the vision loss causes : (a) 66% (b) 34% (c) 0%

Vision Rehabilitation Services Only

Improvement in ability to maintain independence since mastering adaptations : (a) 67% (b) 33% (c) 0%
 Feel less lonely and isolated since beginning a relationship with Vision Bermuda : (a) 85% (b) 14% (c) 1%