

# South Carolina Commission for the Blind



# Senior Management

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Commissioner

**Juan Sims**

Comptroller

**Wanda Miller**

Director of Human Resources

**James Swindler**

Director of Information Technology

**Felisa Massey**

Interim Director of Vocational Rehabilitation

**Edward Bible**

Director of Training and Employment

**Otis Stevenson**

Director of Business Enterprise Program

**Rhonda Thompson**

Director of Older Blind and Children Services

**Shana Robinson**

Director of Quality Assurance

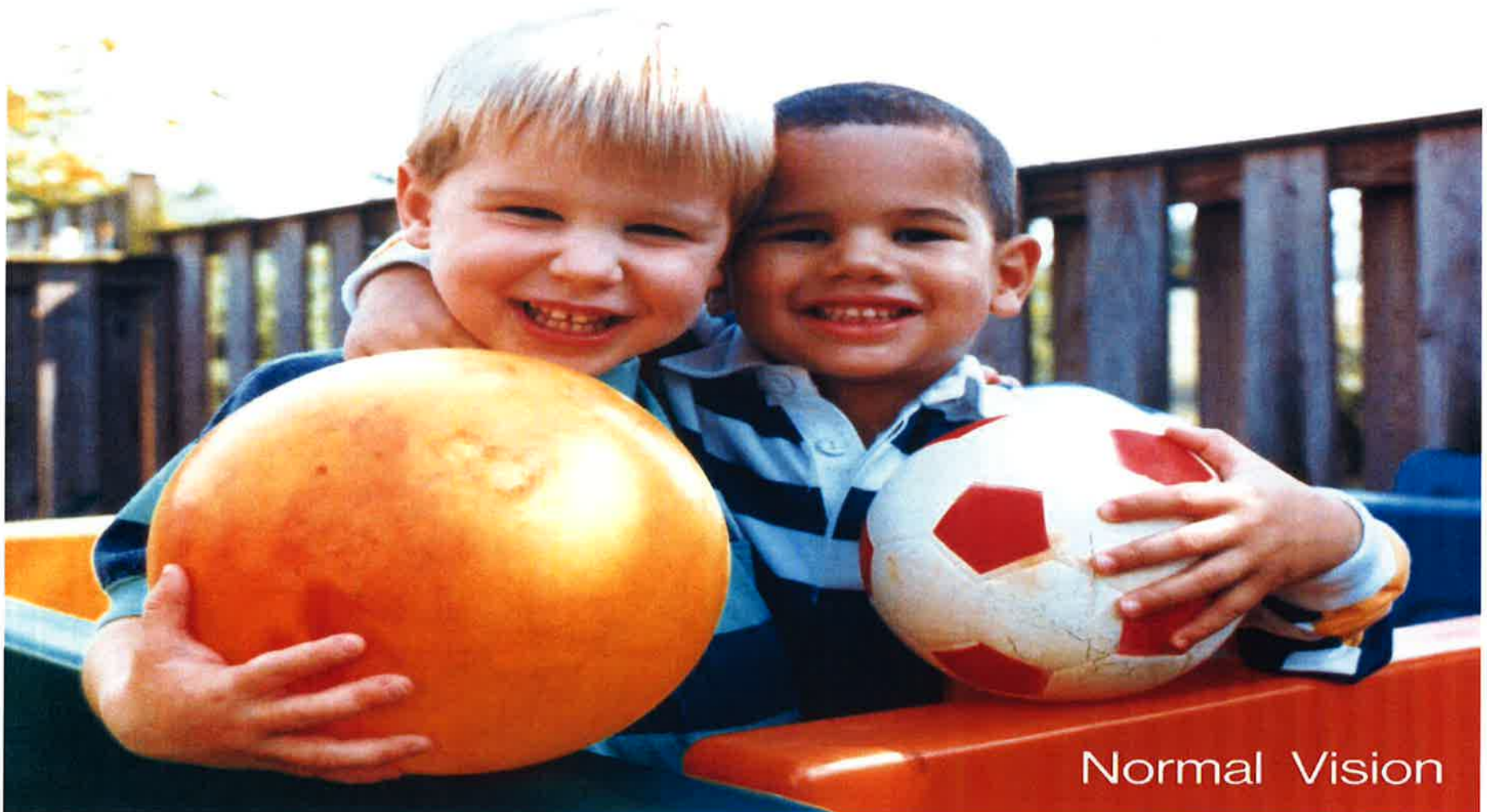
# Vision

*Self-sufficiency for every  
visually impaired and blind  
individual.*

# Mission

The mission of the South Carolina Commission for the Blind is to provide quality, individualized vocational rehabilitation services, independent living services and prevention of blindness services to blind and visually impaired consumers leading to competitive employment and social and economic independence.

## Most Common Eye Conditions Leading to Blindness



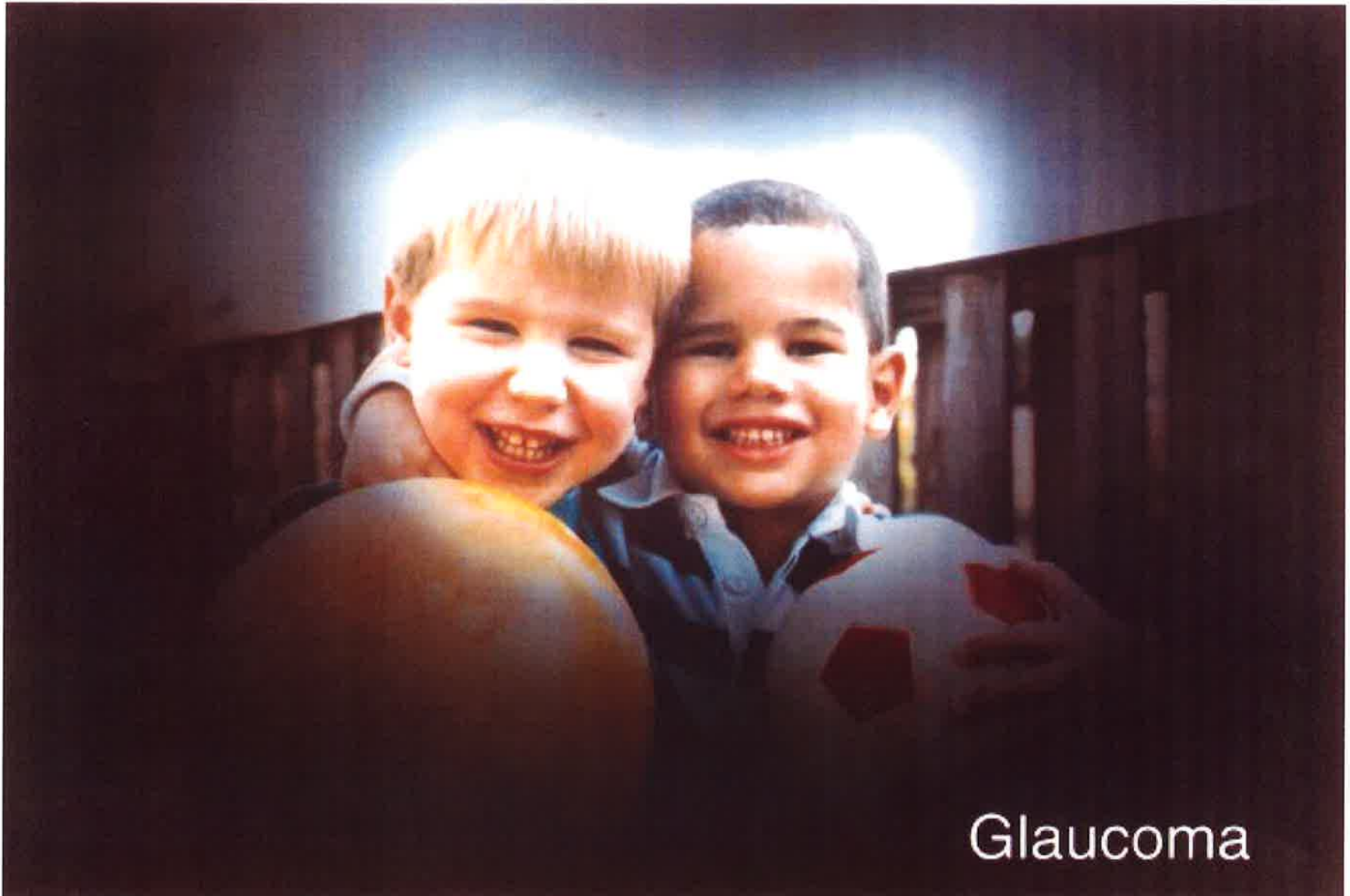
Normal Vision

## Most Common Eye Conditions Leading to Blindness



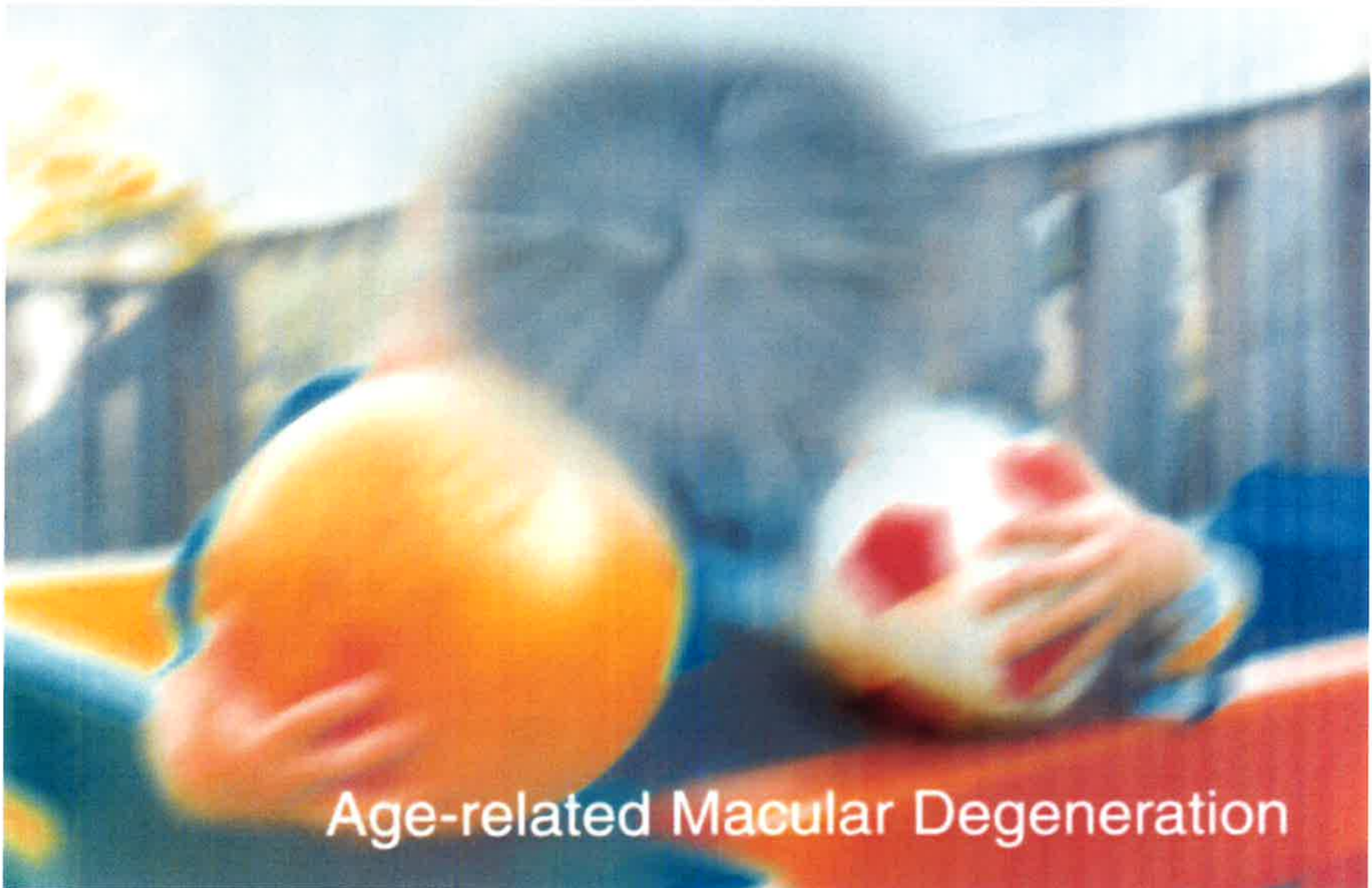
Cataract

## Most Common Eye Conditions Leading to Blindness



Glaucoma

## Most Common Eye Conditions Leading to Blindness



Age-related Macular Degeneration

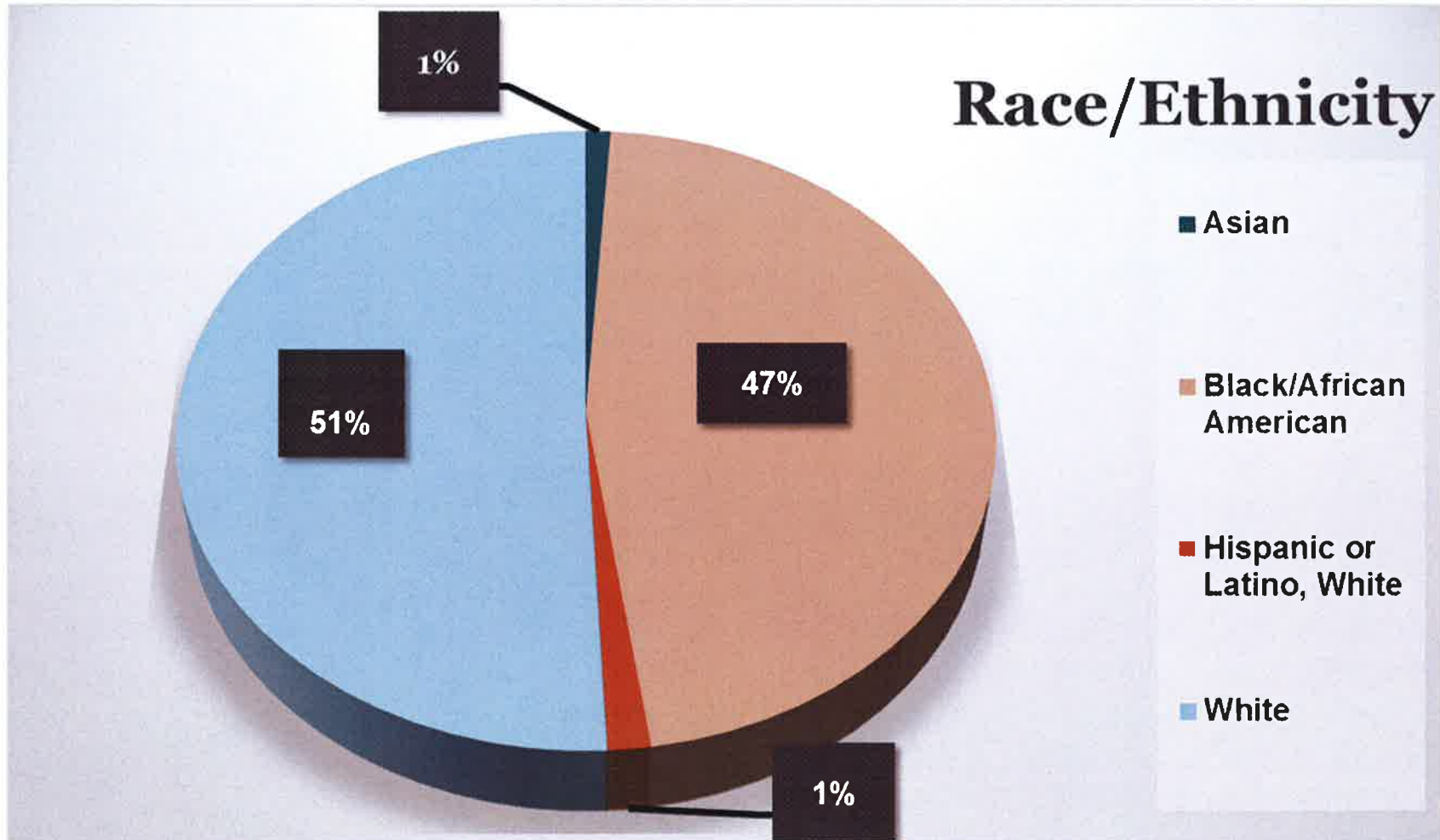


## Most Common Eye Conditions Leading to Blindness

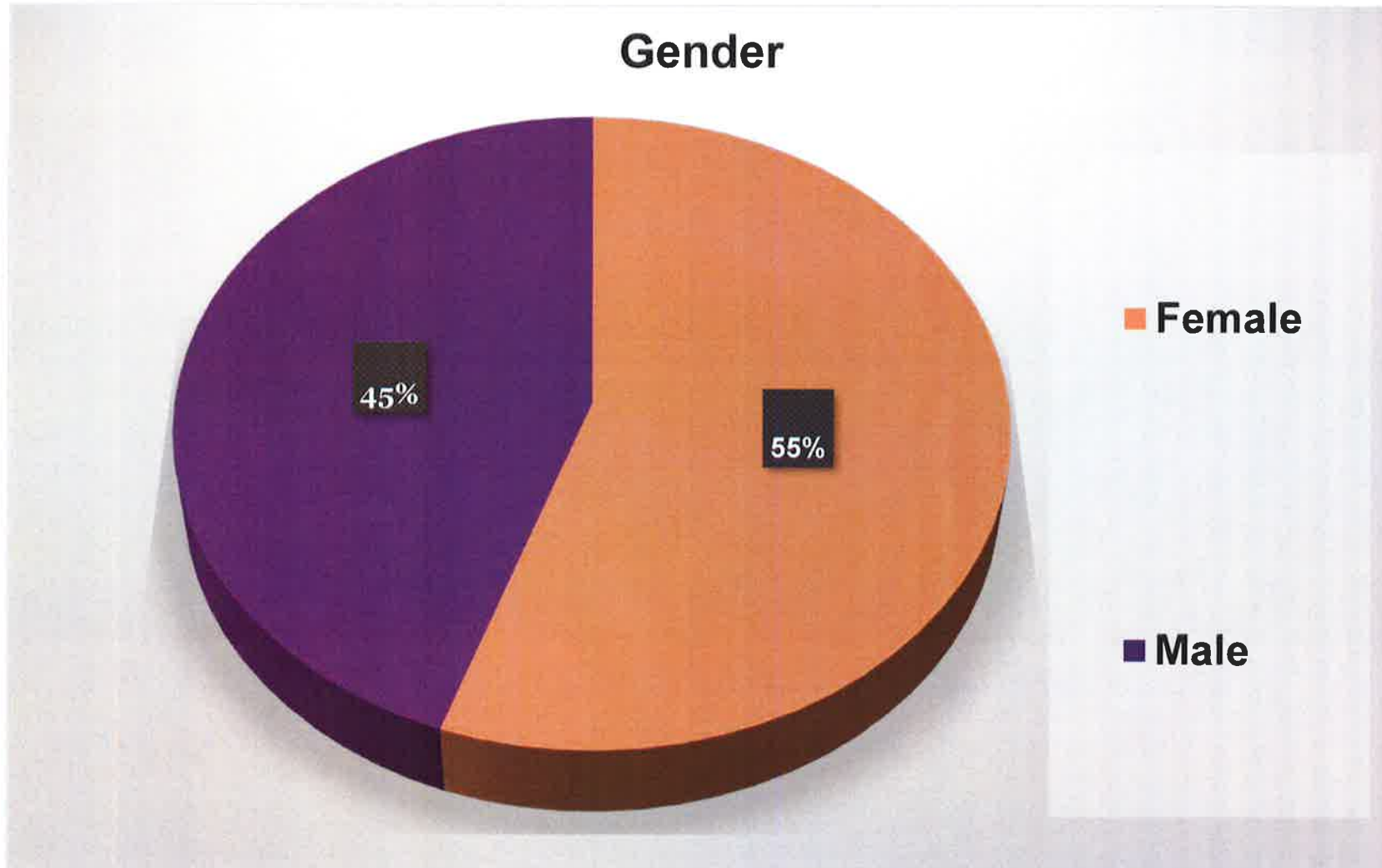


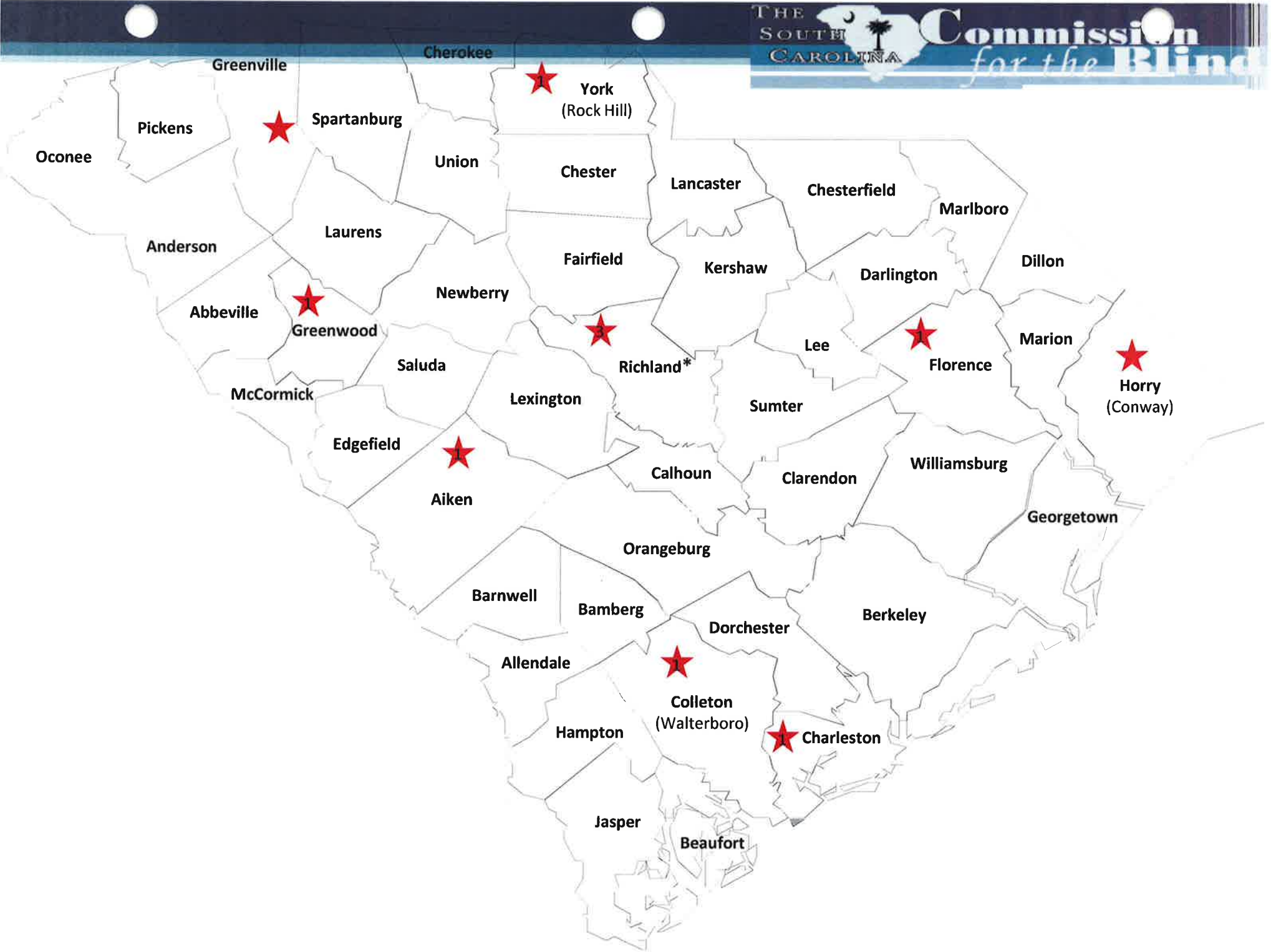
Diabetic Retinopathy

## People We Serve



## People We Serve





# Ellen Beach Mack Rehabilitation Center (EBMRC)

The center operates Monday through Friday and is closed on state holidays and weekends.

## Programs

- Orientation and Mobility
- Braille Literacy
- Home and Personal Management
- Manual Arts
- Interpersonal Communications

## Medical Services

The Ellen Beach Mack Rehabilitation Center medical staff is available to assist with minor medical issues that may arise.

## Counseling Services

A licensed professional counselor is available to assist with adjustment to blindness and any other issues and concerns that arise during training.



# Vocational Rehabilitation Services

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department works with eligible blind and visually impaired South Carolina residents to assist in reaching employment goals while gaining skills needed to become economically and socially independent. Services range from adjustment to blindness to job placement assistance.

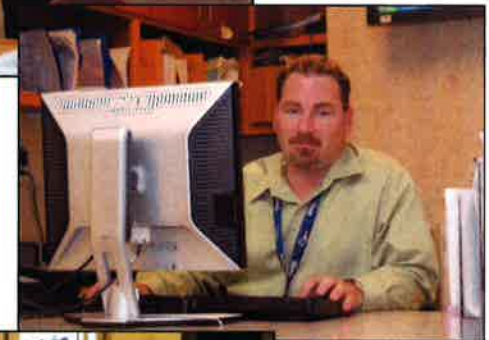
The Vocational Rehabilitation services are provided to individuals whose vision is causing problems obtaining and/or maintaining employment.

Services include:

- Determining eligibility
- Deciding on an employment goal
- Developing a program for Vocational Rehabilitation services leading to employment
- Obtaining educational assistance
- Coordinating community resources
- Completing a vocational evaluation
- Completing a comprehensive assessment
- Counseling and guidance

The following specialized services are available:

- Blind/deaf services (for individuals with both a vision and hearing impairment)
- Independent living services to enhance independent living within the home for individuals ages 18-54



# Transition Services

The Vocational Rehabilitation Department provides educational and career guidance for adolescents and young adults ages 14-21 through our Transition Services Program.

Services may include:

- Advocacy
- Participation in Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
- Referrals to other agencies
- Counseling and guidance
- Information on eye condition
- Low-vision services and aids
- Summer Teen Program
- College information
- Eye examination to determine eligibility
- Home management/independent living aids
- Technology assistance
- Post-secondary education
- Student Internships



# Training and Employment

The Training and Employment Division assists in training and placing individuals who are blind or visually impaired in jobs that suit their individual skills and needs.

The Training and Employment Division works with Vocational Rehabilitation counselors and consumers during the job placement process.

The Training and Employment Division provides the following services:

- Career assessment
- Career training and technical assistance
- Customized training
- Employment services
- Job-readiness and training
- Internships
- On-the-Job Training

The Vocational Evaluation process includes the following services:

- Assessments
- Career exploration
- Job explorations
- Job Placement

The Technology Training Unit provides the following services:

- Computer instruction using assistive technology
- Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTVs)
- Speech output devices
- Magnification software training for consumers in the use of computers and other Assistive Technology.





# Business Enterprise Program

The Business Enterprise Program (BEP) trains, licenses and places blind licensed vendors in snack bars, cafeterias and rest stops throughout the state.

Established in 1936 under the authorizing legislation of the Randolph-Sheppard Act, this federal regulation provides qualified blind individuals the opportunity to operate businesses on federal property by granting them priority on such property. All states established similar state laws that included state, county and municipal property.



The Business Enterprise Program works with Vocational Rehabilitation counselors to identify potential consumers to complete training to become Blind Licensed Vendors.

The BEP currently operates more than 100 food service operations in federal, state, municipal and private businesses in South Carolina, in need of vending machines, coffee bar service, a deli-style operation, a snack bar or a full-service cafeteria.

The Business Enterprise Program is committed to providing quality food service.



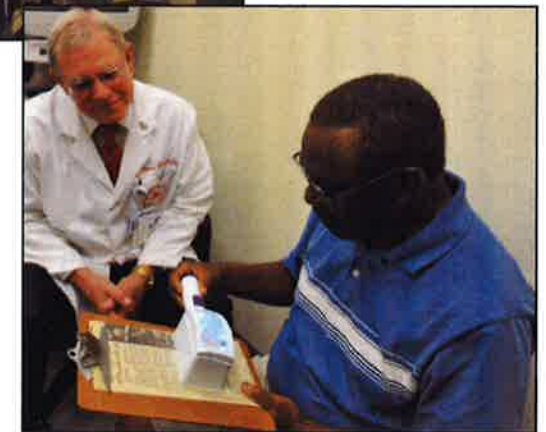
# Low Vision Clinic

The Low-Vision Clinic provides low-vision services that enhance remaining vision and improve quality of life.

During a visit:

- We will conduct a vision evaluation and provide individualized services based on an individual's needs.
- We will identify low-vision devices that will help maximize remaining vision.
- We will provide assistance in using the prescribed devices so an individual may read more easily, watch television or participate in other activities.

Low-Vision Clinics are located in Charleston, Columbia, Florence, Greenville, Walterboro and York.



# Older Blind Program

The Older Blind Program for individuals 55 and older is designed to assist with appropriate adjustment-to blindness training, while being flexible to meet an individuals needs.

Services may include:

- Counseling and guidance
- Adjustment-to-blindness skills training
- Helpful methods for managing personal care and daily tasks
- Labeling and organizing items around the home
- Safe cooking techniques
- Referrals to community resources
- Low-vision evaluations and aids
- Orientation and mobility instruction
- Other applicable services as needed



# Children Services

The Children Services Program assists children with low vision and blindness to develop their maximum potential.

It also help parents develop a supportive home and work environment with communities to create programs that include children with low vision and blindness.

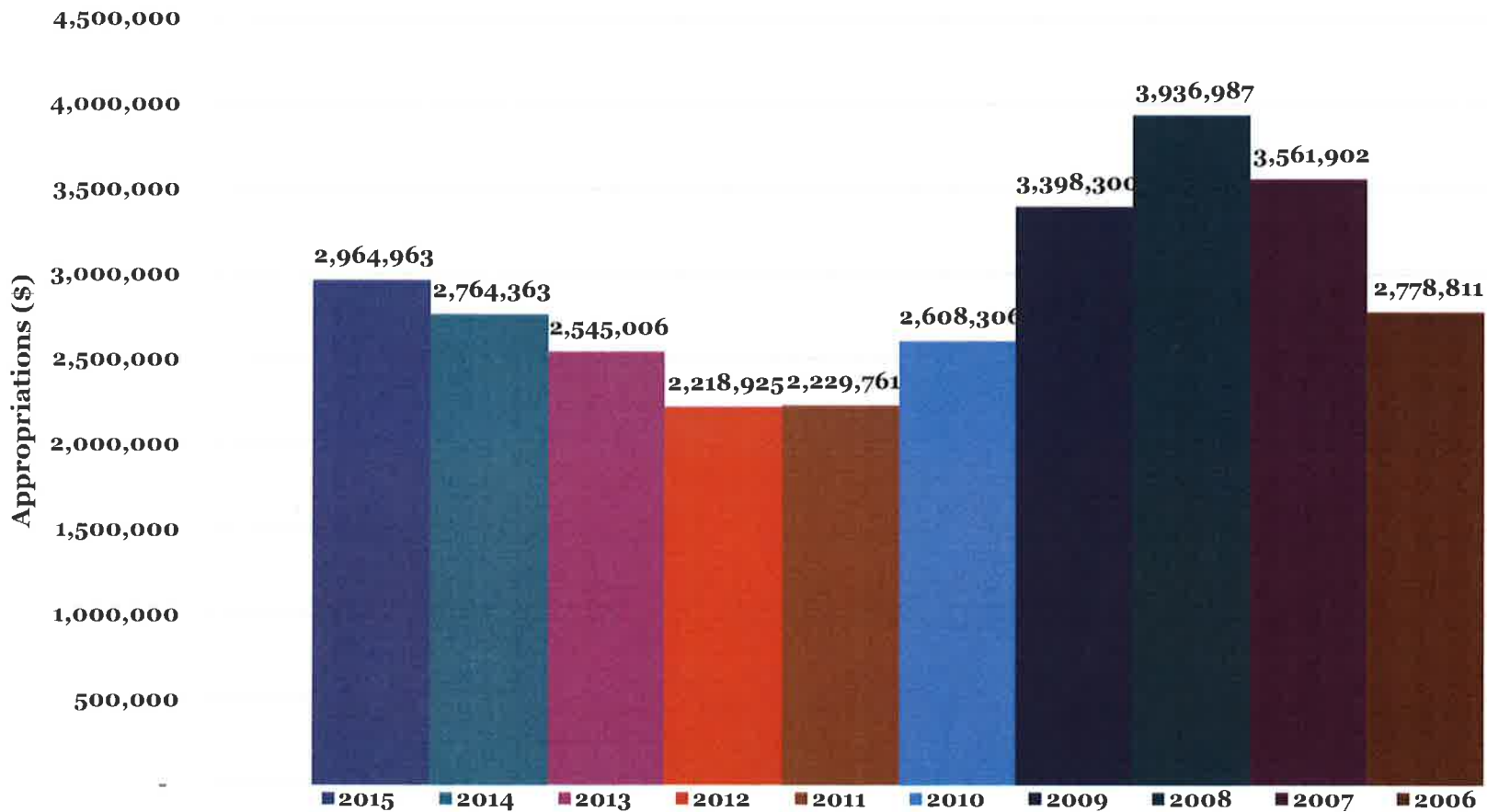
Services may include:

- Advocacy
- Counseling and guidance for parents
- Workshops and support groups for families
- Coordination for summer camping opportunities
- Consultation and coordination with community
- Adjustment to blindness/independent living skills
- Low Vision aids
- Assistive Technology

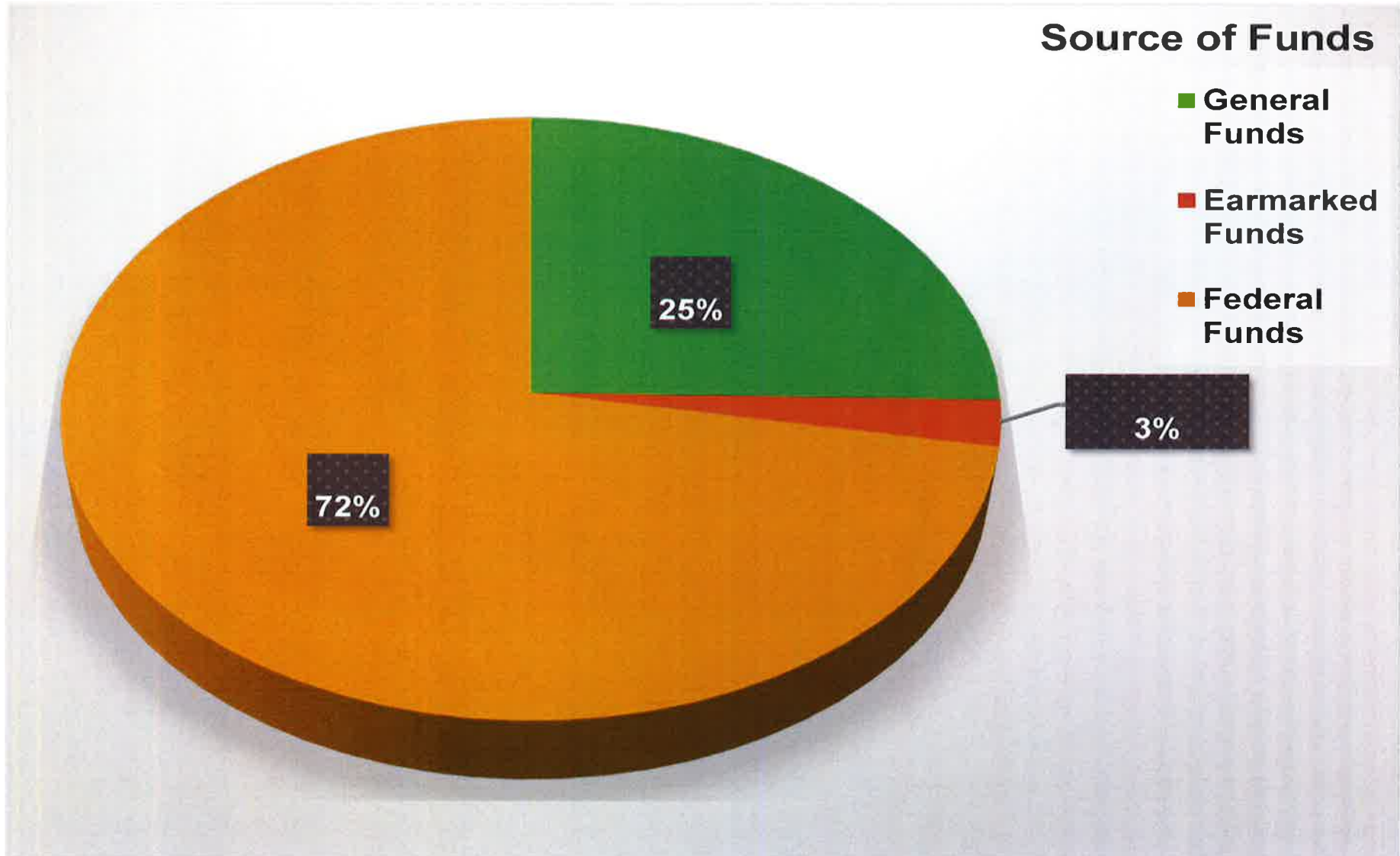


# 10 Year State Appropriations

10 Years of Total State Appropriations

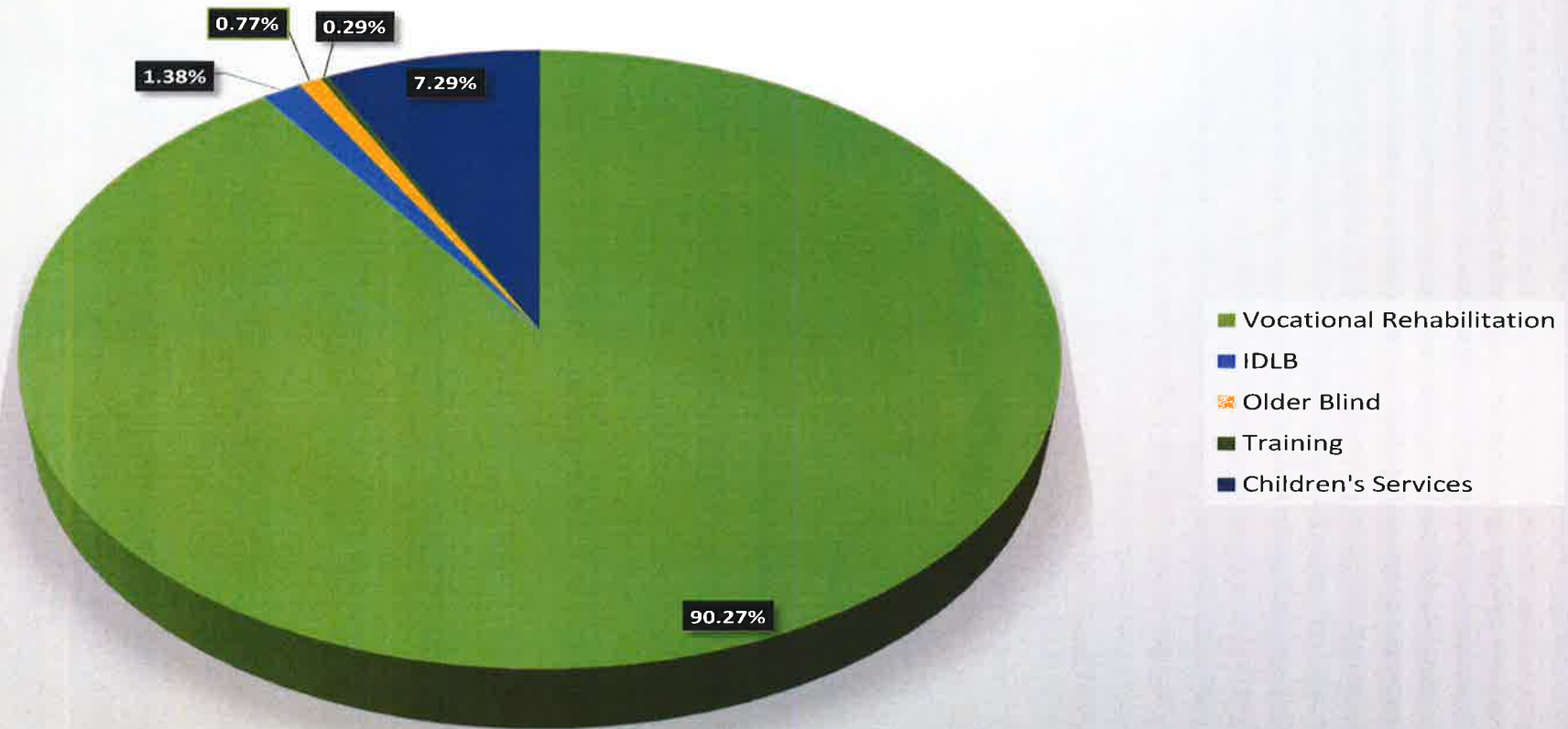


# Funding Sources

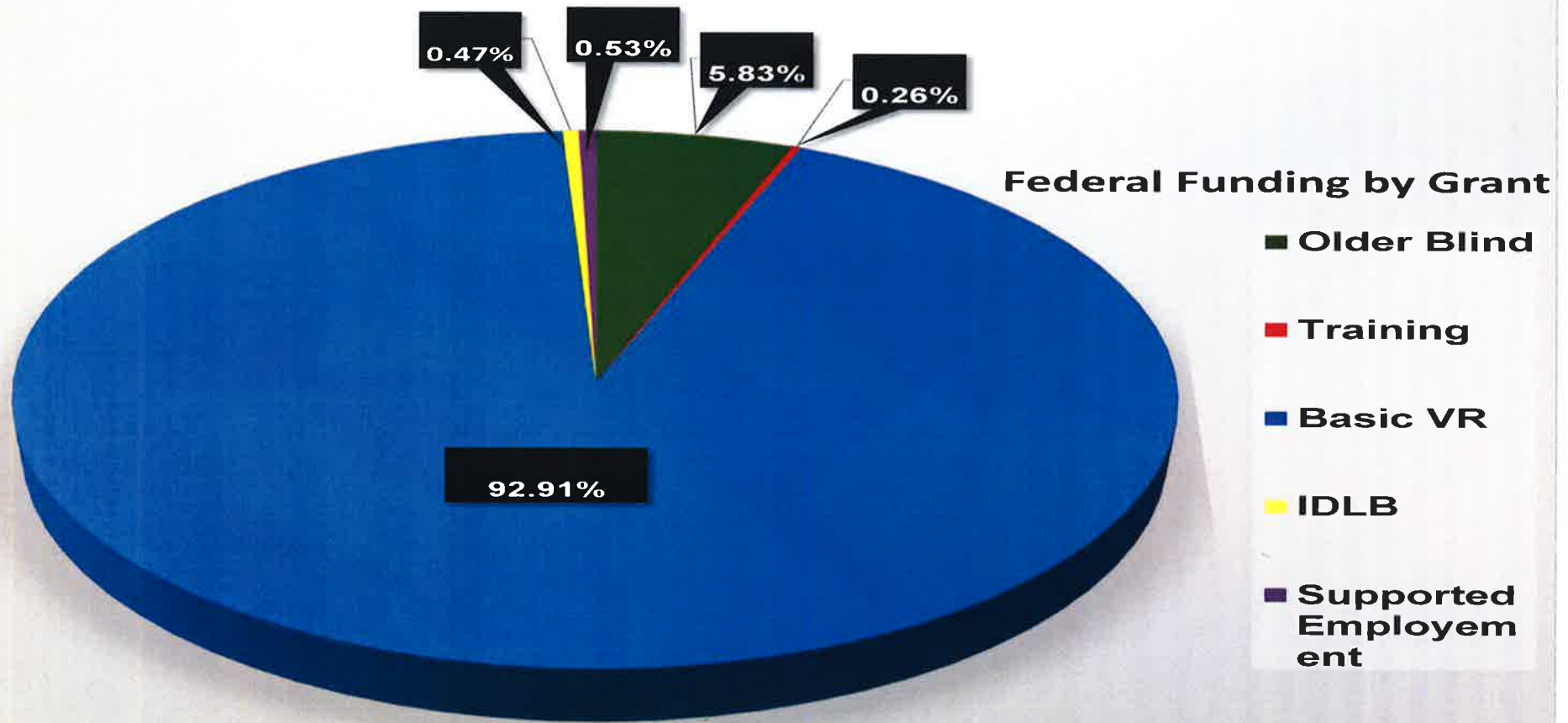


# State Fiscal Resource Allocation

State Fiscal Resource Allocation

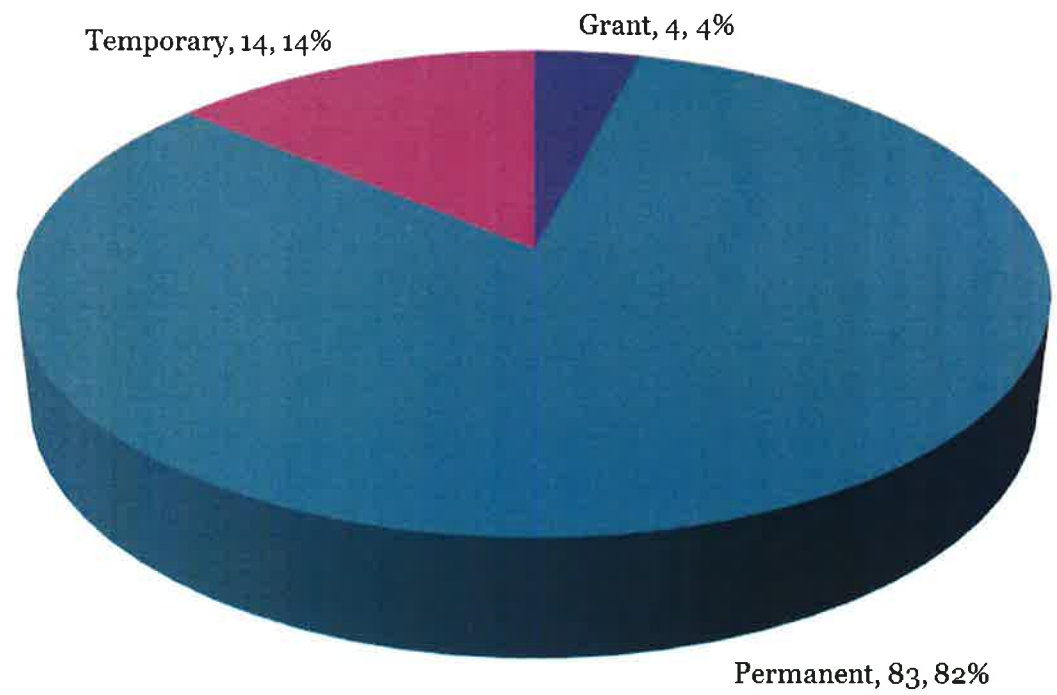


# Federal Fiscal Resource Allocation

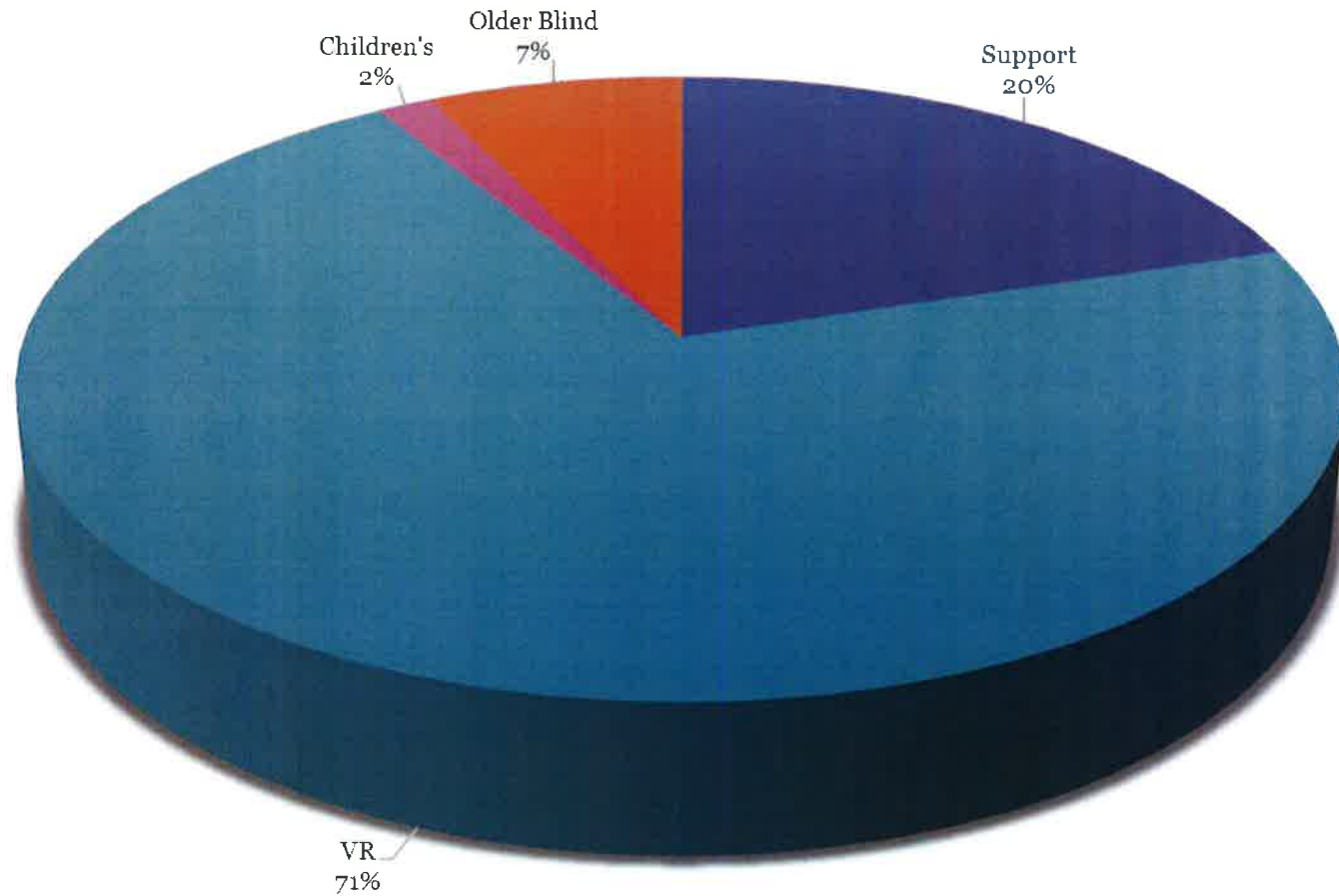




# Employee Status

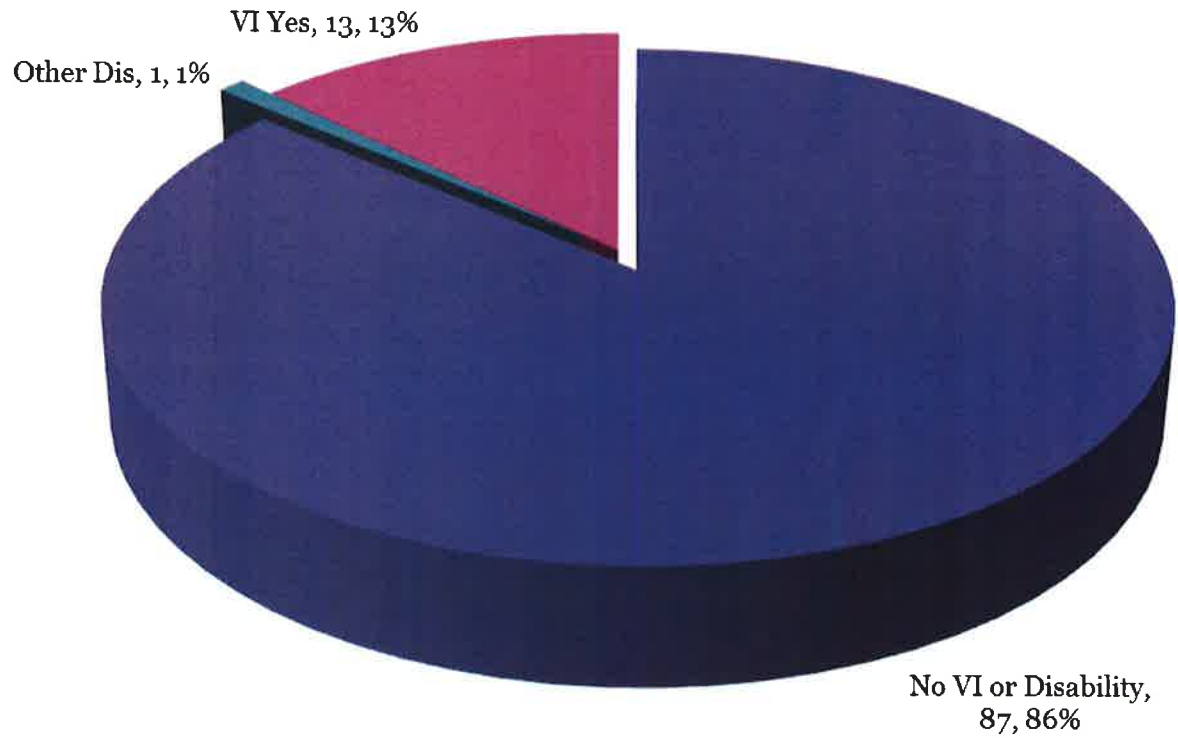


# Major SCCB Divisions (Positions)

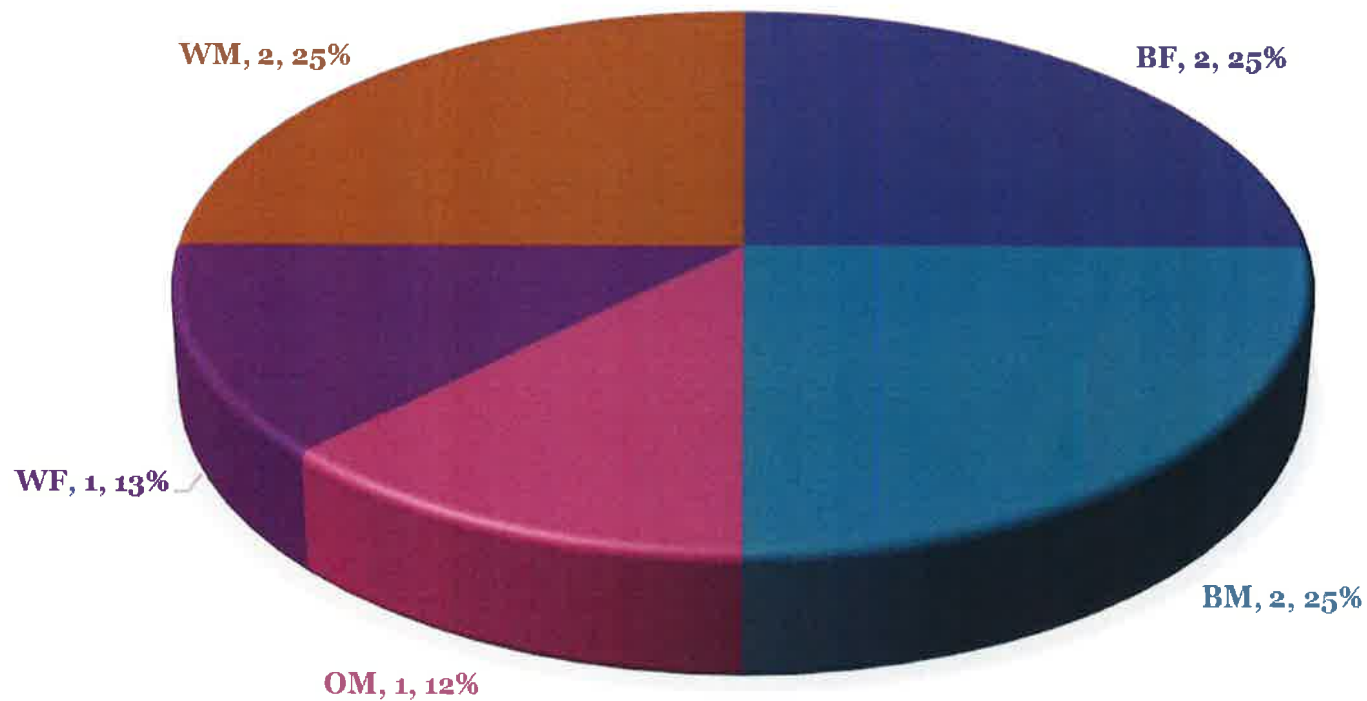


■ Support ■ VR ■ Children's ■ Older Blind ■

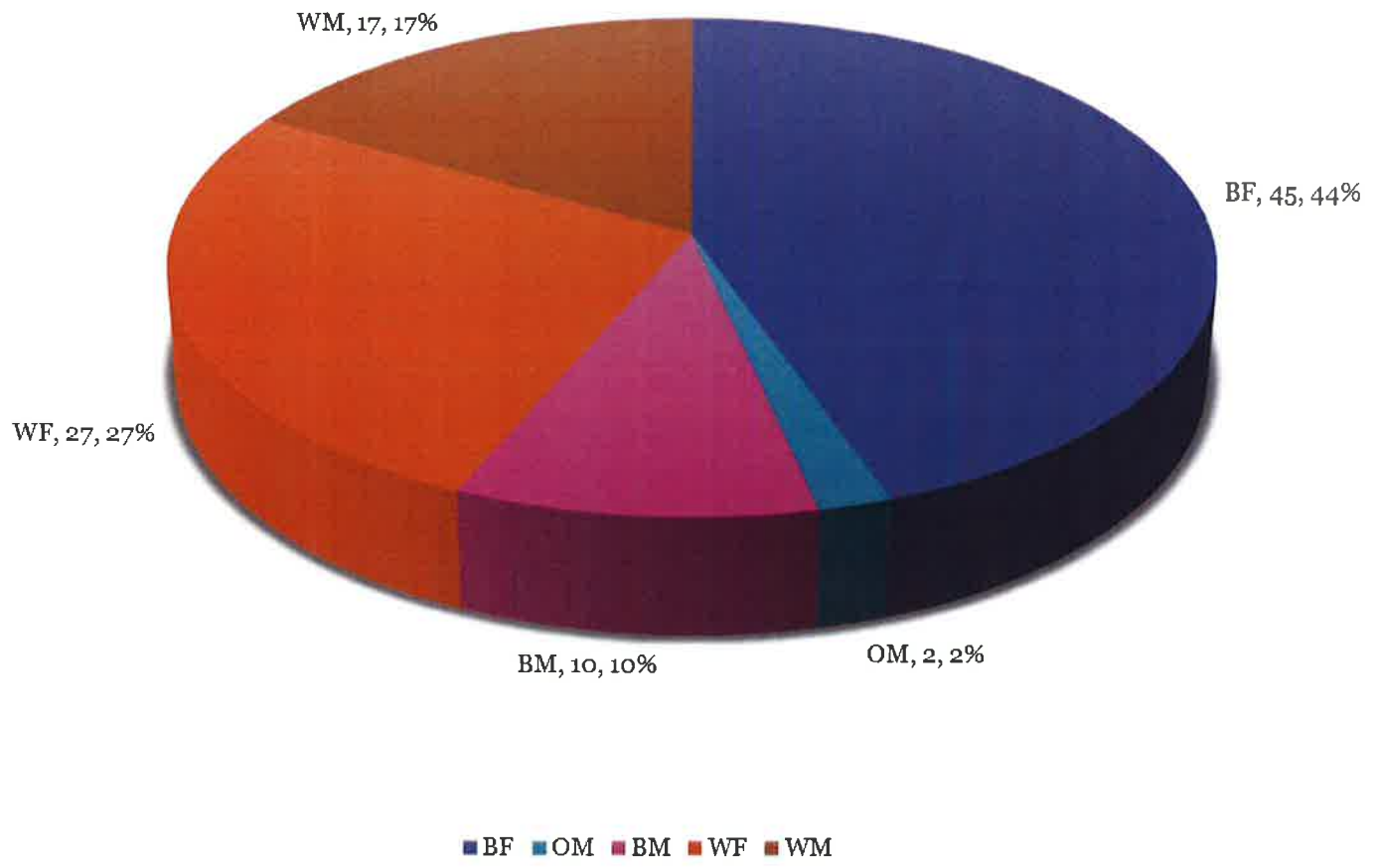
# Visual Impairment/Disability



# Senior Management



# Employees by Race/Sex



# Total Staff Race Ratios

