



South Carolina Commission for the Blind

FY 2024-25 BUDGET HEARING

Agency Officials

- ▶ Darline Graham, Commissioner
- ▶ Matt Daugherty, Operations Director
- ▶ Carol Anderson, Consumer Services Director
- ▶ Luis Mendoza, Human Resources Director
- ▶ J. Michael Daniels II, Quality Assurance Director
- ▶ Ryan Skinner, Business Services Director
- ▶ Mark Gamble, Communications Director

Agency Information

South Carolina Commission for the Blind

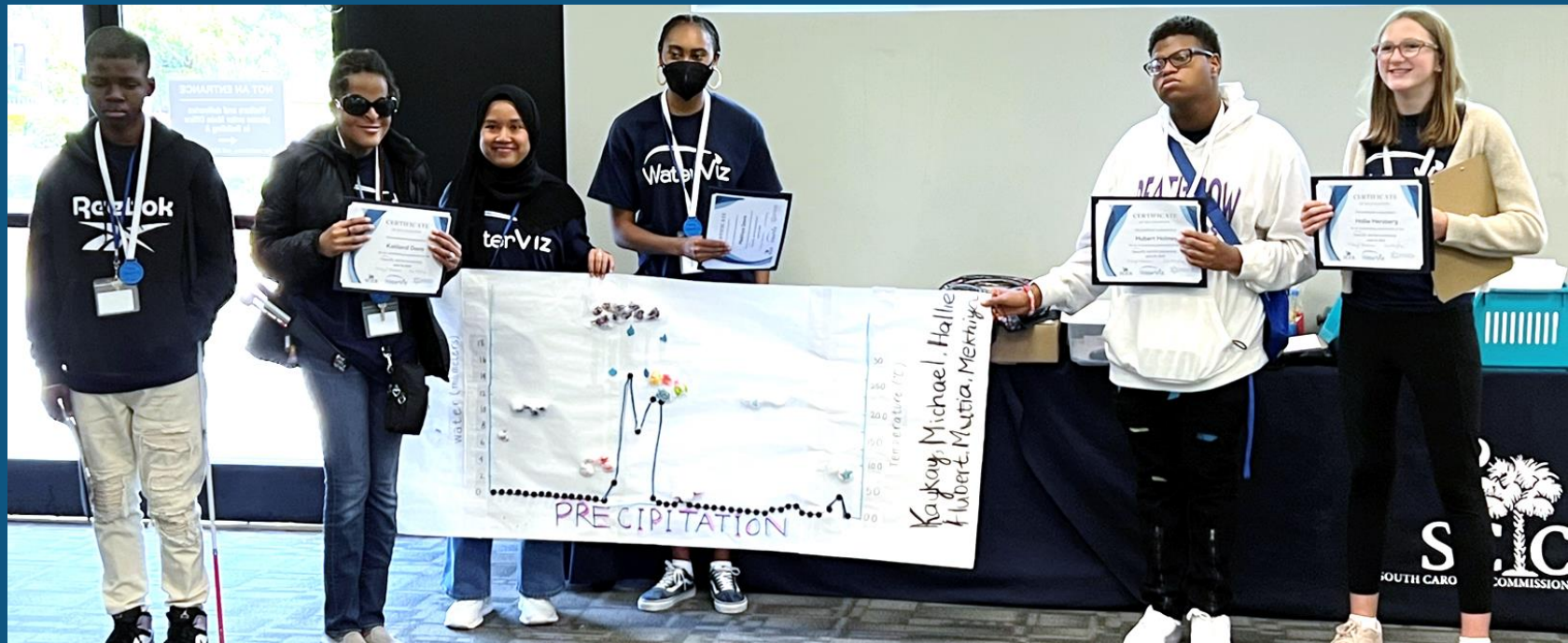
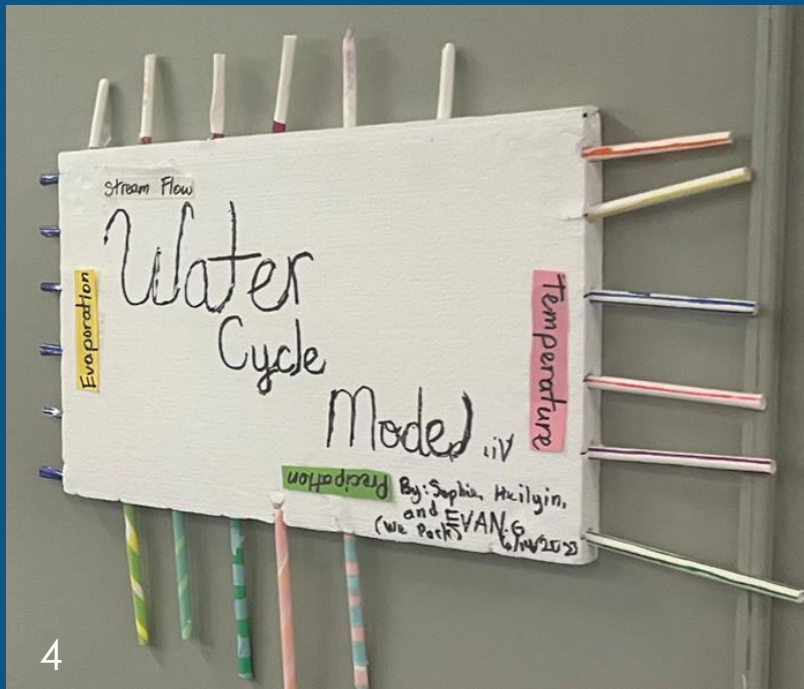


Our mission is to provide quality individualized vocational rehabilitation services, independent living services and prevention-of-blindness services to blind and visually impaired consumers, leading to competitive employment and social and economic independence.

Agency Highlights

Summer Teen 2023

WaterViz



Agency Highlights

Successful Employment Outcomes

Vocational Rehabilitation

98

Successful
employment
outcomes

\$17.51

Average
wage / week

34

Average
hours / week

Position

Hourly Wage

Property Real Estate
Manager

\$65.77

Financial Analyst

\$55.30

Counselor

\$50.00

Nuclear Technician

\$39.73

Business Operations
Specialist

\$30.29

Challenges

Increasing Older Population

- ▶ South Carolina's older population increasing each year
 - ▶ Aging (baby boomers)
 - ▶ More individuals retiring to SC
- ▶ Vision and eye problems increase with age
 - ▶ Diabetic retinopathy
 - ▶ Cataracts
 - ▶ Glaucoma
 - ▶ Macular degeneration



Increase in 65+
population
nationally



SC one of top 4
states retirees
65+ moving to



Increase in 65+
population
2010 to 2020

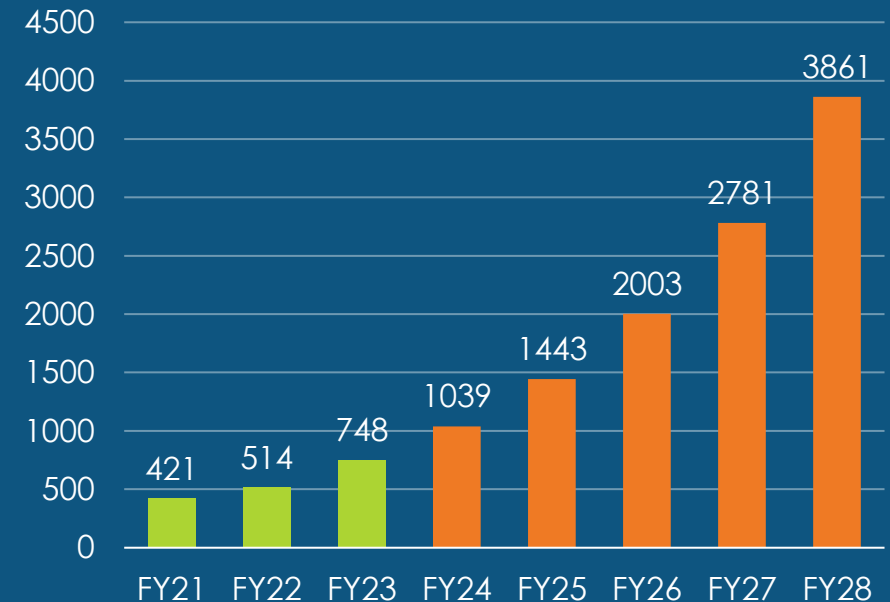
Recurring Budget Request

Older Blind Services Increase

Priority
1

- ▶ As SC's older population increases, more individuals are seeking our Older Blind services to remain independent in homes and communities
 - ▶ More than 700 consumers received Older Blind Services in FY23
 - ▶ Expect consumers served to double by FY25 compared to FY23
 - ▶ Staff struggling to meet needs of increased number of consumers

Increase in Older Blind Consumers Seeking Services



Recurring Budget Request

Older Blind Services Increase

Priority
1

- ▶ Add two (2) FTEs to provide more services to more individuals (\$123,589)
- ▶ Additional program funds to provide increased services and assistive technology devices (\$491,365)

\$614,954

\$ 85,234 (2 FTEs)
+ \$ 38,355 (fringes)

\$123,589

+

\$ 707 (cost per consumer served)
x 695 (increase in consumers FY25)

\$491,365

=

\$614,954

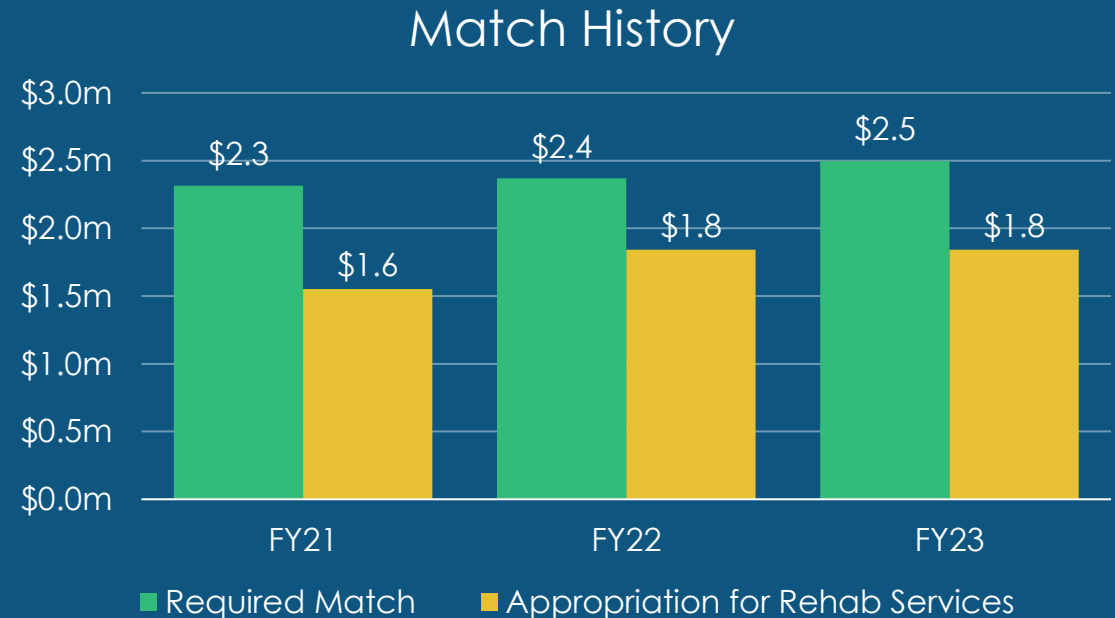
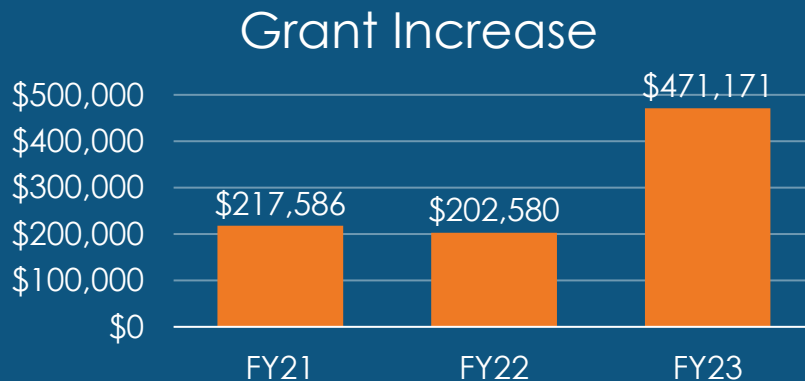
Recurring Budget Request

Match Request

Priority
2

\$552,732

- ▶ To receive federal grant award for Vocational Rehabilitation, SC has to match federal dollars (21.3%)
- ▶ Allow SCCB to continue fully matching its federal grant awards (so we do not lose federal dollars)
- ▶ Matching funds have increased little over 10 years



Recurring Budget Request

Administrative Support

Priority
3

\$311,536

- ▶ Help fund administrative positions that support all Consumer Services
 - ▶ We have not sought an increase in more than 10 years
 - ▶ Assist in recruiting and retaining administrative support staff
- ▶ Administrative Support encompasses
 - ▶ Providing consistent, high-level service to partners and programs
 - ▶ Providing support for staff who directly serve consumers

Recurring Budget Request

Authorization Increase for Federal Funds

Priority
4

\$977,604

- ▶ Federal grant awards increase annually
- ▶ Allow SCCB to fully utilize grant awards to provide effective consumer services

Wrap-Up

Thank you for your time, attention and support in considering our funding requests.