

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Young adults who are blind learn skills needed to live and work independently

NewView Oklahoma hosts fourth annual Keys to Work transitions institute in OKC

Oklahoma City, OK (June 7, 2019) – NewView Oklahoma offers valuable job readiness skills in their fourth annual Keys to Work transitions institute this June. Over the course of two weeks, 20 young adults who are blind or visually impaired will learn resume-writing, interviewing and self-advocating skills in addition to independent living techniques like adaptive cooking, independent travel, financial management and more.

“Whether they’re entering the workforce or preparing for college, our goal is to provide these participants with the tools and confidence they need to live successful, independent lives,” said NewView program director, Andrea Hamen. Throughout the institute, young adults will meet with local OKC businesspeople and leaders to practice interviewing, develop job readiness skills, and build their networks.

During the two-week program, Keys to Work participants will also spend time giving back to the community. On June 10, all participants will volunteer at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma to prepare food for kids’ meals.

“The Regional Food Bank is thrilled to have these young adults volunteer to help prepare meals for children we are serving through our Summer Feeding Program,” said Katie Fitzgerald, chief executive officer of the Regional Food Bank. “We hope this volunteer experience will encourage them to seek out other ways to contribute to their communities in the future.”

The Keys to Work program runs from June 2-15 and will take place at the Staybridge Suites airport location. To learn more about Keys to Work, visit nvoklahoma.org/community-programs/keys-to-work.

****MEDIA ALERT: PARTICIPANTS VOLUNTEER AT REGIONAL FOOD BANK OF OKLAHOMA****

Keys to Work participants will be volunteering at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma on Monday, June 10 in two shifts: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Media is invited to attend.

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About NewView Oklahoma:

NewView Oklahoma is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1949 with a mission to empower people who are blind and visually impaired to achieve their maximum level of independence through employment, low vision rehabilitation, and community outreach. NewView Oklahoma is the leading employer of the blind and visually impaired individuals in Oklahoma and offers the only comprehensive Low Vision clinics in the state. Visit online at www.newviewoklahoma.org or follow on Facebook and on Twitter.