



Gianna at Keys to Work 2019

The Keys to Success

We want you to meet Gianna. She was born with a visual impairment in China, where she lived in an orphanage until her adoption in 2011. **She is now a high school graduate and two-time participant in our Keys to Work program.**

The 2019 Keys to Work program was her favorite, she said. She learned to manage her time, schedule appointments, utilize assistive technology, and more. **Now, Gianna is ready to take on a life of independence after graduation.** Around NewView, Gianna's known for her big, bright smile and her exceptional orientation and mobility skills. When she is out and about with cane in hand, the girl can move!

Young adults like Gianna are an inspiration to us, and they're why we do what we do. Even though this year's Keys to Work program looks a little different with a new virtual format, we know each of our young adults is learning valuable skills that will set them up for success in college, the workforce, and beyond. To learn more about our community programs like Keys to Work, visit nvoklahoma.org/community-programs.

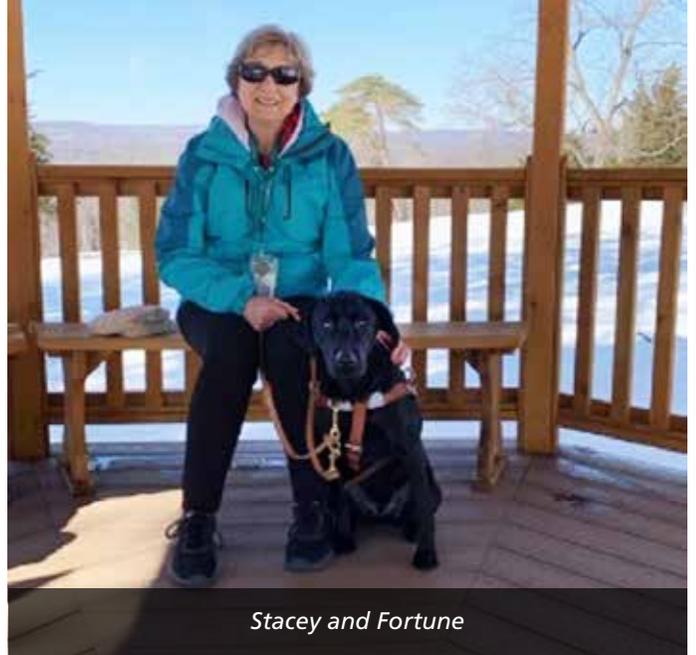
We want your feedback!

What type of content would you like to see in our next newsletter? We're committed to providing content that is helpful and informative to our community. Send us an email at marketing@newviewoklahoma.org with ideas, suggestions and feedback.

New Challenges, New Confidence

Stacey C. has lived with Retinitis Pigmentosa for years and has adjusted her life accordingly. She opts for large print on her devices, uses adequate lighting, and keeps everything in its designated place.

Recently, though, her field of vision began to shrink even more, and she became worried about her mobility. She contacted NewView and decided to pursue cane training with an Orientation and Mobility Specialist, where she met every challenge with confidence. She used her cane everywhere she went and asked her family to refrain from helping her immediately, as they had in the past. As she trained, she decided she might enjoy a guide dog. Training for a guide dog involves a lot of blindfold travel as the person learns to trust the dog completely. Stacey wholeheartedly embraced this process and soon met her new canine companion, Fortune.



Stacey and Fortune

With the help of NewView's training, she now experiences a whole new level of independence and can continue doing the things she loves, like attending her granddaughter's band performances, working until retirement, shopping independently, going to church, and so much more.



NewView employee, Chris, seals packaging for face shields

Need Personal Protective Equipment? Look to NewView.

As workplaces and individuals strive to keep their communities safe and healthy, the demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) continues to grow. When you purchase PPE from NewView, you're not just creating a safer community—you're **supporting NewView's mission of empowering people who are blind or**

visually impaired. You're helping us employ people just like Chris, pictured at left, come to work with a purpose and earn a respectable wage.

NewView now supplies the following PPE items:

- Nitrile gloves
- 3-ply face masks (child and adult)
- Infrared thermometers
- Hand sanitizer
- Face shields
- Sanitizing wipes
- Liquid sanitizer spray
- First aid kits

Place your order today by emailing newviewppe@newviewoklahoma.org.



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Lauren Branch,
PRESIDENT AND CEO

NVOklahoma.org

Please remember NewView in your will or trust.

Low Vision Tips: How to Be a Sighted Guide

Offering to be a sighted guide is a great way to help if you're out and about and see someone who could use assistance. Here are our top tips:

- 1. Ask permission.** Some people may not want or need guidance. Always start by asking the individual if they would like a sighted guide, and never touch without asking permission.
- 2. Offer your elbow.** Simply touch the back of your forearm to the back of theirs, and they will grip behind your elbow as if they're holding a can. This provides the safest and easiest method of guidance.
- 3. Walk normally and carefully.** Walk slightly ahead of the individual you're guiding. When moving through doorways or narrow spaces, slip your arm behind you so that the other person can still hold your elbow and follow you safely.



Paige G. offers sighted guidance at 2019 Blackout Brunch

- 4. Provide verbal cues.** Let them know when you're approaching a step, doorway, or turn. But remember, there's no need to raise your voice. (They're blind, not hard of hearing!)

Gifts in Action: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma awarded NewView Oklahoma \$36,980 to purchase mobile equipment to better serve patients in rural areas like Bartlesville. The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma's Healthy Kids, Healthy Families grant allowed NewView to purchase optometric, diagnostic and assessment equipment that NewView's optometrist and occupational therapist can easily transport to Bartlesville for monthly clinic days.

NewView was selected to receive this grant in late 2019, and efforts are being executed this



year. Thanks to this generous support, NewView will be able to serve hundreds of individuals challenged by vision loss living in Bartlesville and surrounding rural areas in Northeastern Oklahoma.

Thank you, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma!

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Upcoming Events

Keys to Work – Virtual

July 6 – 17, 2020

Keys to Work is a collaboration between NewView Oklahoma and other statewide agencies to provide comprehensive services including occupational therapy, orientation and mobility, and assistive technology. The curriculum is designed to prepare young adults with blindness or vision impairment as their primary disability for college and employment.

For more information about this year's program and virtual format, email Andrea at ahamen@newviewoklahoma.org.

Envision the Future Luncheon Tulsa – CANCELED

Due to continued uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, we have decided to cancel Envision the Future Tulsa, our annual luncheon. Our mission is still going strong, and we need your support. Please consider giving your planned luncheon gift at www.nvoklahoma.org/donate.

VITAL

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

VITAL (Veterans Independence Through Adaptive Living) provides social support to servicemen, servicewomen, and their families. VITAL meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month (September – May). As of now, we plan to resume meetings in September 2020. For the latest updates, email Andrea at ahamen@newviewoklahoma.org.

Veterans Corner

64 percent of veterans with service-related traumatic brain injuries have vision issues, including blurry or double vision, light sensitivity, peripheral vision loss, vision-related headaches, and difficulty with eye movements.

NewView is currently one of the only programs in the country with a team dedicated to working with vision loss caused by neurological damage. In 2019, NewView received a \$100,000 grant from the Boeing Company to provide rehabilitation and support group services for veterans with vision loss. These funds enabled NewView to purchase state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment to better serve our veterans with neurological vision loss.

If you or a veteran you know is experiencing vision loss related to brain injury, call us today at **(855) 811-9699**.

If you need this newsletter in a different format, contact us at info@newviewoklahoma.org. We will do our best to provide you with a format that meets your needs.

