

For Immediate Release

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Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired South Carolina Announces Two New Staff Members

Charleston, SC – The Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired South Carolina is pleased to welcome Bryson Young, Director of Major Gifts, and Ruthie Harman, Client Service and Office Manager, as the newest members of the staff. With locations in Charleston and Summerville, ABVI works to enrich the quality of life of the blind and visually impaired.

Bryson Young, Director of Major Gifts

As Director of Major Gifts, Young will play an integral role in the continued growth of ABVI by leading the organization's major gifts initiative, Visionary. Visionary was launched in 2018 as an initiative to cultivate and celebrate transformational gifts for ABVI. It is part of a larger organizational priority to draw greater numbers of stakeholders closer to our mission and goals for the future.

Young most recently worked as the Development Officer for Athletics – Major Gifts for The Citadel Foundation. In this role, she cultivated major gift prospects for The Citadel Athletics, managed a portfolio of top donors and worked to build the Athletic Scholarship Endowment Fund. Prior to that role, Young worked in various roles in athletic development with The Citadel Brigadier Foundation and with The Citadel Athletics. Young holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communications Studies from Clemson University and a Master of Arts in Sport Management from The Citadel.

Ruthie Harman, Client Service and Office Manager

As Client Service and Office Manager, Harman will manage all client intake and scheduling for ABVI. She will work directly with ABVI's clients to schedule them for classes focusing on vocational rehabilitation and personal independence. Harman will also oversee the day-to-day management of the ABVI office.

Prior to joining ABVI, Harman served as a Manager at Five Loaves Café for more than 10 years. In 2014, Harman became the first Managing Partner in the organization's history, where she oversaw all operations of the Summerville Five Loaves Café location. Prior to Five Loaves Café, Harman worked as an Associate Financial Representative for Northwestern Mutual Financial Network. Harman holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the College of Charleston.

To learn more about ABVI, visit www.abvisc.org.



About Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired South Carolina

The Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired South Carolina's (ABVI) mission is to enrich the quality of life of the blind and visually impaired. ABVI offers three service areas to support our mission: Center-Based Services, Community-Based Services and Guide Dog Scholarships. Through Center-Based Services, ABVI offers classes geared towards independent living and vocational rehabilitation. Classes are taught at our locations in Charleston and Summerville. Through Community-Based Services, we coordinate in-home occupational therapy sessions and orientation and mobility training. Annual Guide Dog Scholarships are provided to ABVI clients to help maintain and extend the working life of a guide dog and to enhance the quality of life for our blind and visually impaired clients. To learn more about ABVI's services, visit www.abvisc.org/services.