

For Immediate Release

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**Volvo Car US Operations Community Fund of
Coastal Community Foundation Awards \$7,500 to the
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired South Carolina**

Charleston, SC – The Volvo Car US Operations Community Fund of Coastal Community Foundation recently awarded a \$7,500 grant to the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired South Carolina (ABVI) supporting its *Own Your Life* program.

Through *Own Your Life*, ABVI provides personal independence and vocational rehabilitation training for blind and visually impaired adults in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties. Classes and opportunities include: Activities of Daily Living, Assistive Technology Tutoring, Braille, Client Connections (social events), Computer, Guide Dog Scholarships, Orientation and Mobility Training, Therapy (group and family) and Vocational Rehabilitation.

“There are an estimated 15,000-20,000 adults living in the Tri-County with a visual impairment. Yet, our Association is one of the only nonprofits dedicated to helping these individuals lead the independent and fulfilled lives they deserve,” said Courtney Plotner, CEO for ABVI. “We are excited to partner with Volvo to serve blind and visually impaired adults in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties so they can live, learn and earn with vision loss.”

There were 40 applicants for the grant. ABVI was one of 27 organizations that received funding. The Volvo Car US Operations Grants Committee reviews applications in 3 cycles annually.

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

About the 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. Through our *Own Your Life* program, ABVI helps blind and visually impaired adults in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties learn new approaches to daily life. ***Own Your Life* offers two tracks: Personal Independence** teaches adults how to navigate daily life with a visual impairment, while **Vocational Rehabilitation** helps clients who are ready to learn the adaptive skills needed to enter or re-enter the workforce. To learn more about ABVI’s services, visit www.abvisc.org/services.



About Coastal Community Foundation

Coastal Community Foundation (CCF) helps create vibrant communities by uniting people and investing resources. Founded in 1974 to make a lasting impact through permanent, endowed funds for charitable giving, CCF embodies the core values of stewardship, integrity, inclusion with equity and courage.

CCF serves nine counties across coastal South Carolina, manages more than \$250 million in assets (among the top 100 community foundations in the nation) and awarded more than \$26 million in grants in 2018. To learn more, visit coastalcommunityfoundation.org or call (843) 723-3635.

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