

For Immediate Release

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The Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired SC to Host a COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic for Adults with Visual Impairments

Ladson, SC- The Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired SC (ABVI) will host a vaccine clinic for adults with visual impairments on Thursday, June 24th from 10AM-2PM at their Ladson facility in Yale Plaza, located at 9565 Highway 78, Building 800, Ladson, SC 29456. SC DHEC will be administering the **Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine** to eligible adults (18+) with visual impairments and their caregivers. Free transportation will be provided via Tel-A-Ride, TriCounty Link and ride shares.

Adults who are blind or visually impaired face challenges related to independence and can struggle with isolation. These challenges have been exacerbated by the pandemic-as lifelines like public transportation, help from neighbors and using hands to discern landmarks while walking or items in a grocery store became unsafe. Vaccines can make these resources safe again, but scheduling challenges and transportation to and from clinic sites can make access to vaccines difficult for individuals in our community who are disabled. ABVI has partnered with the National Federation of the Blind, SC Commission for the Blind, SC Department on Aging, SC DHEC and Trident Area Agency on Aging to make vaccines accessible to all adults in the Tri-County with visual impairments.

Vaccines are free to eligible adults and their caregivers, and proof of insurance is not required. Interested adults must sign up in advance to guarantee their appointment. ABVI staff and volunteers will be present to offer sighted guide assistance and to help with reading and completing a 1-page consent form. Water and snacks will be provided for clinic participants. Contact ABVI at 843-723-6915 to schedule your vaccine appointment.

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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 adults who are blind, visually impaired or have a progressive eye condition 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.