

For Immediate Release

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Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired SC Receives \$5,000 Grant from Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation

Charleston, SC – Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation has awarded a \$5,000 grant to support the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired South Carolina’s (ABVI) Low Vision Occupational Therapy program. Through the Low Vision Occupational Therapy program, ABVI helps adults who are blind, visually impaired or have a progressive eye condition in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties make the most of their remaining vision, reduce the impact of their disability by promoting independence, participate in meaningful activities such as hobbies and more.

Occupational therapy helps people with vision loss preform daily tasks such as cooking and personal hygiene independently, helps older individuals age safely in place, reduces risk of falls, helps some individuals join the workforce, just to name a few. Through this program, ABVI helps clients achieve their personal and professional goals via comprehensive skills training, support services and educational offerings.

“ABVI’s Low Vision Occupational Therapy program provides individuals who are blind or visually impaired with independence skills training focused on everyday life activities, said Brooks Harken, ABVI’s Chief Programs Officer. “With the support of Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation, and other generous donors and grantors, ABVI has been able to offer Low Vision Occupational Therapy services which can include training on magnification devices as well as adaptive approaches to home management and personal care for over 100 clients throughout the past year.”

ABVI provides services out of training facilities in Charleston and Ladson and offers virtual training as well. There is no fee to become a client, and nearly all services are free of charge. The only requirement is to complete an application. To learn more about ABVI, visit www.abvisc.org.

ABVI is celebrating its 85th year of serving the visual needs of our community. ABVI is grateful to the donors, grantors and community partners who have helped us provide these critical independence training services for so many years.

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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