

Tri-Regional Blind-Low Vision Program: PROFESSIONALS AND OTHER TERMS

Assistive technology Device or equipment that helps individuals with disabilities function more independently (e.g., CCTVs, magnifiers, augmentative communication devices, reading stands).

Blind Low Vision Program A publicly funded initiative of the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services. Twelve regional programs are available to serve clients in each area of the province.

Tri-Regional Blind-Low Vision Program The regional program funded by the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services serving eligible clients who reside in the York Region, Durham Region, Peterborough, Northumberland & Haliburton Counties and City of Kawartha Lakes.

Deaf-blind Sometimes referred to as dual sensory impairment. A combination of hearing and visual impairments which require educational modifications. The Tri-Regional Infant hearing may provide the communication programming for children in their region who are deaf-blind.

Early Childhood Vision Consultant (ECVC) An individual who is a member of the Blind-Low Vision Program to deliver early intervention services and child care consultations to clients of the Blind- Low Vision Program.

Early Intervention Individualized programs of instruction and therapy developed for children to minimize the effects of disorders which may delay development and learning.

Markham Stouffville Hospital The Hospital's Child Development Programs offer Preschool Speech and Language Services. It is also the Lead agency for the Tri-Regional Blind-Low Vision Program and the Tri-Regional Infant Hearing Program.

Family Support Worker (FSW) A master's level (or equivalent) social worker in the Blind-Low Vision Program who assists and supports families in seeking appropriate resources and services for their child who is a client of the Blind-Low Vision Program.

Family Service Plan The plan for intervention services designed by the family, ECVC and other professionals, as applicable.

Mobility The ability to move safely and efficiently through one's environment.

Mobility system A guide or device (i.e. cane) which enables a person with a visual impairment to move independently through their environment.

Neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) Specialized unit in a hospital that provides intensive care for premature or ill newborn babies.

Ophthalmologist Medical doctor who specializes in the diagnosis of eye conditions and eye abnormalities. This doctor may perform surgery or prescribe other types of treatment including glasses and contact lenses.

Optician Professional who makes and adjusts optical aids from refraction prescriptions supplied by an ophthalmologist or optometrist.

Optometrist A licensed specialist trained to test the eyes and to detect and treat eye problems and some eye diseases by prescribing and adapting corrective lenses and other optical aids.

Orientation Knowing where you are, where you are going and how you are going to get where you want to be by interpreting available information in your environment.

Orientation and Mobility Specialist A person trained to teach those who are visually impaired to safely move around their environment. See also **Mobility** and **Orientation**.

Twin-vision books Books with both braille and print (also known as "braille-print" books)