The Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany (NABA) is one of the oldest not-for-profit 501(c) (3) organizations in the Capital Region founded in 1908. It provides vision rehabilitation, vocational assessment, job placement, low vision exams, and adaptive technology training to blind and visually impaired individuals. The organization also provides educational and recreational programming for blind children and programming for blind teens preparing to join the workforce. Our KidSight vision screenings program reaches thousands of preschool children each year.

Mission
To assist individuals who are blind or visually impaired achieve independence and growth. This is accomplished by providing services and support that are responsive and flexible to each person’s unique needs.

Vision
To provide the community with services and programs that help the visually impaired achieve, maintain, and enhance independence and growth.

Core Values
NABA will …

- Proactively serve the needs of the visually impaired and those who interact with them.
- Be the recognized leader in the provision of services to the visually impaired.
- Value the contributions of all employees and invest in developing them to achieve their personal goals and the goals of the agency.
- Be a financially sound, sustainable, dynamic, and diversified organization.
- Continually evaluate its progress and performance in all areas.

NABA provides services throughout eastern New York to residents of Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Sullivan, Ulster, Warren, and Washington Counties and limited services in other counties. The New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB) contracts with NABA to offer a full range of rehabilitation services throughout our 14-county service area and limited services in 20 other counties. This formal relationship is the only comprehensive program offered to visually impaired consumers in the greater Capital Region. NABA serves individuals ranging in age from 18 months to over 100 years.
Board of Directors

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Ex Officio – NABA Executive Director & CEO
Christopher T. Burke

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Christopher T. Burke

NABA
Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany

NABA
Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany
A Letter from
Christopher T. Burke,
Executive Director

Dear Friends of NABA,

I’ve written many letters like this for NABA’s Annual Report, but never after such a momentous year.

In 2020, life changed dramatically for most of us. As we begin to return to a “new normal”, we do so with humility but also with hope.

NABA, like so many other nonprofits, has a guiding mission and a commitment to help others. When the pandemic seemed to be turning life upside down, we paused, took stock in ourselves and developed protocols and procedures that allowed us to comply with all State and federal regulations, while continuing to serve the people we are charged with helping.

Our manufacturing department produces face masks, coveralls, disinfectant wipes and other safety products for City, State and military workers. Our workers were deemed essential and our staff never stopped meeting the demand for these products.

Everyone pitched in – from management to manufacturing workers to our cleaning crews – to keep all of NABA’s employees working and safe. Together, we played a key role in supporting front line workers by producing these vital supplies.

In addition to helping those on the front lines of the pandemic response, keeping NABA’s manufacturing operation going preserved well-paying jobs with benefits, in fully integrated environments, for people who are blind.

Through it all, we kept our clients, donors and supporters informed of our efforts. We retooled our outreach efforts and provided training, support and socialization opportunities virtually. Despite the economic downturn, year-end giving to NABA showed how generous our community is and how deeply valued our services are.

NABA is proud to be part of the network of nonprofit agencies that stepped up to face the pandemic in 2020. We know that with your support, we will be here in 2021 and for years to come, building a stronger community – together.

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Burke
NABA Executive Director
### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing and Rehabilitation Services</td>
<td>$4,501,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants / Development / Foundation Income</td>
<td>$1,461,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other / Interest Income / Rental Income</td>
<td>$174,884</td>
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**Total Revenues** $6,137,885

### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programs &amp; Services</td>
<td>$4,766,970</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support Services</td>
<td>$1,226,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Expenses</td>
<td>$144,391</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expenses** (Unaudited) $6,137,885

As of 3/4/21
Low Vision Services

NABA recognizes the unique needs of those with remaining vision. When vision cannot be corrected with regular eyeglasses to 20/70 or better, the condition is known as low vision. Simple tasks such as reading, writing, shopping, cooking, and watching television become difficult. At the Dr. Harry M. Judge Vision Rehabilitation Center, NABA evaluates the person’s functional vision and his/her ability to use available equipment for maximizing use of remaining vision.

Low vision can be attributed to a variety of causes such as age-related macular degeneration (AMD), cataracts, diabetes, glaucoma, eye injuries, and/or birth defects. Individuals with these conditions may have difficulty recognizing faces, selecting and matching the color of their clothes, seeing clearly with the lights on or feeling that the lights are dimmer than normal, and reading newspaper or regular print.

At NABA, our certified low vision specialist, Monica Casey-Gee, OD, will conduct a low vision examination to assess how magnification will allow the individual to function with their remaining vision, and then determine the correct amount of magnification needed and the type of device best suited to the situation. Devices prescribed may include high-powered reading glasses, lighted magnifiers, closed circuit televisions, as well as distance aids. Vision rehabilitation therapy, and/or orientation and mobility instruction, may also be recommended.

NABA assists individuals who have low vision or may be legally blind. If you have questions for yourself or someone else regarding these services, please talk to your eye care specialist or contact the agency directly.

Low Vision Exams

In 2020, NABA provided low vision exams to the following consumers:

- Senior Exams Alps: 73 consumers
- Vocational Rehabilitation (adults in NYSCB programs): 27 consumers
- Private Pay: 108 consumers
- Independent Living/NYSCB: 3 consumers
- Employees at NABA: 5 staff
- Children in NYSCB Programs: 5 consumers
2020 Demographics for ALP (over age 55)

2020 Numbers served by County:

Albany: 91 (37%)
Schenectady: 37 (15%)
Rensselaer: 34 (14%)
Columbia: 6 (2%)
Greene: 20 (8%)
Schoharie: 11 (5%)
Montgomery: 14 (6%)
Saratoga: 29 (12%)
Ulster: 1 (.5%)
Washington: 1 (.5%)

Total served 244
2020 By Eye Condition:
ARMD: 145 (56%)
Glaucoma: 42 (16%)
Diabetic Retinopathy: 14 (5%)
Other: (23%)
Total conditions listed: 261

(some clients reported more than one major condition)
Vision Rehabilitation Services

Vision Rehabilitation Therapy

NABA’s vision rehabilitation therapists (VRTs) provide in-home, one-on-one instruction, allowing legally blind consumers to manage daily tasks and remain independent. These consumers learn new techniques for ordinary activities ranging from cooking to reading, from telling time to sewing, from using calculators to using washing machines.

Vision rehabilitation therapy can involve a wide array of adaptive equipment and teaching methods to ensure that NABA consumers are able to continue living independently at home, obtain or maintain employment, and participate in community life. VRTs teach consumers how to use prescribed low vision aids in all training areas, which include, but are not limited to:

- Communications activities, such as writing, telephone usage, and using electronic appliances;
- Personal management, such as shaving, applying makeup, and managing medications;
- Meal management, such as pouring beverages, chopping foods, and using the oven;
- Home management, such as vacuuming, doing laundry, and setting a thermostat; and
- Financial management, such as writing checks, maintaining an accurate register, and identifying money.

Orientation & Mobility

Being able to travel independently and safely is a critical part of dealing with vision loss. This includes knowing where you are and how to get where you need to go. NABA orientation and mobility specialists provide instruction in safe travel skills and ways to establish and maintain orientation. Orientation and mobility services allow the individual to gain better spatial awareness and travel independence. Lessons are individualized, taught inside and outdoors, and may incorporate the use of a sighted guide, cane skills, public transportation, and using existing vision aided by low vision equipment.

During the pandemic, NABA created a tactile map for the Youth Center. A tactile map is used in O&M to represent any space or a route a person with a visual impairment may need to learn and become familiar with. Since maps are often too small to read and do not come in large print format, O&M Specialists make tactile maps for their students and consumers.

NABA orientation and mobility specialists created such a 2-foot square map for NABA’s Youth Program Center with an adaptive teaching kitchen and laundry room. Some materials used to give tactual representation to things such as walls, carpet, pillars, stairs, windows were sandpaper, fence staples, fence/door joints, coated wire, 1/4” PSI tubing, paint stirs, matchstick ends, nut bolt caps, Velcro and glue.

The map’s legend is written in braille with samples of the materials used to represent the different tactile surfaces, like sandpaper for carpet. Where tactile surfaces could not be conveyed, braille abbreviations were used, like “Si” for the many sinks on the map.
Social Work

Adjusting to and coping with vision loss can be very difficult emotionally. NABA’s social workers help individuals to adjust to their vision loss, guiding them to develop coping, problem-solving, and decision-making skills, while reducing stress and anxiety. This encourages the individual’s personal growth and complements the vision rehabilitation program.

Managing the emotional effects of vision loss has always been difficult, but the global pandemic brought up different challenges that we have not previously dealt with. NABA Social workers traditionally visited 2-4 clients each day for in-person sessions. Once the pandemic shut everything down, they had to quickly switch to tele-health to meet with our participants. They are now working with 4-8 clients per day, doubling contact with consumers.

Tele-health challenged our staff to find new ways to engage with consumers over a distance and with many distractions while using the phone. Many NABA consumers experienced an increase in depression and anxiety due to the isolation and uncertainty of the pandemic. NABA staff shared information about the virus with consumers as well as strategies to remain safe. NABA consumers who could not travel or had health risks needed assistance with access to food. NABA staff advocated for food distribution services for clients who did not qualify for these resources before the pandemic.

NABA’s two social workers saw their caseloads increase from 20-25 consumers to 40 at the height of the pandemic. They provided extra support to Vision Rehabilitation clients who were trying to find work during the shutdown and for children who had to learn how to use new tools for virtual learning. NABA also started a COVID-19 Low Vision support group to help our consumers cope with vision loss coupled with isolation.

Assistive Technology Instruction

NABA is often called on to assess the needs of individuals and match them with technologies that will allow them to succeed at work or school. Training is provided on how to use the adaptive hardware and software. NABA specialists are available to consult with schools, businesses, and organizations that have employees or students with assistive technology needs.

Aids & Appliances

NABA offers adaptive items and products for sale for the blind and visually impaired. To place an order, contact us at 518-463-1211.

Senior Rehabilitation Services 2020
(55 Years of Age+)

- Vision Rehabilitation Therapy – 183 consumers and 409 hours of service
- Orientation and Mobility Training – 89 consumers and 262 hours of service
- Social Casework – 78 consumers and 494 hours of service
- Assistive Technology – 30 consumers and 108 hours of service
Employment Services Overview

In addition to vision rehabilitation therapy, orientation and mobility training, social work, and low vision, NABA provides programs for consumers to prepare them for employment.

Vocational services are tailored to the consumer based on age, skills, and prior employment. Programs include pre-vocational training, work experience training, work readiness groups, job seeker workshops, and placement services. NABA rehabilitation staff strives to prepare consumers to be successful employees, develop skills, and gain confidence and independence.

Pre-Vocational Training

NABA targets teens aged 14-18 with two programs, Moving Toward Work and SKILLS (Success is Knowledge, Independence, and Lifelong Learning for Students). These two- or five-day programs offer opportunities to try out various entry-level tasks and help NABA employment specialists assess work readiness abilities, strengths, and interests. Participants learn about appropriate work attire, workplace behavior, résumé writing, where to look for jobs, how to fill out an employment application, and interview guidelines.

Work Experience Training (WET) Program

For our consumers seeking an opportunity to try new jobs, get a head start in their careers, and build their resumes, NABA offers the WET program, a six-to-eight week work experience. Employers who partner with NABA to make the WET program successful do so at no cost to their businesses. The participant and job coach are NABA employees with all related paperwork, liability, and workers compensation is NABA’s responsibility. The employment specialist maintains communication with the participant, employer, and job coach to ensure a meaningful and productive experience for all.

Any issues, concerns, or suggestions are used as learning and growing opportunities and are addressed promptly. Whether an individual is new to the workforce or returning to the workforce, the WET program allows participants to build their résumé while gaining valuable experience and job skills. Participating employers in the WET program often express how much they learned and benefited from having a NABA-supported WET candidate. Many employers ask to participate repeatedly and, in some cases, employers have hired WET candidates permanently.

It is only through the support of leaders in the business community that NABA can provide quality and professional employment services to help people with vision loss.

Work Readiness Program

This group program focuses on the skills needed to attain and support employment. Topics include communication, stress management, balancing work and personal life, disability disclosure, workplace ethics, goal setting, and more. The six-day program is held at NABA and is presented by NABA employment specialists with guest speakers including orientation and mobility specialists, vision rehabilitation therapists, social workers, and local business leaders.
Job Placement Services
Candidates in the placement program are assessed and provided assistance with job seeking activities and job development as needed. Once hired, NABA provides support to the employer and employee for the first three months of employment to ensure that the transition into the new position is smooth and successful. Partnering with NABA's placement program allows employers to demonstrate their commitment to maintaining a diverse workforce while hiring pre-screened and qualified individuals.

This all-encompassing program begins with a placement assessment to determine if the candidate has the skills and abilities to engage in job seeking activities and, ultimately, to independently maintain employment. During the assessment, the candidates’ interests, skills, and preferences are explored and a mock interview is conducted. Any concerns or additional training needs are addressed prior to entering the job seeking/job development phase.

Placement candidates get help with: creating a résumé, cover, and thank you letters; completing applications; improving interview skills; and finding job leads.

Employers who hire a NABA placement candidate have access to NABA's qualified professionals who can assist with installing and updating assistive technology, ensuring that communication devices work effectively, and addressing any concerns that may arise.

Vocation Rehabilitation Services 2020
(21 Years of Age+ with a Vocational Goal)

- Vision Rehabilitation Therapy – 54 consumers and 119 hours of service
- Orientation and Mobility Training – 46 consumers and 194 hours of service
- Social Casework – 45 consumers and 345 hours of service
- Work Experience Training – 10 consumers and 140 hours of service – 973 hours worked by consumers
- Employment Services – 14 consumers and 298 hours of service
- Work Readiness – 17 consumers and 404 hours of service
Youth Programs
Youth and Teen Programs
The NABA youth program provides recreational and rehabilitation programs to blind and visually impaired youth ages eight through eighteen. Students in a 14-county region are eligible for NABA services and 39 youth attended programs in 2020. A strong emphasis is placed on providing vision rehabilitation instruction and learning life skills, as well as providing important opportunities for socialization and building lasting friendships.

One Saturday per month, over school breaks, and for two weeks each summer, the program offers a wide variety of fun activities. Students practice orientation and mobility techniques, gain confidence in advocating for themselves, and improve daily living skills such as cooking in our teaching kitchen. A list of the 2020 youth activities follows.

In 2020, we remained flexible and adapted to the pandemic by running both virtual and safe in-person programs; maintaining important connections with our youth families, and keeping kids and teens connected with their visually-impaired peers. This summer, with the support of the Seymour Fox Foundation, NABA purchased 15 iPads to lend to students who needed to connect with us for virtual programs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Bowling &amp; group games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Exercising at Albany Ninja Lab, skating at Bethlehem YMCA, tactile painting, cardio drumming, crafts, scavenger hunt around NABA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Family Trivia Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>The Friends’ Circle Socialization Skills Program (virtual)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>S.K.I.L.L.S. 1 &amp; 2 Pre-vocational Programs (virtual)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Orienteering using Microsoft Soundscape technology in Albany’s Washington Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Hiking at Wilton Wildlife Preserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Hiking at Albany Pine Bush Preserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Financial Empowerment Day for Teens (virtual)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Gift exchange &amp; party (virtual)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Family Holiday Trivia event (virtual)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rehabilitation Services
MAPS  
(Mentorship, Advocacy, and Public Speaking):

MAPS is a new initiative for the NABA Youth Program. By supporting and encouraging NABA teens to tell their personal stories of growth and challenges in their own words, they will inform and teach the next generation about the capabilities of people who are blind or visually impaired.

- Students will share stories with younger children in their school districts (ideally back at their own elementary school where they may already have personal connections to former teachers) or to local community groups (i.e. scout troops).

- The goal is for NABA teens to improve their self-advocacy skills, increase their self-esteem, have fun, show pride in their personal achievements and become leaders in their home communities through public speaking.

Leaders:
- Senia Fleming, Coordinator of Youth Services at NABA
- Nate Modafferi, Social Worker at NABA
- Megan Hale, Former NABA Youth Program Student & Current College Student

Who: Currently, 6 NABA Youth Program Teens are participating

Where: In person at NABA’s Youth Center, outdoors at a local park or via Zoom

When: 60 min. meeting, once a month

Youth Rehabilitation Services 2020

- Vision Rehabilitation Therapy – 8 consumers and 35 hours of service
- Orientation and Mobility Training – 5 consumers and 34 hours of service
- Social Casework – 8 consumers and 20 hours of service
- Assistive Technology – 6 consumers and 53 hours of service
- Work Experience Training – 9 consumers and 89 hours of service and 1,481 hours worked by consumers
- Pre-Vocational – 6 consumers and 78 hours of service
- Recreational and Rehabilitation Programs – 39 consumers and 724 hours of service
- SKILLS – 12 consumers and 108 hours of service
- Job Coaches – 19 hired
KidSight provides free early childhood screening for preschool children to detect vision problems. NABA’s KidSight Coordinator visits daycare centers, preschools, and kindergarten classes and takes pictures of the children’s eyes with a photo screener. This sophisticated camera detects the presence of refractive errors like hyperopia (farsightedness), myopia (nearsightedness) as well as amblyopia (lazy eye). If a child is flagged for a potential vision problem, NABA notifies the parent or guardian of the child as well as the child’s pediatrician to recommend a complete eye exam. Statistics show that lower-income families face additional challenges in scheduling these follow-up visits, including a lack of transportation, so NABA works with these families to ensure that children see an eye specialist.

Undetected vision problems can cause significant problems for children, and early identification and treatment is key. Of the children who are referred for follow-up, some 90% need glasses or other correction and 10% have major vision issues. All of these children are recommended to see an eye specialist.

NABA would like to thank the Area Lions Clubs who partner with us for our KidSight Programs:

- Albany-Troy Lions Club
- Ballston Spa Lions Club
- Bethlehem Lions Club
- Cambridge Lions Club
- Duane Lions Club
- Glens Falls Lions Club
- Gloversville Lions Club
- Greater Amsterdam
- Greater Johnstown Lions Club
- Greater Ravena Area Lions Club
- Mechanicville Stillwater Lions Club
- Saratoga Springs Lions Club
- Town of Galway Lions Club
- Town of Greenfield Lions Club
- Town of Hoosick Lions Club
- Town of Wright/Schoharie Valley Lions Cub
- Utica Lions Club
- Waterford Lions Club
The NABA Manufacturing Department offers competitive wages, health and retirement benefits, and growth potential for our blind, visually impaired, and sighted associates. The entire organization is built on the belief that every one of our associates plays an integral part in the overall success of NABA. With the funds generated by our hard-working manufacturing associates, we are able to offer the highest level of rehabilitation training programs and services to blind and low vision residents in the 14 counties that NABA serves.

NABA’s manufacturing department is part of the Ability One Program and NABA transitioned to the newest ISO standard, ISO 9001:2015. NABA also participates in the New York State SHARP Program with the NYS Department of Labor.

NABA’s manufacturing department is staffed with individuals who are blind working alongside individuals with other disabilities or no disability at all. Production of goods for New York State and federal government customers creates well-paying jobs with benefits, in fully integrated environments, for people who are blind.

In 2020, NABA added the following items to our manufacturing portfolio:
- Knit Caps for NYPD
- Cleaner for NYS-DMV
- Shirts & Jackets for Albany Parking Authority
- Provided document imaging services for OSC and other state agencies
- Kitting for Community Learning

In 2020, the department shipped $3,666,318 worth of product consisting of 21 cases of barricade tape, 116,547 neck tabs/neckerchiefs, 35,863 safety vests, 1,014 safety flags, 3,558 cases of coveralls, 2,205 packs of cable ties, 8,440 cases of cleaner, 8,440 wipes and other cleaning products, 7,947 uniform pieces, 4 kits of trooper shoes, 1,262 drug test kits, 101 dozen bed pads, 2,437 lighting fixtures and 15,980 facemasks.
NABA’S 2020 VISIONARY GALA WAS CANCELED DUE TO COVID-19

At the onset of COVID-19 pandemic, our hearts were heavy as it became necessary to cancel our Annual Gala. We look forward each year to celebrating the leadership, dedication and commitment from our community that supports NABA’s mission.

We look forward to celebrating in 2021 our 2020 honorees on June 10, 2021 at Franklin Plaza:

2020 Volunteer of the Year
David Hollander
Sano-Rubin Construction Services LLC

2020 Professional of the Year
Jitka Zobal-Ratner, M.D.

2020 Corporate Partner of the Year
Walter S. Borisenok Family Foundation

Thank You to 2020 Visionary Gala Sponsors!

**PLATINUM**

WOFF
Sano-Rubin Construction Services

**GOLD**

Tri City Rentals

**SILVER**

Empire Wine

**BRONZE**

Ophthamlic Plastic Surgery
Dr. Edward Wladis

John G. Walsh
Senior Portfolio Manager

**COPPER**

James F. Carriero & Theresa Planck

The Crisafulli Family

Glennpeter Jewelers

Capital Region Retina, PLLC
Retina and Vitreous Specialist

RBC Wealth Management

Star and Strand Transportation
Jay Schneider & Kris McLoughlin

The College of Saint Rose
NABA’s 21st Annual Visionary Golf Tournament was held on Monday September 14, 2020 and will be unforgettable as it took place in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. Wolferts Roost Country Club and NABA’s staff worked together to ensure the day was safe for all players. The weather was perfect for a day on the course, guests that attended had an enjoyable day, and appreciated that NABA was able to have the annual golf tournament during a pandemic.

The proceeds from the tournament benefited NABA’s Adaptive Living Program for Senior Citizens and NABA’s Dr. Harry Judge Vision Rehabilitation Center. A rapidly increasing proportion of the aging population experiences eye problems, which make simple daily tasks difficult. The risk of severe eye problems has been found to increase significantly with age, particularly in those age 65 years and over.

We congratulate the winners of the 21st Annual Golf Tournament

1st Low Gross - 58
Mark Charette, Ken Conklin, Mike Kerin and Jack Wennstrom

1st Low Net - 50
John Bryce, Bill Friebel, Jim Kircher and Gary Kubish

2nd Low Net – 51
Jonathan Scherzer, Steve Wacksman, David Williams and Lance Zarcone

3rd Low Net – 54
Christopher Greagan, Bryan Gregory, Patrick Rabideau and Bob Welch

Longest Drives Men and Woman
Matt Welch
Elle Kellogg

Closet to the Pin Men and Women
Dan Courtney
Kayla O’Hare

Thank you to our generous sponsors:
Paul S. Fellenbaum – Glaucoma Services, P.C.
RBC Wealth – Jim Watkinson, First Vice President- Branch Director
Cornea Consultants of Albany, PLLC
Regeneron
Sano-Rubin Construction Services
Trustco Bank
UBS – John G. Walsh, Senior Portfolio Manager
Lakeland
CDTA
Walter S. Borisenok Family Foundation
Cooley Volkswagen Mazda
NABA 2020 Auction Donations

NABA would like to thank all the companies, organizations, individuals, etc. who donated auction items to all our events in 2020. It is through your SUPPORT that we are able to assist the visually impaired and blind in our community achieve independence and growth.

Albany Capital Hills Golf Course  
Albany Civic Theatre  
Albany Country Club  
Albany Pump Station  
Albany Symphony Orchestra  
David Barron  
Bay Optical  
Carl Benevento  
Benson’s Pet Center  
Black & Blue Steak and Crab  
Buenau’s Optician’s, Inc.  
Buffalo Bills  
Christopher and Courtney Burke  
Cooking School @ Market Bistro  
Del Lanes  
Ann Marie Demski  
Kathleen Finnigan  
Brent Flagler  
Senia and Josh Fleming  
Glennpeter Jewelers Diamond Centre  
Eileen P. Guarino  
Gary Hasbrouck  
Gail A. Hessney  
Hilton Albany  
Hilton Garden Inn Clifton Park  
Hoffman Development Corporation  
Honest Weight Food Co-op, Inc.  
Palette  
Hyatt Place Saratoga/Malta  
Kenya James

Jiminy Peak Mountain Resort  
Lisa Jordan  
Kennedy Ophthalmology Associates  
Lake George Steamboat Company  
Shawn Lemieux  
Mary Martin & Co. Day Spa  
MicroKnowledge, Inc.  
Mohegan Sun  
Michael and Kristina Murray  
National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum  
National Museum of Dance  
National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame  
New York Football Giants  
Nicole’s Restaurant  
Nine Pin Cider Works  
Charles and Michele O’Hare  
Oldcastle Theatre Company  
Maureen and Richard Pagano  
Panera Bread - Operation Dough-Nations Team  
Aren Paster  
Premiere Transportation  
Proctors Theatre  
RBC Wealth Management - James Watkinson  
RPI Athletics  
Rushme Stuff  
Erick Hoppel and Colleen Ryan  
Ryanswood Studio  
Silverado Jewelry Gallery  
Six Flags Great Escape Lodge & Indoor Waterpark
NABA 2020 Auction Donations

Liz Benjamin and Steve Smith, Jr.
PJ Stasenko
Maureen Strainge
Anonymous
The Arlington House
The Blue Hen at The Adelphi
The Cheesecake Factory
The Egg Performing Arts Center
The Morgan State House
The Rockwell Museum
The Strand Hair Studio
Tri-City Valley Cats
Troy Savings Bank Music Hall
Union College Athletics
James and Sharon Watkinson
Williams Sonoma, Inc.
Wine and Spirits of Slingerlands
Ted and Lianne Wladis
Friends of NABA

It is through our generous donors that help to make NABA’s Mission possible. These contributions to NABA directly assist people needing our services, and we are very grateful to you. The following lists represent donors who have made gifts, honorariums and memorial gifts to NABA between January 1 and December 31, 2020. Every effort has been made to ensure a complete and accurate list. Please call us at 518-463-1211 x 241 or x 201 with any errors or omissions. Thank You!

$10,000 Plus
Patrick Barrington
The Edward D. Cammarota Foundation Inc./Sandra Hutchinson

$9,999 - $5,000
The Don and Sandy Carman Fund
Eugene M. Lang Foundation
Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery
The Parsons Family Foundation
Sano-Rubin Construction Services, LLC
Tri City Rentals
Walter S. Borisenok Family Foundation

$4,999 - $2,000
Christopher and Courtney Burke
Jim Carriero and Terri Planck
CDTA
Competitive Advantage Group LLC
Glaucoma Services, P.C.
Charles O’Hare and Michele Puleo O’Hare
Premiere Transportation
RBC Wealth Management - James Watkinson
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc
Saratoga Springs Lions Club
Seamless Development Inc.
Liz Benjamin and Steve Smith, Jr.
Times Union
TrustCo Bank
United Way of the Greater Capital Region
John and Debra Walsh
Anonymous
Jitka L. Zobal-Ratner, MD

$1,999 - $1,000
David Barron
James G. Brennan
C Tech A Company of Cohen Technology, Inc.
Capital Region Retina, PLLC
Cohoes Savings Foundation, Inc.
Cornea Consultants of Albany, PLLC
Kirk Cornwell
Pete Andolina
Foy Foundation Advised Fund of the CFGCR
Glennpeter Jewelers
Diamond Centre
Christopher and Shirley Greagan
Kenya James
Kenney Fund of the CFGCR
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The objective Frank Frost set out to accomplish in 1908 was a simple one – “to improve conditions of the blind.” Based upon his ideals, goals, and determination, NABA was born. Today, more than seventy years after Frost’s death in 1946, NABA is still striving to improve the everyday conditions of the blind and visually impaired.

Established in 2011, the Frank Frost Legacy Society is designed to honor and continue Mr. Frost’s work. We assist forward-thinking community members who are able to make a commitment to NABA via their estates. These charitable gifts can be bestowed in many ways, such as a life income plan, a bequest in a will, a personal trust, or even the gift of life insurance. Legacy Society membership requires a formal gift commitment.

NABA also honors our members by recognizing them in our annual report and the Legacy Society’s Annual Donor Recognition Publication. This presents your name to the public and shows your support for the Legacy Society and NABA. It also helps to encourage others to join in this important cause with you. As a final benefit NABA will provide firsthand knowledge of information, tips, and any ongoing professional gift planning services to members of the Legacy Society.

If you would like more information about the Frank Frost Legacy Society, or want to explore the best options suitable for you and your family before making the commitment, please call NABA at 518-463-1211 ext.241.
Estate Bequests and Annual Trust Distributions Received from January 2020–December 2020

- Estate of Mary Lou Cronin
- Charles H. Douglas Charitable Trust
- Estate of Charlotte Kullnig
- Marcella and Donald E. Weed Memorial Fund of the CFGCR
- Estate of Russell Hammond
- John P. & Mable I. Ogsbury Memorial Trust
- Marion L Smith Trust
- The Margaret E. Charron Revocable Living Trust
- Trust Under Will of LeGrand B. Fowler
- Trust Under Will of Nina M. Michalewski

Grants Received January 2020 – December 2020

- Albany County Youth Bureau
- Capitalize Albany Corporation
- Christmas Wish Campaign of News Radio WGY and Curtis Lumber
- Cohoes Savings Foundation, Inc.
- Marjorie Rockwell Fund for the Disabled of the CFGCR
- National Industries of the Blind (NIB)
- Niskayuna Community Foundation General Fund of the CFGCR
- RBC Wealth Management , RBC Foundation - USA
- Ruth E. Curtiss Hearing and Sight Impaired Fund of the CFGCR
- Sarah K. de Coizart Article Tenth Perpetual Charitable Trust
- Stewart’s Foundation, Stewart’s Holiday Match
- Stewart’s Shops and the Dake Family Find of the CFGCR
- Walmart
- William Gundry Broughton Charitable Private Foundation, Inc.
NABA offers a series of educational programs, including “Understanding and Living with Low Vision” and “Aging Successfully with Low Vision – What YOU Can Do!” Designed for seniors, healthcare providers, and family caregivers, these popular programs provide information on: the four leading causes of vision loss in older adults; early warning signs; living with and adjusting to vision loss; caring for persons with vision loss; vision rehabilitation services; available resources; and low vision aids, such as magnifiers, adaptive devices and “talking” aids.

NABA education programs are offered at no cost to groups, clubs, businesses, and organizations. Custom programs can be designed for children, students, or teachers on related topics such as blindness or sighted-guide instruction.

Our Communications, Outreach, and Development department is available to speak about NABA low vision programs, products, and services, as well as anything blindness-related, partnering with organizations in the community, assisting with funding opportunities, etc. We will make a presentation to your business, school, support group, senior center, or home.

How Can I Help?

NABA recognizes that individuals have different interest, talents, and time schedules, so we have various positions in which you can volunteer to best suit you. Some of these opportunities include: Community Services, which may include assisting individuals with visual impairments by being a friendly visitor, reading mail, books, or magazines to them, and Internal Support, which may include volunteering at NABA’s headquarters and assisting employees with recording information for blind staff members via tape, assisting with special events, providing artistic and graphic design skills in the development of displays, photographs, and literature and computer support. NABA offers volunteers a thorough orientation and training session to ensure that you’re volunteering to the best of your ability.

Event Planning Committees
1. Golf – Benefit NABA’s Senior Programs
2. Saratoga Fall Event - Benefit NABA’s Youth Programs, NABA KidSight and Low Vision Program at the Saratoga Community Health Center
3. Visionary Gala – Benefit NABA Seniors, Youth, and Employment

NABA Blind Artist Society
1. Assist in recruiting new members
2. Researching and booking galleries
3. Assisting with the website for BAS
4. Graphic Support

Volunteer at NABA

Since 1908, the mission of the Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany (NABA) has been to assist persons with visual impairment to achieve independence and growth. So by volunteering at NABA you’re not only providing crucial support to individuals receiving rehabilitation, but get the chance to meet others while having fun. Your support can go a long way and the rewards are countless!
NABA Education Programs

NABA Blind Golfers Association
Be a coach to a legally blind golfer

NABA Youth Programs (Children and Teen)
1. Saturday programs
2. School Break
3. Summer Program

Work Experience and Placement Employment Program
1. Mentors
2. Assisting to recruit employers to participate in the programs

Information
If you are interested in making a difference and want to volunteer at NABA, please contact us at this number (518) 463-1211, and ask for NABA’s volunteer coordinator, Gail Hessney, for more information. We look forward to hearing from you.
Quotes from HELEN KELLER

“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched – they must be felt with the heart.”

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

“What we have once enjoyed we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us.”

“Faith is the strength by which a shattered world shall emerge into the light.”

“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.”
How to learn about NABA's Services

To learn more about NABA and the Dr. Harry Judge Vision Rehabilitation Center, please call 518-518-463-1211 ext. 241 or go to the NABA website at www.naba-vision.org.

How to Volunteer

To volunteer, please call 518-463-1211 ext. 201 or go to the NABA website at www.naba-vision.org.

If you received the NABA Annual Report with an incorrect name, mailing address or have any other change, please notify us at (518-463-1211 x 241 or 201). If you would like a copy of this Annual Report in some other format (on audio tape or Braille), please call us at 518- 463-1211 x 231, and we will be happy to send it to you. If you are moving, please call our offices so that we may update our records.