

Council Activities in 2018



1,392

store customers



423

white canes provided
free of charge

301

in-home vision
rehabilitation
visits



Educational
presentations to

2,655 people



1,433

volunteer hours

1263

gifts made our
work possible



88

low vision
evaluations



75

legislative visits



Wisconsin Council of the
Blind & Visually Impaired

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How to Act & Talk When You Encounter Someone with Vision Loss

Ask First: "Would you like some help?" If yes, ask, "What is the best way I can help you right now?" If no, accept the person does not need help.

Do not pet or distract a service dog.



Distracting them makes them less effective and can put their owners in danger.



Provide clear and concise information.

Use Right and Left instead of Here and There.

Say "Hi!"

People with low vision may not recognize your voice. Introduce yourself when you walk into a room.



Hi!

Do not speak on someone's behalf.

Despite good intentions, speaking on behalf of anyone who is capable of speaking for themselves can be frustrating.



Speak normally.

There is no need to increase the volume of your voice or change the tone of your voice.

Keep people involved.



Sighted people rely on visual cues when interacting with others. Allow people to be an equal participant in social settings by describing what happened visually.

Use person-first language.

Blindness is a physical attribute, not a personality trait.

person

Sources: Perkins School for the Blind, Industries for the Blind & Visually Impaired.

Want more copies of this to share with coworkers and friends? Contact info@WCBlind.org or call **608-255-1166**.