**IMPACT REPORT 2021 PLAIN TEXT DOCUMENT**

***COVER PAGE:***

**St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired**

**Impact Report 2021**

**“Building a Stronger Future”**

(Photo: group photo of 2021 staff posed outside in front of the building. Society’s name and logo are above the group on the building. In the photo are from left to right: Gina Diel Russell-Bookkeeper, John Boyd III-Information and Assistive Technology Specialist, LaMonté Hamilton II-Social Worker, Jim Arcipowski-Accountant, Dr. Jen Lauer-Occupational Therapist, Laura Park Leach-President & CEO, Ali Lambert-Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, Brenda Wendling-Director of Adult Services, Tammy Pearl-Social Worker, Barbara Consolino-Development Assistant, Ted Preuss-Receptionist, Danielle Nahm-Executive Assistant to the President, Megan Connelly-Director of Development, and Mary Caldwell-Marketing & Communications Coordinator.)

(Missing from the photo: Judy Redlich-Community Outreach Specialist, Thelma-Judy’s Guide Dog, and Veronica Steibel-Occupational Therapist)

***PAGE 2:***

**BUILDING A STRONGER FUTURE**

(Two headshot photos: Laura Park-Leach, President & CEO and Tom Enger, Board Chair)

I am delighted to share the Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired 2021 Impact Report with you. Over the past year, we have seized several opportunities to improve our overall operation and client service. Foremost, we strive to protect clients’ and staff health during the provision of service. Another objective is to maintain the quality of service while reaching more broadly into the community. In 2021, we expanded our outreach through virtual and inperson presentations and through social media. Utilizing stakeholder input, we reimagined and designed innovative programming. The Society continues to invest in technology to improve client access to goods and services, friends, and shopping, among other day-to-day needs. A telehealth pilot project will lead to a novel service delivery model for expanded client care where none has existed but is sorely needed. The Agency partnered with other Missouri vision organizations to fund a briefing on the scope of need for vision rehabilitation in our state. The study results are essential to our continuing efforts to deliver needed and timely care. These are but a few of the most compelling areas where the Society is building a stronger future to meet the needs of our expanding client base. This is only possible because of the unwavering support of the Society board, staff, volunteers, and generous donors. We thank you for your loyalty to our mission!

(Signed) Laura Park-Leach and Tom Enger

***Page 3:***

**OUR MISSION**

The Society enhances independence, empowers individuals, and enriches the lives of people who are visually impaired or blind.

**SPECIALTY SERVICES**

Assistive Technology

Low Vision Medical Exams

Occupational Therapy

Orientation and Mobility

Social Work

Support Groups

Transportation

(Photo: John Boyd, Assistive Technology Specialist and Patricia Anderson, client. Both are African American and are seated at a table during a training session in the Assistive Technology Center. They are smiling directly at the camera.)

***Page 4:***

**ENHANCING COMMUNICATION**

Enhancing communication through technology can literally mean “the world” to those who are blind or visually impaired. Through a United Way “COVID-19 Digital Divide” grant last summer, Society purchased 14 iPads and iPad cases for clients who are visually impaired or blind. The 14 participants ranged in age from 56-92. Their iPad goals included the ability to read books and other documents with an emphasis on the need for large print, internet and email access, voice assistance and controls, magnifiers, family communication, virtual meeting attendance, access to news and other resources, and accessible applications.

**Patricia Anderson** was one of the recipients and she said, “It’s a great blessing to have the iPad and the training. It’s frustrating when you can’t see to read your email, and you don’t want to bother anyone to help you. But now I can do it myself with Seeing AI.” After training, clients had learned skills such as how to use FaceTime and Zoom to reduce feelings of isolation and to read books again by changing the text size and fonts, zoom in or out, or by having the book read to them using an audiobook version or voiceover.

**Greg Eikermann**, who is totally blind, was excited to be able to use his Orbit Braille Reader with the iPad. He had always struggled with touch screen technology. “Anything that comes out of the iPad will come out in Braille through the Orbit. So I can hear it in voice and read it in Braille.” A big thank you to the United Way for bridging the “Digital Divide” for our clients and improving their independence and quality of life!

At bottom page 4 in big, bold text:

**"I can read my email myself with Seeing AI!”**

(Two photos along the left side of the page)

(Photo 1: Patricia Anderson pointing to her iPad and asking a question to John. John’s hand can be seen as he points to something on the screen.)

(Photo 2: Close up of Orbit Braille Reader with two sets of fingers resting on the reading strip.)

***Page 5:***

**EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS**

**Dr. Michael Railey** has spent the past 40+ years as a family doctor in his hometown of St. Louis. It was five years ago that Dr. Railey first experienced vision problems. It started with a detached retina in his right eye, and then Macular Degeneration and Glaucoma quickly invaded, rendering him unable to practice medicine. “I was discouraged. Hurt. Threw myself a pretty good pity party. Magnifiers helped for a while, but I finally had to go to my boss and tell him that I have to stop seeing patients.”

It was through his ophthalmologist at Washington University that he found out about St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired. He was amazed that through all his years of practicing medicine that he had never heard of us. The most important thing Society did for him was to put him in contact with other people just like him. He attended our support groups and in the first one, he simply listened to what others were saying about their various stages of vision loss. He realized he was not alone and listening to those experiences gave him confidence to face his own vision loss.

“Blindness is unique. I never understood as a doctor how different blindness is. It’s different from cancer. It’s different from diabetes. But blindness permeates every area and every day of your life, because you are constantly reminded that you cannot see.”

Dr. Railey went on to say that “blindness forces you to reinvent yourself. I’m actually better off spiritually now than when I had vision. Without it, I would be despondent and ready to retire to the rocking chair. And I just won’t do that!”

At bottom page 5 in big, bold text:

**“I never understood as a doctor how different blindness is.”**

(Two photos along the right side of the page)

(Photo 1: Dr. Railey smiling at the camera. He is seated in a chair and is holding a magnifier in his left hand. He is African American with a goatee.)

(Photo 2: Over the shoulder shot of Dr. Railey using the magnifier while he holds a magazine.)

***Page 6:***

**ENRICHING THE PATH TO INDEPENDENCE**

As an illustrator and graphic artist, **Cathy Reid** depended on her vision to do her work. One day, she felt a pain in the back of her head as if she had been hit with a baseball bat. Treatment for Vasospasms, followed by a stroke left her permanently blind in her left eye and partially blind in the right. In a matter of days, she went from successful artist and illustrator to a person grappling with despair.

“It was a strange new world. I could see a person, but not the whole person. When I tried to read a newspaper, it looked like confetti over the print.” She came to Society and learned to use devices that could help her, including using binocular glasses. She began to have hope. When her husband Randy died unexpectant last year, she was once again devastated. “He did everything for me, and I just didn’t know what I was going to do.”

She immediately contacted Society, and Occupational Therapists sprang into action and showed her how to cook safely, how to mark her appliances and how to navigate her space safely. A portable electronic magnifier became her right hand and allowed her to read numbers and words. “It is a life saver. I use it daily. I take it with me to the grocery store and can see the ingredients and expiration dates. Things I can no longer read, I can with the magnifier."

She has gained confidence. She has even taken up painting again. “It looks like something a first grader might do, but it’s just the fact that I’m painting. My granddaughter and I spend a lot of time painting together and we have coloring contests as well."

Cathy now lives with her daughter's family, and she says she feels worthy of living there, because "...I can help them. I can clean, I can cook, I even made soup for them the other night. I do my own bookwork. Nobody takes care of me, I take care of myself!"

She said that Society is there to help others, just as they helped her and raved about the "wonderful resources. I can't recommend them enough."

At bottom page 6 in big, bold text:

**“Nobody takes care of me. I take care of myself!”**

(Two photos at top of page 6)

(Photo 1: Cathy Reid sitting on her couch with her legs crossed and her chin resting on her hand as she chats nonchalantly. She is white and is wearing a long, pink dress.)

(Photo 2: Over the shoulder closeup shot of Cathy’s hands holding her Personal Electronic Magnifier.)

***Page 7:***

**CLIENT SUCCESS**

Our specialized programs made a profound impact in our clients' lives in 2021. Their success is measured in the realization of meeting personal goals.

Assistive Technology – 98%

Low Vision Center – 98%

Orientation and Mobility – 98%

Occupational Therapy – 95%

Social Work – 94%

Support Groups – 93%

(Each service above is listed in big bold type and the percentage number is placed inside a blue ball to the right of the service.)

(Two photos on left side of page 7)

(Photo 1: My Vue (pronounced Me Voo), an Occupational Therapist intern assists a client during an Open House event as he uses a Personal Electronic Magnifier. The client is white with a long ponytail and My is Asian American.)

(Photo 2: Dr. Kate Gettinger consults with an elderly client in the Low Vision Exam room. The client is removing her glasses to hand to Dr. Gettinger. Both are white and are seated in the exam room.)

***Page 8:***

**VIRTUAL VISIONARY GALA**

In 2020, it felt like the world came to a standstill. The Visionary Gala Planning Committee began conversations about whether it would be possible to have a face-to-face event in 2021. It turns out that “Virtual” became the buzzword of the year. We were emboldened by other non-profits successfully holding fundraisers virtually. So, our committee, meeting regularly over several months, decided to forge ahead with a “virtual” gala and the results were outstanding!

To build excitement for our online event, Society staff member Mary Caldwell created and debuted five video client testimonials via Facebook. They remain available to view on our YouTube channel which can be accessed through our website.

On Saturday, April 24, 2021, instead of gathering in a ballroom with tables, food, and candles, we gathered in our living rooms with spouses, pets, and laptops and presented the 2021 Visionary Gala via Facebook and YouTube. We proudly presented the Leslie Dana Gold Medals to Dr. Michael Kass and Dr. Mae Gordon for their decades of impactful research on glaucoma. Also, Saint Louis Lighthouse for the Blind was honored with the Community Light Award for their commitment to improving quality of life for those who are blind or visually impaired through direct employment, and support of rehabilitative and medical services. KMOX's Carol Daniel emceed the event and singers Alice Conway and Gerald Brooks performed via video recording.

We are proud to announce that we met our goal and netted $65,000 to be used to provide services to people living with vision loss! Where there's a will, there is indeed a way!

**Visionary Gala Planning Committee:** Chairs Mike and Pat McKinnis, Lori Tesser, Angela Brooks, Gerald Brooks, Ann Shapiro, Kerrie Caldwell-Troutman, Linda Rose, Lisa Enger, Midge Crider, Angela Brooks, and Alice Conway

**Leslie Dana Medal Award Committee:** Dr. Jim Bobrow, Dr. Paul Tesser, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Feibel, Dr. Mike Donahoe, Dr. Erin Cleary Sullivan, and Dr. Nicholas Engelbrecht

(Three photo inserts in center of page)

(Insert 1-Close up shot of the Leslie Dana Gold Medal. It is the size of a half-dollar coin and is gold plated with an embossed image of a woman holding a child. The child’s arms are raised toward a sunrise with long rays. At top of coin is the embossed words “Let the Light Remain.”)

(Insert 2-Close up shot of the Leslie Dana Medal award plaques with the gold medal at the top. Each winner’s name is engraved on the plague.)

(Insert 3-Close up shot of the Community Light Award which is crystal and shaped like a flame of fire. The awardee’s name is etched on the glass.)

***Page 9:***

**2021 Visionary Gala (written in large gold script letters)**

(Two large photos)

(Photo one: Five people are standing in a row posing for a photo in the Board Room at Society. It includes the two award winners holding their plaques. From left to right: Dr. Paul Tesser, Dr. Mae Gordon, Dr. Michael Kass, Dr. James Bobrow, Mrs. Laura Park-Leach.)

(Photo two: The two award winners pose together holding their plaques. Dr. Gordon is dressed in a long, black evening gown and is laughing over something someone said. Dr. Kass is dressed in a tuxedo. From left to right: Dr. Mae Gordon and Dr. Michael Kass.)

At bottom of page 9 in large print in a yellow box: **The Leslie Dana Gold Medal Awards presented to Dr. Michael Kass and Dr. Mae Gordon.**

***Page 10:***

**2021 Visionary Gala (written in large gold script letters)**

(Three large photos)

(Photo one: Board Chair Tom Enger presents the Community Light Award to Jill Kluesner of Lighthouse for the Blind in the Board Room at Society. Jill is dressed in a black evening dress and Tom is dressed in a tuxedo. He is standing behind a podium.)

(Photo two: Jill Kluesner stands behind the podium thanking Society for the award. The award sits on the podium)

(Photo three: four people stand in a line in Society’s Board Room posing for the camera. From left to right: Eric Wallace, Floyd Goree, Jill Kluesner, Tom Enger. Eric and Floyd are employees at Lighthouse and spoke at the small ceremony in the board room. Eric, who is white, is wearing a red velvet tuxedo and Floyd, who is African American, is wearing a white dress shirt and black suit jacket.)

At bottom of page 10 in large print in a yellow box: **The Community Light Award presented to St. Louis Lighthouse for the Blind.**

***Page 11:***

**SIGHT SOLUTIONS SHOP**

It’s amazing the difference one room can make. A room that started out as basic office space evolved into a dream for Society in 2021. With a lot of planning and foresight from administration and staff, we opened the Sight Solutions Shop. We also got the shop up and running on our website. Clients and guests can shop in person or online!

(Four photos)

(Photo one: Creating the homemade signage. Veronica Steibel and Dr. Jennifer Lauer stand behind the glass window inside the shop measuring the layout of the letters.

(Photo two: Jennifer is on the inside drawing the outlines of the letters on the glass, and Veronica is on the outside of the window holding a ruler against the glass to aid Jennifer.)

(Photo three: Closeup shot of the large glass window with the finished lettering Sight Solutions Shop.)

(Photo four: Wide shot interior-left showing a large display case of various items, including talking watches, filtered sunglasses, and large display keyboards.)

***Page 12:***

**SIGHT SOLUTIONS SHOP (continued)**

(Seven photos)

(Photo 1: closeup of Sunglasses and filters)

(Photo 2: closeup shot of Talking watches)

(Photo 3: Closeup shot of varying sizes of Magnifiers. Society’s name is imprinted on the handles)

(Photo 4: Closeup shot of one two shelves on a display case that consists of Large Print Playing Cards and Keyboards.)

(Photo 5: Screenshot of Online store on Society’s website. Screen shot shows a cut resistant kitchen glove and a telephone with large numbers. The prices are below.)

(Photo 6: Society’s Occupational Therapists pose behind inside the Sight Solutions shop window. From left to right: Veronica Steibel, Ali Lambert, and Dr. Jennifer Lauer.)

(Photo 7: Closeup shot of Signage in Braille which is beside the door of the Sight Solutions Shop.)

***Page 13:***

**NEW FACES**

Society continued to grow in 2021 and added some new faces.

In February, **Kate Gettinger, O.D., Low Vision Specialist**, joined us here at the Drews Low Vision Clinic. Dr. Gettinger obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Truman State University and her Optometry degree from UMSL School of Optometry. She completed training at the Norton Sound Heath Corporation in Nome, Alaska.

She received honors for her specialization in low vision, including the William Feinbloom Low Vision Award. She has spent most of her career in a private practice and boutique optical setting. Dr. Gettinger appreciates the opportunity to perform low vision evaluations and examinations to help those living with vision loss.

(Photo: Dr. Kate Gettinger. She is posing next to a phoropter with her left hand resting on the device and her right hand holding a clipboard and pen. She has long, red hair, pulled back into a stylish ponytail and is smiling at the camera. She is white and is wearing a lab coat)

Society welcomed a new **Doctor of Optometry** last September, **Jessica Broodryk**. Dr. Broodryk earned her undergraduate degree in Biology and Chemistry from Missouri State University and her Optometry degree from UMSL College of Optometry. She completed the Ian L. Bailey Low Vision/Ocular Disease Residency at UC Berkeley.

After completing her residency, she returned to St. Louis to provide care in both the low vision and primary care settings. ”I am excited for the opportunity to provide compassionate care to people with limited vision through St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired. They treat each person with respect and compassion, while addressing their needs using a holistic approach.”

(Photo: Dr. Jessica Broodryk. She is white, has long, blonde curly hair and bright blue eyes. She is wearing teal blouse and jacket and is posed in front of a blue curtain.)

***Page 14:***

**NEW FACES**

In May of 2021, **Megan Connelly joined Society as Director of Development**. Megan brings a diverse background in nonprofit development. She is experienced in national account marketing and business development for a Fortune 500 company and versed in data management and overall fundraising support, having served several nonprofit organizations in the St. Louis metro area.

Megan attended McKendree University where she obtained degrees in both Marketing and Speech Communication and continued her education at the University of Missouri – St. Louis, earning a Master of Arts in Communication.

(Photo: Megan Connelly. She is white with long dark hair and dark eyes. She is standing in front of the LVC blue wall and smiling at the camera.)

Meet **John Boyd, III**. John’s role here is twofold: **IT and AT**. Within IT, **Information Technology**, he manages the company network, phone system, database, server upkeep and maintenance, and provides technical support to employees. He also projects future costs and expenses for IT improvements. Within AT, **Assistive Technology**, his duties include teaching different assistive technologies to our clients, as well as developing plans for the future of the department.

John has a BS in Information Science & Technology (BSIST) and recently received instructor certifications in both ZoomText and JAWS.

(Photo: John Boyd, III. He is African American with a big, friendly smile. He is wearing a gray shirt and posing in front of the LVC blue wall.)

Society added a **bilingual staff membe**r in 2021. Meet **Danielle Nahm** who offers translation for Spanish speaking clients and translates Society materials from English to Spanish. She is also the Executive Assistant to the President and CEO. She currently has a Bachelor of Arts in Romance Languages.

Danielle will soon be adding to her role. She is back in school and by the end of 2022, she will be working with clients as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist. She will work with all clients in need of this service but will be an added bonus to those with English as a second language!

(Photo: Danielle Nahm is Mexican American with long dark hair pulled back into a tie. She is wearing a blue Society shirt and is posing next to a standing banner that show our name and mission in Spanish.)

***Page 15:***

**NEW FACES**

**Social Workers**

In May of 2021, **LaMonté Hamilton, II** graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work and came back to the organization that helped him first. LaMonté is a former client. At the age of 15, he was diagnosed with Juvenile Macular Degeneration.

His first encounter at Society was with a Social Worker. After using our services here, LaMonté knew exactly what he wanted to do with his life and career. From listening to a Social Worker to becoming a Social Worker, LaMonté has come full circle.

(Photo: LaMonté Hamilton, II. He is African American, with long braids and wears dark framed glasses. He is posing in front of the LVC blue wall and smiling at the camera.)

**Tammy Pearl** has always wanted to help people and began her career as an Occupational Therapy Assistant. As an OTA, she often worked on a team with Social Workers to help patients find the resources necessary to live well. It was seeing Social Workers in action that prompted her to change career paths. When she went back to school for her bachelor and master’s degrees, she chose the Social Work career path.

She joined Society in July. Low vision is a new area for her, but she relishes the challenge.

(Photo: Tammy Pearl is posing in front of the LVC blue wall and smiling at the camera. She is white, with shoulder length blonde hair and is wearing a black blouse.)

Angela Kalinowski joined Society in November of 2021. She studied Early Childhood Education at St. Louis Community College-Meramec and has spent the past 20 years working as a Medical Receptionist, first with BJC and then EESE Healthcare.

She is the mother of a six-year-old and what she enjoys most about the job is the people. "I enjoy just being around people, talking to people and helping people.”

(Photo: Angela Kalinowski is white, with long, black hair and dark brown eyes. She is posing in front the LVC blue wall and has a big smile.)

***Page 16:***

**OPEN HOUSE EVENTS**

**Society hosted three Open House Events in 2021**

(There are six photos on the page. All people in the photos are wearing face masks.)

(Photo 1 caption: “Registration in the Lobby.” Image of 7 people in the lobby. Some are bent over the table writing their information and some are waiting to register. Two staff members—Veronica and Barbara—are seated behind the registration table.)

(Photo 2 caption: “Kitchen Safety Demo #1.” Image of two women watching OT student intern My Vu press buttons on the stove in the ADL kitchen.)

(Photo 3 caption: “Assistive Technology Demo.” Image of approximately 16 people seated in chairs in the Assistive Technology Center. They are listening to AT specialist, John Boyd as he talks about various assistive technologies available to the blind and visually impaired.)

(Photo 4 caption: “OrCam Wearable Device Demo.” Image of 5 people seated in the Assistive Technology Center. John Boyd is wearing the OrCam read device on his glasses and is holding up a paper as he demonstrates how the OrCam works. Seated directly in front of him is Board member Alice Conway. A family of three African Americans are seated farther off to John’s left.)

(Photo 5 caption: “Personal Electronic Magnifier Demo.” Image of 4 persons looking over the shoulder of a seated 5th person as they use a personal electronic magnifier. A 6th person, staff member and OT Veronica Steibel, is also seated and instructing how the magnifier works.)

(Photo 6 caption: “CCTV Demo.” A group of 11 people seated in chairs in the Low Vision Center listen to OT and Low Vision Coordinator, Dr. Jennfier Lauer as she demos the CCTV. A page of a book is shown on the CCTV screen as it is enlarged for the audience to see.)

***Page 17:***

**OPEN HOUSE EVENTS (continued)**

(There are a total of 7 photos on this page. Each person featured is wearing a face mask.)

(Photo 1 caption: “Kitchen Safety Demo #2.” Image of 2 people in the ADL kitchen. One is Brenda Wendling, Director of Adult Services handing an older gentleman, who is African American and using a cane, a specialized spoon used by the visually impaired for measurements.)

(Photo 2 caption: “OrCam supplied the snacks”. Image of a bowl of packaged pistachio nuts on a table. Behind the bowl is a sign for OrCam products.)

(Photo 3 caption: “Orientation & Mobility Q&A.” Image of 3 people in the Falls Prevention Room. O&M specialist, Susan Meisel, is handing a sample handrail to a woman who is seated in a chair. The woman’s husband stands behind her.)

(Photo 4 caption: “Guest testing out a personal electronic magnifier.” Image of an over the shoulder shot of an older woman who is looking closely at the device. The text is enlarged on the device.)

(Photo 5 caption: “Raffle Winners with President.” Image of an older husband white who are both white, standing next to Laura Park-Leach, President and CEO. They are smiling at the camera and Laura is holding the gift basket, which contains wine, nuts, chocolate and other goodies. They are posed in the lobby with the words of our mission statement on the wall in large letters.)

(Photo 6 caption:” A couple learns about CCTV features.” Three people are in the Low Vision Center. Two are standing and one is seated in front of a CCTV screen. Dr. Jennifer Lauer explains how the CCTV works and the costs.)

(Photo 7 caption: “Dr. Lauer gives one-on-one instruction on CCTV.” Image of woman sitting in front of a CCTV screen. Her hands are resting on a book on the table of the CCTV. The book’s text is reflected in larger print on the screen. Dr. Lauer is bending over with hand also on the book and table demonstrating how to move the sliding table back and forth.)

***Page 17:***

**LEADERS WHO PURSUE EXCELLENCE**

The Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired depends upon the generous support of community members who believe in our mission and our clients. We believe the leaders in our community help change the world.

**Tom Enger** is one of those leaders who embodies our values and shows it in the way he serves Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Tom was familiar with Society several years ago through his father who began to lose his eyesight due to Macular Degeneration. “The Society had a CCTV which made the print much bigger and allowed my father to enjoy his newspaper for many years. When Lisa and I were married we were older and did not need any wedding gifts. We decided to have our guests donate funds to two charities. One was the Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Not long after our wedding and the donations to Society, David Ekin who was then the President of Society contacted us to take a tour. After the tour and speaking with David, I was sold on Society and joined the Board.”

Tom has been on the Board for six years. In 2020-2021, he was the Chair of the Board and is currently the Vice Chair. He has held multiple committee positions as well. He feels Society’s mission means people can live full, happy lives with few limitations.

When asked what he hopes to see for SLSBVI down the road, he said, “I hope Society can continue to expand into different counties surrounding the St. Louis area. Hopefully we can have satellite offices so people with low vision will have access to everything that Society offers. The Society has made good inroads into the minority communities thanks to our Minority Board and hopefully that momentum continues for many years.”

Tom went on to say that “…serving on the Board has made me a better person. It has made me realize how fortunate I am to have good eyesight. I’m also more aware of issues a person with low vision will face.”

(Two photos at the top of the page)

(Photo 1: headshot of Tom Enger. He is white, wearing a gray sweater and is smiling at the camera.)

(Photo 2: image of Tom and his parents seated on a living room couch. Tom is in the center of his parents. All are smiling directly at the camera.)

(To the right of the page in a long column is a listing of the 2021 Board members and Society staff members. Here are the names…)

**Leadership 2021**

**Board of Directors**

**Officers**

Tom Enger – Chair

Joseph Brinker - Vice Chair

Paul Tesser, MD, PhD – Treasurer

Elizabeth Kauffman – Secretary

Michael McKinnis - Asst. Treasurer

Midge Crider - Asst. Secretary

**Members**

James C. Bobrow, MD

Gerald Brooks

Angela Brooks

Chris Callan

Alice Conway

Michael Donahoe, MD

Ron Hampp

Larry Hickman

Juanita Hinshaw

David Morris

Ann Shapiro

Erin Cleary Sullivan, OD

Kerrie Caldwell-Troutman

**Advisory Board**

Michael Croghan

Robert Feibel, MD

Chris Pickel

Linda Rose

Ryan Whittington

**Minority Advisory Board**

Gerald Brooks – Chair

Bola Akande

Viswa Belaji

Joe Brinker

Bonnie Daneker

Ken Franklin

Linda Rose

Maria Tabb

Ken Tabb

Gary Watkins, MD

**Emeritus**

Marshall Hier

John J. Purcell, Jr., MD

**President and CEO**

Laura Park-Leach

**Staff**

Jim Arcipowski

Liz Beckerle

Kate Boland, OD

John Boyd, III

Jessica Broodryk, OD

Mary Caldwell

Barbara Clover

Megan Connelly

Kate Gettinger, OD

LaMonté Hamilton, II

Angela Kalinowski

Ali Lambert

Jennifer Lauer, OTD

Lucy McCalpin

Christy McCutcheon

Susan Meissel

Danielle Nahm

Tammy Pearl

Ted Preuss

Judy Redlich

Gina Diel-Russell

Veronica Steibel

Brenda Wendling

Hana Beckele-Intern, Social Work

My Vu-Intern, Occupational Therapy

***Page 18:***

**SOCIETY FINANCIALS** (The financials are displayed in two circle graphics showing the breakdown by color)

**Operating Revenue**

Investment Income 34.8% = $545,609

Grants and Donations 33.6% = $527,393

Programs 26.3% = $412,900

Management & General 5.2% = $82,066

**Total: $1,567,968**

**Expenses**

Programs 79.4% = $1,244,827

Management & General 14.4% = $225,185

Fundraising 6.3% = $97,956

**Total: $1,567,968**

***Page 19:***

(The following text is displayed over a faded background of the top of the St. Louis Arch.)

**DONOR RECOGNITION**

Thank you for building a world where people with vision loss are empowered and can live independently. Every single gift matters to us, and most importantly to our clients. We are honored to recognize those who have made contributions at the $250 level and above. We do our best to ensure the donor list is accurate. To make a donation or alert us to a correction, please contact: Megan Connelly, Director of Development at 314-968-9000.

(The names below were presented in two columns)

**Helen Keller Society ($5,000 and above)**

Gertrude & William A Bernoudy Foundation

Drs. Nanci & James Bobrow

Cornelia L. Vogel Trust

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Brinker

Charless Foundation

Ms. Susan Mary Chuckray

Ms. Alice E. Conway

Dr. & Mrs. Michael Donahoe

Jefferson Foundation

Harold & Victoria Egner Charitable Foundation

Episcopal Presbyterian Health Trust

East Missouri Foundation

Dr. Todd Margolis

Ms. Juanita Hinshaw

Marillac Mission Fund

Margaret Butler Trust

Mr. & Mrs. Michael McKinnis

Mr. David F. Morris and Mr. Joey Neal

Network for Good

Mariner Foundation Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Shapiro

American Direct Marketing Resources LLC

Mr. & Mrs. David Steinglass

Lighthouse for the Blind-St. Louis

Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Waltman

Mr. & Mrs. John & Elizabeth Wilmsen

**Visionary Circle ($1,000 - $4,999)**

Ms. Geraldine E. Beetz

Blackbaud Giving Fund By Its Agent, Your Cause

BOA Employee Giving Fund

Frank A. & Alpha H. Ruf Fund

Bethesda Health Group Inc.

Drs. Sophia Chung & John Holds

Dr. W. Joseph Connolly

Ms. Jo Anne Gannon Crider

Mr. Timothy M. Crnko

Mr. & Mrs. James Crouthamel

Dr. & Mrs. George Daneker

Ms. Vicki Dillon

Mr. John R. Drew

Mrs. James East

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Enger

Dr. & Mrs. Robert M. Feibel

Lt. Col. John D. Flaherty, (Ret)

Dr. & Mrs. John C. Galanis

Dr. & Mrs. David Glaser

Drs. Mae and Robert Gordon

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Ms. Anna P. Siromas

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Mr. & Mrs. Simon Tonkin

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Vass

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(The names below were presented in two columns)

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Ms. Liz Beckerle

Mr. Darin Gilley

Mr. & Mrs. Guy A. Phillips

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Mr. John Wade & Ms. Susan Lore-Wade

Mr. Doug Tracy

Mr. Kenneth Suelthaus

Mr. James Arcipowski

Dr. Erin Sullivan

Dr. & Mrs. Jorge Alegre

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Dow

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Fagin

Mr. Patrick Kleaver

Ms. Tsehay Mengistu

Facebook via NFG

Mr. Viswa Balaji

Ms. Stephanie Heath

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Beck

Ms. Judith Bradford

Mr. & Mrs. Carl J. Carlie

Dr. & Mrs. Bruce Cohen

Mrs. Barbara Conway

The Eye Center

Dr. Nillima Ghosh

Mr. Richard Greenlaw

Ms. Rachel Hagemann

Mr. Albert Hamel

Mrs. Marilyn Hawkins

Mrs. Karen Kauffman

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Meyer

Mr. Constantine Michaelides

Mr. & Mrs. Matthew A. Mills

Premiere Eye Associates

Dr. & Mrs. John J. Purcell, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Don Ross

Mr. & Mrs. Darrell Ross

Mrs. Katherine S. Rutter

Mr. Peter C. Sharamitaro, Jr.

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Ms. Jane Beckerle

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Ms. Emily Cole

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Mr. Gregory Geil

Mr. Lee Gunn

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Mr. H Smith McGehee

Mr. & Mrs. Dave Mueller

Ms. Jaqueline D. Pollvogt

Dr. Michael T. Railey

Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Schmitt

Mr. Jerome B. Sexton, Jr.

Drs. Matthew Thomas & Jane Darger Thomas

Webster Groves Lions Club

Mr. Vernon Werner

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**MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

(The Memorial names/donors below were presented in two columns)

**In Memory of Donnie Jo Bild**

Ms. Alice Boxdorfer

**In Memory of Rosemary Blase**

William Blasé

**In Memory of Leo Bohanon**

Ms. Gloria Clayter

**In Memory of Allen Buckingham**

Sr. Ms. Beverly Vick

**In Memory of Ruth Buerman**

Mr. & Mrs. John Buerman

**In Memory of Rosy Cunningham**

Mr. & Mrs. Scott A. Cunningham

**In Memory of Ginger Davis**

Mr. Scott Wilhelm

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Mr. & Mrs. Donavon DeRousse

**In Memory of Dr. Robert C. Drews**

Ms. Karen Phillips

**In Memory of Leonard S. Dino Sr**

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Ms. Jamie Sauerburger

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Ms. Susan M. Andrew

Mr. Aaron Dewayne Pruitt

Mr. & Mrs. Craig Young

Mr. & Mrs. Alton D. Pruitt

Mr. & Mrs. William H. Allen

Mr. Evan Anderson

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**MEMORIAL DONATIONS (continued)**

(The Memorial names/donors below were presented in two columns)

**In Memory of Kathleen Louise Hayes**

Mr. Mark Schulz

**In Memory of Lois Heineman**

Mr. & Mrs. Corey Kilkelly

**In Memory of Raymond C. Henry**

Ms. Harriet Switzer

**In Memory of Evelyn Houmson**

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Carr

**In Memory of Jerry Kauffman**

Ms. Lorraine O'Hallaron

**In Memory of Betty J. Kuebler**

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Kuebler

**In Memory of Kelli Larson**

Ms. Janet Thornburg

**In Memory of James O. Lynch**

Ms. Jane Lynch

**In Memory of Maxine McDaniels**

Ms. Antoinette Bowers

Ms. JoAnn C. Hall

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Mr. Joseph Michalka

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Ms. Jennie Pipitone

**In Memory of Ed Provaznik**

Ms. Jeanette Provaznik

**In Memory of Doris Puttin and Kyle Puttin**

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Mr. Peter C. Sharamitaro, Jr.

**In Memory of Jay Straus**

Ms. Suzanne S Hoffman

**In Memory of Miriam Straus**

Mr. Skip Straus

**In Memory of Larry C. Walker**

Ms. Phyllis D. Phelps

**In Memory of Michael Wersching**

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Wersching

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**TRIBUTE DONATIONS**

(The Tribute names/donors below were presented in one column)

**In Honor of Harold Blanke**

Ms. Alice Boxdorfer

**In Honor of Betty Bolt**

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Fullenkamp

**In Honor of Kevin Dyer**

Frank Sheair

**In Honor of Cookie Hollander**

Mr. & Mrs. Ron Hollander

**In Honor of Margie Langford**

Ms. Alice Hezel

**In Honor of Ruel Murphy**

Mr. & Mrs. Ruel Murphy

**In Honor of Rhonda Patrick and Her Beloved Mother**

Ms. Linda Nussbaum

**In Honor of Sara Iffrig Pitchford**

Mr. & Mrs. Don Iffrig

**In Honor of Dr. Sandra Rosen**

Mr. & Mrs. Jerrold Rosen

**In Honor of Patsy J. Sanders**

Ms. Nancy Schomburg

**In Honor of Emil and Rosemary Schmidt**

Mr. Brian Akerson

**In Honor of Society for the Blind & Visually Impaired Staff**

Ms. Jo Anne Crider

**In Honor of Elaine Weigel**

Ms. Connie Seelig

**In Honor of Rabbi & Mrs. Moshe Zuravin**

Miss Alice J. Brown

(3 photos are in the right column of this page)

(Photo 1 caption: “Dr. Boland giving low vision exam to client.” Image of Dr. Kate Boland in the Low Vision Exam Room with an older female client. The clients is pointing to her left eye, while Dr. Boland types notes into her laptop.)

(Photo 2 caption: “Dr. Gettinger checks a client's prescription.” Image of Dr. Kate Gettinger seated on a stool in front of a device used to check a prescription in a pair of glasses. She is holding the glasses. The instrument is called a Lensometer.)

(Photo 3 caption: “Dr. Broodryk giving low vision exam.” Dr. Jessica Broodryk stands in front of an Eye Chart holding a white card below a line of letters for a client to read. The client is not in the shot.)

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR YEARS TO COME

We thank these donors who have left a legacy in 2021 by becoming members of the Marli and Rey Eilers’ Guild.

Burkert Joint Revocable Living Trust

Margaret Butler Trust

Harold & Victoria Egner Charitable Foundation

Marli and Rey Eilers

Dr. Nillima Ghosh

Matranga Trust, Amelia & Marco

Mildred L. Mulcahy Revocable Living Trust

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Cornelia L. Vogel Trust

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With a planned gift, you can help people served each year by Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired and obtain significant financial benefits for yourself. In making a planned gift, you have the added satisfaction of knowing people who are blind or visually impaired in the future will benefit from your generosity today. To find out more about the Eilers' Guild, contact Megan Connelly, Director of Development at 314.968.9000.

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BE A VISIONARY

For over 110 years St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired has been providing comprehensive services to people living with vision loss. Without these services, individuals with vision loss may not receive the therapy and training they need to stay independent.

You have a chance to change the path forward. To become a visionary today, visit slsbvi.org and select "Engage" or contact Megan Connelly at 314-968-9000. Society is honored to recognize the generosity of our donors in new giving levels for 2022!

Friend: Up to $299

Insight Club: $300-$999

Visionary Circle: $1,000-$4,999

Helen Keller Society Beacon: $5,000-$14,999

Helen Keller Society Benefactor: $15,000-$24,999

Helen Keller Society Breakthrough: $25,000+

(Photo: Exterior shot of Society’s building, featuring a green tree in the foreground, with building in the background. Society’s name and logo appear above the double doors.)

Below the photo is the text: If you need the Impact Report in a different format, please contact Mary Caldwell at 314-968-9000. We will do our best to provide you with a format that meets your needs.

(Graphic artwork: Society’s Logo which is a blue arch representing the St. Louis Arch. In the center are yellow rays from a sunrise that is coming from a horizon that resembles an eyeball. Includes the text: Enhance, Empower, Enrich, Establish 1911.)

Above the logo is the address:

8770 Manchester Rd St. Louis, Missouri 63144

Below the logo is the text: (314) 968-9000 [www.slsbvi.org](http://www.slsbvi.org)

Below the text are the four Social Media icons that represent Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube. The logos mean that we are on those social media channels.

END OF DOCUMENT