



Client Bulletin

August 2022 | Volume 12, Issue 2.1

This bulletin lists Sights for Hope's life skills education programs, peer support groups, and activities for its clients in the Lehigh Valley and Monroe County.

Large-Print Pullout Calendars

- ▶ **Lehigh Valley:** Pages 9 and 12
- ▶ **Monroe:** Pages 10-11

Designed to be pulled apart and displayed

Lehigh Valley Services Center

845 West Wyoming St., Allentown, PA 18103
610.433.6018

Monroe Services Center

4215 Manor Drive, Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570.992.7787

United Way of the
Greater Lehigh Valley



Pocono Mountains
United Way



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You can choose how you receive this bulletin. Your choices are listed below.

- Receive it in the postal mail in large print
- Receive it in the postal mail in extra-large print
- Receive it in the postal mail as a braille document
- Receive it as an audio file on a USB drive
- Receive it as an email message
- Download it in Word or PDF formats at **SightsforHope.org/Bulletins**
- Listen to it online at **SightsforHope.org/Bulletins**

Please contact your caseworker if you want to change the way you receive the bulletin.

How to Schedule Transportation

Call one of our transport coordinators Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. to schedule a ride.

Lehigh Valley

Brian Schell, 610.433.6018, Ext. 226

Monroe County

Lisa Metcalf, 570.992.7787, Ext. 224

► What's Exciting

Sights for Hope Sets Big Impact Goals to Reach by 2030



Sights for Hope has established four Big Impact Goals to meet by the year 2030 – including three goals that will enrich clients' lives in meaningful and profound ways.

The Big Impact Goals, created with the organization's strategic plan, combines what Sights for Hope does best, what its clients want most, and things it can do to make the greatest impact throughout the Lehigh Valley and Monroe County.

► Continued on Next Page

The four Big Impact Goals are as listed below.

- **Focused Sights:** To provide assistive technology devices to at least 2,500 people with visual impairments.
- **Focused Access:** To provide 25,000 guided transport rides to people with visual impairments.
- **Focused Daily Lives:** To provide skills education experiences to at least 2,500 people with visual impairments.
- **Focused Futures:** To provide eye exams and glasses to at least 2,500 children.

Additional information is available on the web at SightsforHope.org/StrategicPlan.

Sights for Hope Grows its Client Base by 14% in the Past Year

Sights for Hope's client population grew by 14% during its 2021-2022 service year, according to organizational data.

The organization had a total of 623 active and pending clients as of June 30 while it had 545 clients one year prior. A client is considered pending in most cases until an exam report from an eye doctor within the prior 12 months is obtained. During the year that ended on June 30, Sights for Hope enrolled 151 clients while 73 clients withdrew or passed away. A total of 85% of the clients enrolled during the year were from Lehigh and Northampton counties.

While some of the past year's growth can be attributed to the deceleration of the COVID-19 pandemic, Sights for Hope has received feedback indicating that awareness of the organization has increased since it changed its name in 2021 and increased its promotional efforts.

Agency Pledges Stable Transport Fees While Fuel Prices Surge

While fuel prices skyrocketed in the first half of 2022, Sights for Hope's clients have not paid more for its guided transport service this summer as the organization seeks to increase support from its communities.

With the adoption of Sights for Hope's 2023 budget, which went into effect on July 1, the agency held its guided transport ticket price at \$3.50 for each trip, or \$7 per round trip. Sights for Hope also does not turn away client requests for transports due to an inability to pay for a ticket.

"We are aware of the economic conditions, but we could not justify the incremental increase in revenue we would have generated against the additional hardship upon those we serve," said Dennis Zehner, Executive Director and CEO of Sights for Hope. "While nobody can predict the future with complete certainty, our intention is to amass donations that will, in part, help us keep ticket prices steady as long as it is feasible to do so. Our mission calls us to provide skills, supports, and solutions that enhance the self-sufficiency of our clients, and now is an especially important time for this small but meaningful act of support."

▶ Life Skills Education Programs

Advanced Braille Class

Facilitated by Dianne Michels.

- Who Can Participate: **Registered clients**
- Date and Time: **Monday, August 15, 10-11:30 a.m.**
- Location: **Lehigh Valley Services Center**
- Registration: **Rita Lang at 610.433.6018, Ext. 225**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Registered Lehigh Valley clients**
- Virtual Connections: **To be provided to registered clients**



Tech Talks

- Who Can Participate: **All clients**
- Dates and Times: **Thursdays, August 4 and 18, 2-3:30 p.m.**
- Virtual Connections: **Go to SightsforHope.org/Events**

▶ **Life Skills Education Programs**

iOS Device Workshop

Learn about the iPhone and iPad. Please bring a lunch or money to order.

- Who Can Participate: **All clients**
- Date and Time: **Wednesday, August 17, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**
- Location: **Lehigh Valley Services Center**
- Registration: **Rita Lang at 610.433.6018, Ext. 225**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Not Available**
- Virtual Connections: **Go to SightsforHope.org/Events**



Exploration of Emerging Technologies

Join us for an informative session on amazing assistive technologies made by OrCam.

- Who Can Participate: **All clients**
- Date and Time: **Friday, August 26, 10-11:30 a.m.**
- Location: **Lehigh Valley Services Center**
- Registration: **Rita Lang at 610.433.6018, Ext. 225**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Lehigh Valley clients**
- Virtual Connections: **Go to SightsforHope.org/Events**

▶ **Descriptions Continue on Page 13**

August 2022

Lehigh Valley Client Calendar

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 Lehigh Vly Group 10-11:30	5	6 Much Ado About Nothing 2-3:30
11	12	13 GLVNFB Mtg 10-12
18	19	20 LVCB Picnic 11-2
25 Visionaries Picnic 11:30-2	26 Emerging Tech 10-11:30	27

► Want to Do More?

Most Monroe activities also are open to Lehigh Valley clients who can arrange their own rides. Check out the descriptions for details.

► Weekly Services

Mall Walks
August 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 9-10:30

Tech Talks
August 4 and 18, 2-3:30

August 2022

Monroe Client Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1 Monroe Group 10-11:30	2	3
7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24 NuVisions Picnic 11-2
28	29 Musicians 11-1	30	31 Monroe Lions 12:30-1:30

August 2022

Monroe Client Calendar

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6 Much Ado About Nothing 2-3:30
11	12 Tai Chi 10-11:30	13
18	19	20
25	26	27

► Want to Do More?

Most Lehigh Valley activities also are open to Monroe clients who can arrange their own rides. Check out the descriptions for details.

► Weekly Services

Tech Talks
August 4 and 18, 2-3:30

August 2022

Lehigh Valley Client Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1	2	3
7	8	9 Tai Chi 10-11:30	10
14	15 Braille 10-11:30	16 Women's Group 12-2	17 iOS Devices 11-1
21	22	23	24
28	29 Musicians 11-1	30	31

▶ **Life Skills Education Programs**

Introduction to Tai Chi - Lehigh Valley

Join Paul Miller of Lehigh Valley Martial Arts for an interactive Tai Chi class.

- Who Can Participate: **Lehigh Valley clients**
- Date and Time: **Tuesday, August 9, 10-11:30 a.m.**
- Location: **Lehigh Valley Services Center**
- Registration: **Rita Lang at 610.433.6018, Ext. 225**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Lehigh Valley clients**



Introduction to Tai Chi - Monroe

Join Paul Miller of Lehigh Valley Martial Arts for an interactive Tai Chi class.

- Who Can Participate: **Monroe clients**
- Date and Time: **Friday, August 12, 10-11:30 a.m.**
- Location: **Monroe Services Center**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Monroe clients**

▶ Peer Support Groups

Monroe Client Group

Facilitated by James Van Horn.

- Who Can Participate: **Monroe clients**
- Date and Time: **Monday, August 1, 10-11:30 a.m.**
- Location: **Monroe Services Center**
- Registration: **Lisa Metcalf at 570.992.7787, Ext. 224**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Monroe clients**
- Virtual Connections: **Go to SightsforHope.org/Events**



Lehigh Valley Client Group

Facilitated by James Van Horn.

- Who Can Participate: **Lehigh Valley clients**
- Date and Time: **Thursday, August 4, 10-11:30 a.m.**
- Location: **Lehigh Valley Services Center**
- Registration: **Rita Lang at 610.433.6018, Ext. 225**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Lehigh Valley clients**
- Virtual Connections: **Go to SightsforHope.org/Events**

▶ Peer Support Groups

Women's Client Group

The August meeting is the group's annual Ladies Luncheon.

- Who Can Participate: **All female clients**
- Date and Time: **Tuesday, August 16, 12-2 p.m.**
- Location: **Keystone Pub & Grill, 1410 Grape St., Whitehall, PA**
- Registration: **Rita Lang at 610.433.6018, Ext. 225**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Not available**
- Virtual Connections: **Go to SightsforHope.org/Events**

▶ Activities

Mall Walks

- Who Can Participate: **All clients**
- Dates and Times: **Wednesdays, August 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 9-10:30 a.m.**
- Location: **South Mall, 3300 Lehigh St., Allentown, PA**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Lehigh Valley clients**

► **Activities**

NuVisions Group Picnic

This activity is organized by the NuVisions group but is open to all Monroe clients. Sign up and bring a dish. The NuVisions group will bring hamburgers and hot dogs.

- Who Can Participate: **All Monroe clients**
- Date and Time: **Wednesday, August 24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.**
- Location: **White Heron Lake, East Stroudsburg, PA**
- Registration: **Lisa Metcalf at 570.992.7787, Ext. 224**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Monroe clients**



Visionaries Group Picnic

This activity is organized by the Visionaries client group but is open to all Lehigh Valley clients. Sign up and bring a covered dish. Sights for Hope will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks.

- Who Can Participate: **All Lehigh Valley clients**
- Date and Time: **Thursday, August 25, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.**
- Location: **Louise Moore Park, 151 Country Club Road, Pavilion 2, Easton, PA**
- Registration: **Rita Lang at 610.433.6018, Ext. 225**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Lehigh Valley clients**

▶ **Activities**

Musician Jam Session

- Who Can Participate: **All clients who are musicians and/or vocalists**
- Date and Time: **Monday, August 29, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**
- Location: **Monroe Services Center**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Lehigh Valley and Monroe clients**



Musicians Wanted

The Sights for Hope client band is looking for a bassist/guitarist and players of various brass instruments. Interested clients should call Rita Lang at 610.433.6018, Ext. 225.

► Meetings

Monroe Sights for Hope Lions Club Meeting

The Monroe Sights for Hope Lions Club will hold its monthly meeting. All clients who live in Monroe County are welcome. Participants are encouraged to bring a lunch or money to order.

- Who Can Participate: **All Monroe clients**
- Date and Time: **Wednesday, August 31, 12:30-1:30 p.m.**
- Location: **Monroe Services Center**
- Registration: **Jennifer Pandolfo, 570.992.7787, Ext. 222**
- Who Can Schedule Transportation: **Monroe clients**
- Additional Details: **SightsforHope.org/MonroeLionsClub**

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Greater LV Chapter - National Federation of the Blind (GLVNFB) Meeting

- Date and Time: **Saturday, August 13, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.**
- Location: **Denny's Restaurant, 1871 Catasauqua Road, Allentown, PA**
- Additional Details: **Call Kirk Hunger at 484.239.0741**

► Meetings

Lehigh Valley Council of the Blind (LVCB) Picnic

- Who Can Participate: **LVCB members**
- Date and Time: **Saturday, August 20, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.**
- Location: **Covered Bridge Park, 2465 Wehr Mill Road, Allentown, PA**
- Additional Details: **Write to LVCB1993@gmail.com**

► Additional Events

Audio-Described Performance: Much Ado About Nothing

The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival will hold an audio-described performance of William Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*.

- Who Can Participate: **All clients**
- Date and Time: **Saturday, August 6, 2-3:30 p.m.**
- Location: **Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, 2755 Station Ave., Center Valley, PA**
- Tickets: **Call Box Office Manager Kyle Schumaker at 610.282.3654, Ext. 1**



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Client Bulletin

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