



2025
ANNUAL REPORT

**Journey
Beyond Vision**

Mission Statement

Empowering people living with vision loss with the skills and tools to achieve their goals.

Vision Statement

We aspire to be the first place people in our community and beyond turn to when seeking resources that empower those who are blind and those losing their sight.

History

In 2011, Outlook Nebraska launched Enrichment Programs with a simple but powerful goal: to equip associates with adaptive technology skills that would help them live more independently and confidently in their everyday lives.

By 2019, that work had grown into something even bigger. Outlook Enrichment became its own 501(c)(3) nonprofit, marking an important new chapter. Along the way, it became clear that the need extended far beyond adaptive technology training, not only among associates, but across a wider community of individuals experiencing vision loss who were looking for resources, encouragement, and a path toward greater independence.

Outlook Enrichment rose to meet that need, expanding its programs and services to help access critical resources, develop life-changing skills, and rediscover what is possible.

Today, that impact reaches far beyond our local community. Through remote training, Outlook Enrichment connects with clients across the country and around the world, helping more individuals gain the tools, knowledge, and support they need to truly thrive.





Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends of Outlook Enrichment,

As I look back on 2025, I am filled with tremendous gratitude for your support and generosity. Because of you, Outlook Enrichment can continue empowering individuals of all ages living with vision loss, guiding them towards greater independence and confidence to live life on their own terms.

Every skill learned, every milestone reached, and every moment of renewed confidence would not be possible without the support of our donors, volunteers, and community partners. Your generosity helps individuals gain access to adaptive technology, strengthen independent living skills, and navigate daily life with greater confidence. Just as importantly, clients are also finding connection, encouragement, and a strong sense of belonging through peer support groups, recreational activities, and monthly social outings.

In 2025, we proudly **served 134 clients and nearly doubled our community outreach efforts**, allowing us to reach more individuals, families, and partners and ensuring more people know where to turn when facing vision loss.

Now in 2026, we are building on that momentum. We are excited to bring back our youth summer camp, Outlook Explorers, continue growing our fundraising events, and expand our reach so we can serve even more individuals across the Omaha metro and nationwide.

From all of us at Outlook Enrichment, thank you for believing in our mission and the people we serve. We invite you to continue this journey with us as we work together to create programs, opportunities, and services that empower the vision loss community.



With heartfelt appreciation,

Nina Rongisch

Executive Director, Outlook Enrichment

The Heart Behind the Hustle

2025 Board of Directors

Wade Watts
*Chairperson, Independent
Consultant*

Nancy Kurtenbach
Treasurer, Outlook Collaborative

Ashley Quade
*Secretary, ECS Technology
Solutions*

Sean Blocher
UMB

Ashley A. Buhrman
Goldfein, LLC

Seth Cave
Ellerbrock-Norris Wealth

Cassie Jetter
Showcase Homes

Jenny Johnson
Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC

Neri Jordan
ECO Supportive Living

Kevin Loberg
Wells Fargo Advisors

Dr. Kyle Niemann
Visual Eyes Optical

Meaghann Oehm
Heartland Family Services

Ryan Osentowski
Radio Talking Book Services

Gary Seeger
Access Bank

Eric Stueckrath
Outlook Collaborative

Tom Williams
Malnove Packaging Solutions

Susanne Waltermeyer
*Assistant Secretary (Nonvoting
Member), Outlook Collaborative*

Staff

Nina Rongisch
Executive Director

Ross Pollpeter
Program Facilitator

Kathleen Clements
Resource Advisor

Isaac Grell
Adaptive Technology Trainer

Corey Lorenz
Adaptive Sports Specialist

Megan Mackie
Community Events Coordinator

Mike Messerole
Adaptive Sports Specialist

Dennis Nelson
Podcast Production Coordinator

Glen Wragge
Adaptive Sports Specialist

Friends of Outlook

Cassie Jetter
Chairperson, Showcase Homes

Macy Bierman
St. Wenceslaus

Linda David
Retired

Heather Esser
Ortho Nebraska

MariBeth Finke
Dr. Curry DDS Dental Office

Renee Fishler
Smile Station Pediatric Dentistry

Cale Frazier
Student

Alli Jetter
Student

Anna Jetter
Student

Jeff Kohl
Self Employed

Susie Mahnke
Builders Title Company

Cheryl Sortino
Builders Title Company

Kayla Sortino
Builders Title Company

Mary Fran Willard
Retired

Katie Willard
College Graduate



Client Success Story

Living Life on Her Own Terms

With a rewarding job, a husband, and a son, Julie Lintzman's life felt full and typical, until age 37, when she began experiencing changes in her vision. A visit to the eye doctor led to a diagnosis of retinitis pigmentosa (RP), setting her on an unexpected path. At the same time, she was balancing growing family responsibilities and facing her own cancer diagnosis, challenges that would test anyone's resilience. Despite these hardships, Julie endured, and is now making space for healing and joy.

“***I'm going to live my life the way I want to now, and I'm not looking back. My only regret is not starting to do this earlier.***”
– Julie Lintzman

Now 71, Julie is embracing all that Outlook Enrichment has to offer, adaptive technology training, peer support groups, and community

events. She even pedaled 10 miles on a tandem bike ride, proving to herself what's still possible.

With the support of the Outlook team and the community she has built, Julie has come to an empowering realization: if others who are blind or visually impaired are out doing things, she can do them too.

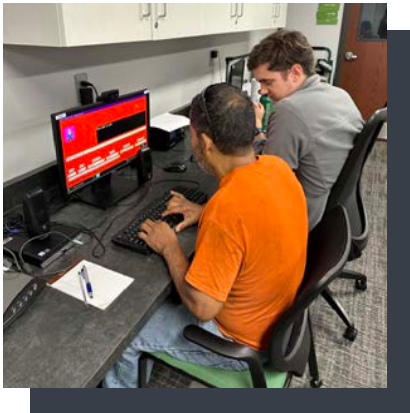
Read Julie's Full Story

<https://outlooken.org/resources/living-life-on-her-own-terms-julie-lintzmans-story/>



Insights to Living Without Limits

Every hour of service reflects our commitment to empowering individuals with the skills and tools to achieve their goals and realize what's possible.



Adaptive Technology

Equipping individuals with the knowledge and skills to use assistive and adaptive technology. From screen readers to everyday accessibility tools, clients gain the knowledge and confidence to navigate work, communication, and daily life with greater ease.

Hours: 950



Independent Living

Empowering individuals with the practical skills needed to navigate everyday life with confidence and self-sufficiency. From cooking and organization to daily routines and travel skills such as cane navigation and transportation, clients gain tools that foster freedom, safety, and greater opportunity in their daily lives.

Hours: 165



Arts & Culture

Creating opportunities for individuals to explore creativity, discover new passions, and experience the joy of community. From performances and sports to book clubs, art, and gardening, participants take part in activities that bring joy and enrichment to everyday life.

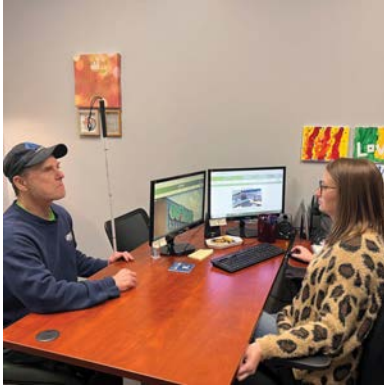
Hours: 22



Recreation

Encouraging individuals to stay active, adventurous, and engaged through inclusive recreational opportunities. From downhill skiing and golf to rock climbing and social outings, participants are discovering new experiences, building friendships, and challenging their limits.

Hours: 1416



Work Readiness

Supporting individuals as they pursue meaningful employment and career goals. Through career planning, job coaching, skills development, and personalized guidance, clients gain the tools and encouragement needed to prepare for the workforce and pursue new opportunities.

Hours: 92



Health & Wellness

Helping individuals living with vision loss prioritize their physical, emotional, and social wellbeing. Through wellness programs and peer support, participants find encouragement, build relationships, and gain a sense of community that reminds them they are not alone on their journey.

Hours: 1512

Honoring Our 2025 Volunteer of the Year

Meet Annie Distefano

In 2023, Annie and her daughter, Abby, who was then Queen of the Santa Lucia Festival, reconnected with Outlook in a special way. Inspired by the festival's mission to honor St. Lucy, the patron saint of the blind, they recalled their past tour and felt drawn to learn more about Outlook Enrichment and how they could give back to the blind and low vision community.

As Annie's connection to Outlook grew, so did her involvement. From serving on the Outlook Enrichment Board of Directors to volunteering at community events like bowling nights and braille bingo to supporting our annual gala, Vision Beyond Sight, Annie brings the same level of enthusiasm and care to everything she does.

“Abby and I have met so many wonderful people along our Outlook journey that will always hold a special place in our hearts. The joy and pride that I saw on Abby's face when people from Outlook came to the festival when she was queen is a memory I will treasure for the rest of my life.”

– Annie Distefano



As our 2025 Volunteer of the Year, Annie embodies the true spirit of giving back. We are incredibly grateful for the positivity and heart she brings to the Outlook community. If Annie's story inspires you, we invite you to get involved.

Read Annie's Full Story

<https://outlooken.org/resources/meet-our-2025-volunteer-of-the-year-annie-distefano/>



Every Number Tells a Story

Every number tells a story, a person, a moment, a step forward. Each client served reflects someone embracing something new, building skills, or reconnecting with their community. Every volunteer hour signifies someone giving their time, supporting our mission, and helping to create moments that change lives.

Together, these numbers tell a much bigger story. They represent a community working side by side, guiding individuals toward greater independence and opening the door to new possibilities.



Clients:

134

clients served

9-39

years-old

Locations: Omaha metro area, Nebraska, Iowa, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Israel



Volunteers:

40

volunteers

400

volunteer hours

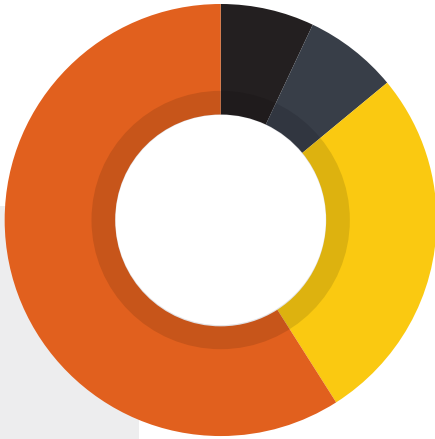


Community Outreach:

Outlook Enrichment expands vision loss awareness and connects individuals to life-changing resources through community outreach and partnerships.

Hours: 6434

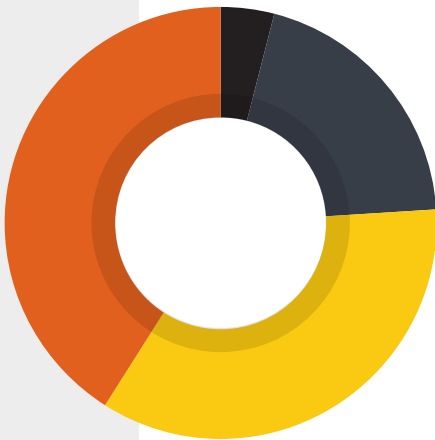
2025 Financial Overview



Revenue:

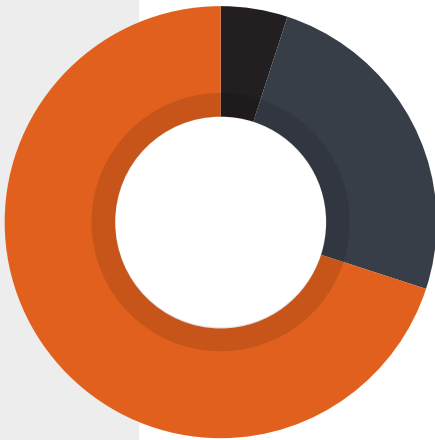
- Capital Campaign: 59%
- Fundraising: 27%
- Programs: 7%
- Events: 7%

Total: \$1,792,514



Revenue Source:

- Individuals: 41%
- Foundations: 35%
- Businesses: 20%
- Events: 4%



Expenses:

- Programs: 70%
- Fundraising: 25%
- Management & General: 5%

Total: \$727,368



No Journey Walked Alone

Vision loss looks different for everyone, and every journey that follows is deeply personal, but no one should have to walk that path alone.

Together, we are opening doors to new possibilities, fostering greater independence, and empowering individuals to remain active, engaged, members in their communities.

Organizational Supporters

Abbott Foundation

Access Bank

Adah & Leon Millard
Foundation

American Charitable
Foundation

American Online
Giving Fund

American Province
Servants of Mary
(Doris Durant Memorial)

Anonymous

Arbor Bank

Bankers Trust

Beth Morrison Projects Inc

BG Pererson

Blair Lions Club

Bridgepoint Investment
Banking

CL Werner Foundation

Cory Jensen Photography

Country Travel Discoveries

David & Wendy Treinen
Charitable Foundation

Deck It Pro

Duane and Marjory
Hillmer Fund

ECO Supportive Living

Enrichment Foundation

External Remodel & Design

Friends of Outlook

Gallagher

Gary and Mary West
Foundation

Gilbert and Martha
Hitchcock Foundation

Goodwill Omaha

Hadley Homes

HDR Foundation

Industrial Packaging

James C Semerad
Foundation

JJT Logistics

Job Source USA

Kiwanis Club of Omaha

Kleinberg Family Foundation

Lueder Construction

Lutz

Malashock Foundation

Manota E. Simon Foundation

Mary West Fund

Milbank Foundation

Moglia Family Foundation

Montage Builders

Murdock Lions Club

Mutual of Omaha	Sherwood Foundation	Union Pacific Foundation
National Philanthropic Trust	Spartan Chemical	USA Tours
Nebraska Community Foundation	Stanley M. Truhlsen, Jr. Family Foundation	Valmont Foundation
Nebraska Justice Law Firm	Starview Enterprises	Villagio Pizzeria
Olsen Foundation	State Farm - Andrea Maleki	Vistage Omaha
Omaha Performing Arts	TDS Enterprise LLC	W&E Morgan Charitable Trust
Outlook Properties	Tides Foundation	Wealth Plan Partners
Papillion Lions Club	Travel Masters	Wells Fargo
Phoenix Restoration	Trebor	William and Ruth Scott Family Foundation
RDG Planning & Design	UMB	William R. Patrick Foundation
Santa Lucia Festival	Union Bank & Trust	

Individual Donors

Aaron Weiler	Bob Sindelar	(Memorial for Judith Harvey)
Adam Ramaekers	Brad Sheets	Danielle Rouw
Aimee Limongi	Bradley Bohr	David Treinen
Alex Spanel	Brandy Redmond	DeAnna Busby-Rast
Amy Feltz	Brenda Tubbs	Deb Peterson
Amy Gerdes	Brett Wehling	Denise Scholz
Amy Mick	Brian Johaneck	Derek Schmitz
Andrea Fredrickson	Brian & Nina Rongisch	Diana Busche
Andrew Ethofer	Callie Getzschman	Don Curry
Andy Stewart	Cameron Ramaekers	Donna & Brad Hale
Anjna Valenzuela	Charlotte Curry	Doug Troupe
Arlan & Lynda Vollar	Cindy Singer	Drew Zander
Ashley Buhrman	Connor Perry	Eric Nelson
Ashley Quade	Cory Jensen	Eric Stueckrath
Bailey Collins	Cynthia Singer	Erik Johnson
Ben Micek	Damian Alexander	Erik Kapchus
Beth Bailen	Dan Park	Francisca Reboloso
Bill Larson	Dana Medeiros	George & Sylvia Hermone
Bill O'Neill	Dana Payne	Gerald Kuhn
Blake Lohnes	Daniel & Margaret Schomer	Greg Larsen
Bob Krupa	Daniel Schomer	Heather Weist

Ian Casey	Kevin Loberg	RC Johnson
James Moore	Kevin Schuster	Renae Connolly
Jane Freyer	Klayton Schmitz	Renee Fishler
Jane Nielsen	Kyle Niemann	Richard Andrews
Janelle Peterson	Lance Fenter	Richard Stibor
Janet Farber	Larry Labens	Rick & Patsy Havenridge
Jarad Miller	Lenard Stadom	Robert Rapp
Jason Bauer	Linda David	Robert Schimonitz
Jason Gustafson	Lynn Williams	Roger Curry
Jeanette Moeller	Marc Thomsen	Ross Scholz
Jeff Hoff	Marget Conley	Samantha Randall
Jennie Castaneda	Marie Larsen	Scot Schoenwalder
Jennifer Wilbeck	Mark & Bertie Plutschak	Scott Alexander
Jerrica Panebianco	Marley Doyle	Sean Williams
Jerry Winkelbauer	Marshall Mallum	Seth Cave
Jess Robins	Mary Fran Willard	Shelley Forsman
Jess Schure	Mary Kisilewski	Stephanie Hawks
Joan Lukas	Matt Gamble	Steve Bolinger
Jodi Longmeyer	Matthew Andersen	Susanne Waltermeyer
Joe & Deb Tauer	Matthew Baer	Tammy Langdon
John & Vicki Baines	Matthew Johnson	Tim Hunter
John Baines (Memorial for Judith Harvey)	Melinda Kizer	Tobi Mathouser
John Rosso	Melissa Swan	Todd Chaney
Joshua Mell	Melody Hanus	Tom Williams
Joshuwa Hannum	Michael Nelson	Tony Boldt
Juli Coppersmith	Michael Vrbicky	Tony Grazziano
Julie Evans	Michelle Blann	Tony Scharff
Julie Labens	Nancy Kurtenbach	Tony Vcelik
Justin Nash	Nathan Wichman	Troy Solsaa
Kalynn Manley	Neely Thomsen	Wade Behlen
Karen Jensen	Noah Ludwick	Wade Watts
Kathleen Clements	Patrick Havlat	Walter Whited
Keli O'Dell	Patty Bain	William & Ana Byrd (in Memory of Ricardo Dominquez)
Kenneth Mar	Paul Heimann	Wyatt Behlen
Kenneth Plaehn	Pete Adams	

Events That Bring Our Mission to Life

Our fundraising events do more than offer an opportunity to give back, they are powerful experiences that bring our mission to life. Through immersive activities, personal stories, and shared moments, attendees develop a deeper understanding of vision loss and witness firsthand the resilience and potential within the Outlook community.



Tee It Up Fore Sight Golf Tournament - June 4, 2025

Tee It Up Fore Sight is more than a day on the course; it's an opportunity to connect with our mission in a meaningful way. Paired with the Stanley M. Truhlsen, Jr. Blind Golfer Clinic, the event blends a round of golf with immersive activities that deepen understanding of vision loss while cheering on our clients as they put their hard work and practice into play.



Bags & Brews Cornhole Tournament - August 17, 2025

Where community and friendly competition come together for a greater purpose. Bags & Brews invites participants to have fun, build awareness, and make a direct impact, with every team registration helping provide vital skills training for individuals living with vision loss.



Pies & Pasta with Purpose - September 9-11, 2025

In partnership with Villagio Pizzeria, this three-day event brought people together over great food and a meaningful cause. Rooted in a shared connection to vision loss, every meal served helped support Outlook Enrichment's programs.



Vision Beyond Sight Gala - November 6, 2025

An unforgettable evening that unites our community through powerful stories and shared purpose, reminding individuals facing vision loss that they are never alone. One of the most memorable moments of the night is Dessert in the Dark, an immersive experience offers powerful insight into life with vision loss while fostering empathy, connection, and understanding.



Become an Outlook Community Partner!

<https://outlooken.org/resources/sponsorship-opportunities/>



outlook ENRICHMENT

OutlookEN.org

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