



City of Arts & Innovation

Commission on Disabilities

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2019**

FROM: GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION FROM BLINDNESS SUPPORT SERVICES ABOUT PROMOTING THE INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-RELIANCE OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

ISSUE:

Receive a presentation from Blindness Support Services about promoting the independence and self-reliance of individuals who are blind and visually impaired.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Commission on Disabilities receive a presentation from Blindness Support Services about promoting the independence and self-reliance of individuals who are blind and visually impaired.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission on Disabilities' (COD) mission is to identify the needs of persons with disabilities and create a public awareness of these needs in the areas of employment, housing, transportation, media, and physical and communication accessibility. The mission also supports programs and activities that promote greater independence for people with disabilities.

DISCUSSION:

Blindness Support Services Inc. provides a no-cost program for people who are experiencing low vision or total blindness. The program consists of a variety of classes that can be provided in-home. The bilingual staff can educate and introduce clients to adaptive devices, enabling them to function with independence. Staff at Blindness Support Services are dedicated to teaching those who are blind, or are otherwise visually impaired, to become more independent and able to adapt to challenges inherent to people facing visual impairments.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Submitted by: Monique Gordon, ADA Coordinator
Approved by: Carl Carey, General Services Director
Approved by: Moises Lopez, Deputy City Manager