



Valley Center for the Blind

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Valley Center for the Blind

**Serving
Madera,
Fresno,
Tulare,
Kings &
Kern
Counties**



myvcb.org

559.222.4447



**SERVING
SINCE
1973**

ACCESS. OPPORTUNITY. INDEPENDENCE.

Valley Center for the Blind serves individuals who are blind or living with vision impairment throughout the Central Valley, delivering support, training, and employment services that foster independence and dignity. This annual report reflects how, together with our community, we transformed challenges into opportunity and expanded access to essential services across five counties.



EMPOWERING PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND ACROSS THE CENTRAL VALLEY

10,782 individuals meaningfully engaged in 2024/2025

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This past year tested us in ways we could not have anticipated. Yet through every challenge, our mission remained unwavering: to empower people who are blind or living with vision impairment to live full, independent, and connected lives.

Thanks to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and community partners, Valley Center for the Blind continued to deliver high-quality services across our five-county region. From essential independent living skills and assistive technology training to programs that reduce isolation and build confidence, our team showed remarkable resilience and creativity to ensure no one was left behind.

Your belief in our work made this possible. Because of your support, we were able to adapt, innovate, and meet people where they are—whether they were new to vision loss, returning to the workforce, or learning the tools needed to succeed in school and everyday life. Every service delivered represents a person gaining skills, confidence, and greater independence.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to expanding access, strengthening our programs, and advocating for a world where people with vision loss are included, supported, and empowered to thrive.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for helping us make a meaningful difference every single day.

With appreciation,
Shellena Heber



IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Our Impact | Fiscal Year 2024–2025

10,782 people meaningfully engaged

688 individuals received direct training services

15,819 training services provided

336 new clients welcomed to Valley Center for the Blind

Specialized Services

67 individuals received Low Vision Services

218 individuals received Assistive Technology training

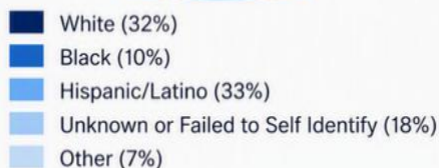
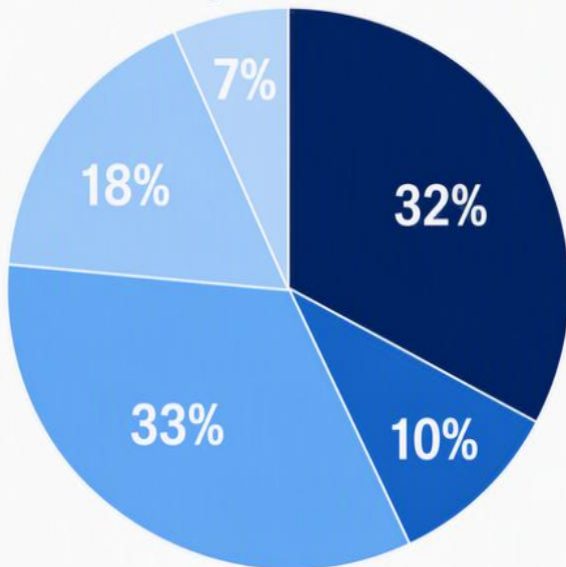
110 individuals received Independent Living Skills training

102 individuals received Work Readiness Training and Support

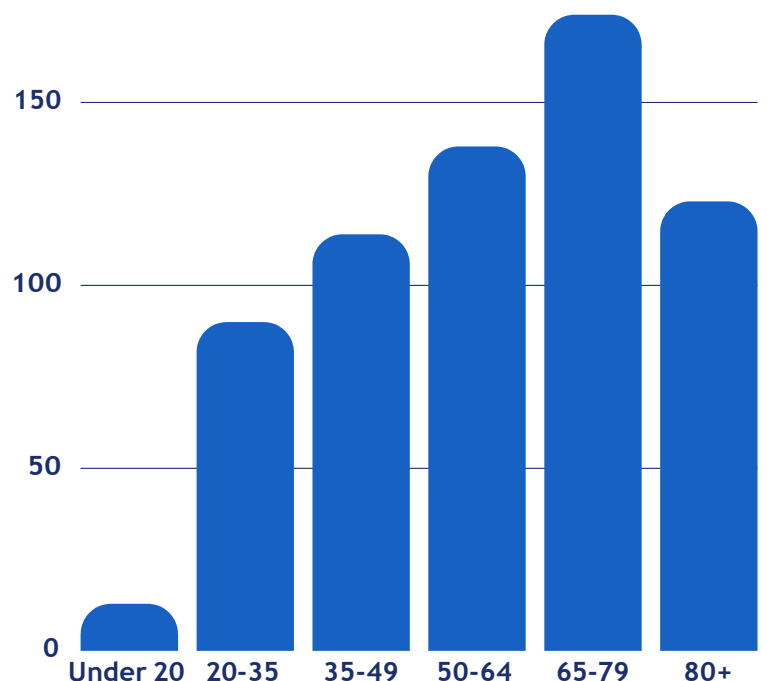
Every number represents a person taking steps toward greater independence, education, employment, and connection in their community.



Ethnicity of VCB Clients



VCB Participants by Age





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Building Independence and Confidence

Core Training Programs

VCB's rehabilitation services empower individuals who are blind or have low vision to build the skills needed for independence, education, employment, and community participation. Through individualized training in Assistive Technology, Independent Living Skills (ILS), Orientation & Mobility (O&M), and Braille literacy, clients learn to safely travel in their communities, manage everyday tasks at home, access information, communicate effectively, and confidently use adaptive technologies. Each program is tailored to the individual's goals, providing practical tools that foster greater self-sufficiency and quality of life.



Workforce & Employment Services

Employment is a cornerstone of independence. VCB's workforce programs help individuals prepare for, secure, and maintain meaningful employment through job readiness training, real world work experiences, and support for both employees and employers. By addressing barriers and building confidence, these programs open pathways to long term economic opportunity across the Central Valley.



Inclusion • Enrichment • Connection (IEC)

VCB's IEC social programs foster connection, confidence, and community for people experiencing vision loss. Through support groups, counseling, adaptive recreation, and special events, participants build meaningful relationships while strengthening emotional well-being and independence. These programs also include family-centered and student-focused events designed to reduce isolation and help individuals and families build strong support networks during times of transition.

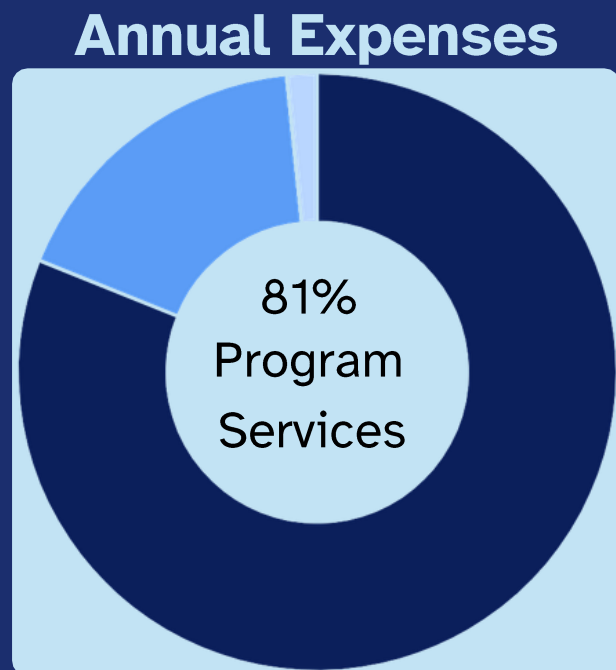


"VCB gave me the tools and confidence to move forward."

COMMUNITY SUPPORT & FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Stewardship in Service of Impact

Valley Center for the Blind is committed to responsible stewardship of the resources entrusted to us. In Fiscal Year 2024–2025, VCB managed a diverse funding portfolio while continuing to prioritize direct services for individuals who are blind or visually impaired across Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings, and Kern Counties.



Program Services: \$2,300,662 (81.1%)
Management & General: \$489,692 (17.3%)
Fundraising: \$46,599 (1.6%)

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Total Operating Revenue: Approximately \$2.8 million
- Total Operating Expenses: Approximately \$2.6 million
- Positive Operating Results allowed VCB to reinvest in program stability, infrastructure, and service continuity.

The majority of VCB's revenue came from program services and government grants, complemented by fundraising and community contributions. This balanced funding mix helps ensure sustainability while reducing reliance on any single source.

WHERE THE RESOURCES WENT

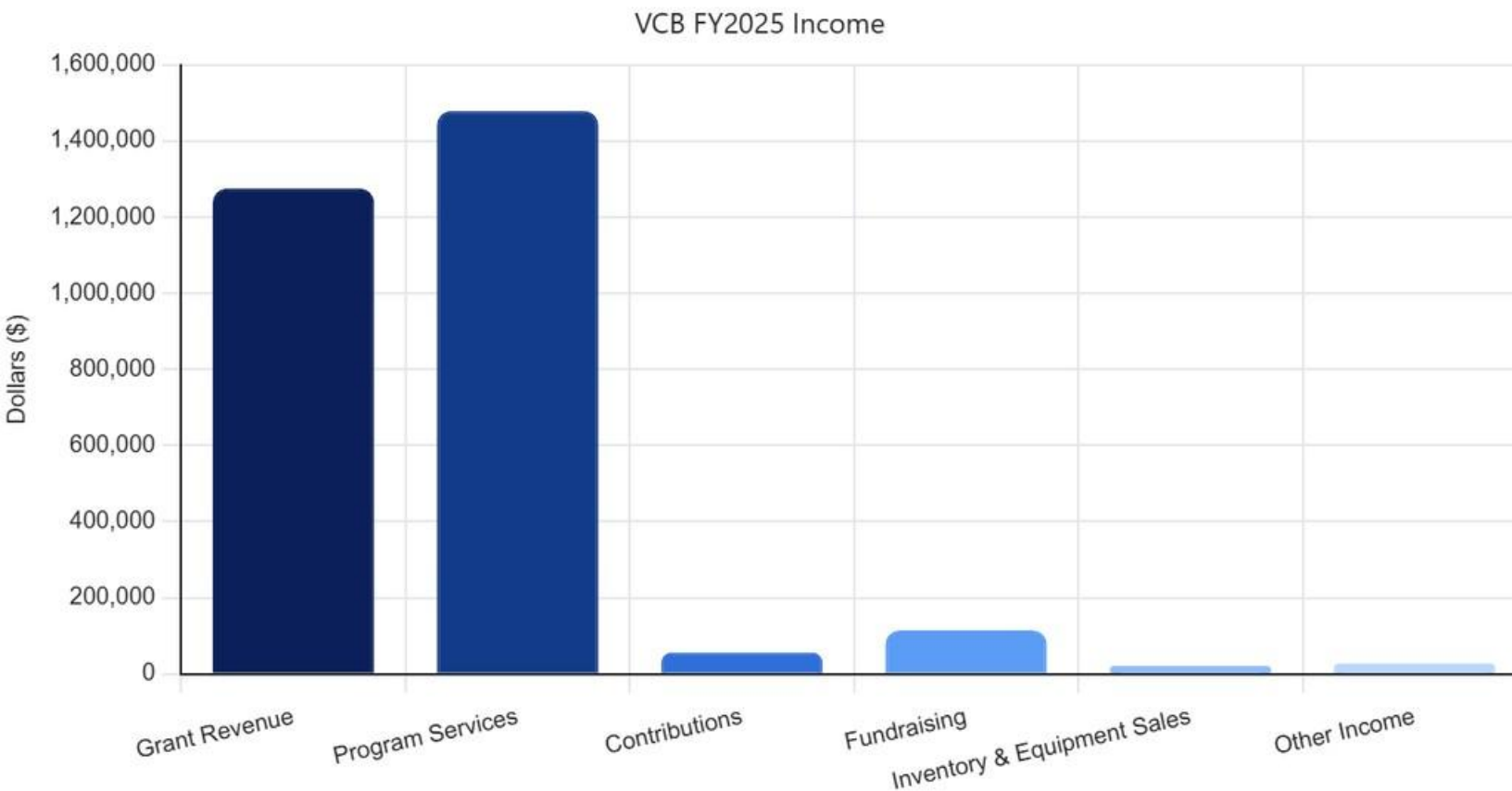
VCB directed the overwhelming majority of expenses toward program services, including:

- Direct rehabilitation and training services
- Workforce and employment programs
- Assistive technology and low vision supports
- Client engagement, outreach, and community programming

Personnel costs remain the largest investment, reflecting VCB's commitment to qualified, specialized staff who deliver high-quality services directly to clients.

ADAPTABILITY AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

During FY 2024–2025, VCB navigated shifting funding environments, delayed authorizations, and changes in grant and contract activity at the state and federal levels. Through careful expense management and strategic planning, the organization maintained fiscal stability while continuing to serve more than 10,000 individuals through meaningful engagement.



COMMITMENT TO QUALITY

Valley Center for the Blind is CARF Accredited, reflecting adherence to rigorous standards for quality, accountability, and continuous improvement. Financial oversight is provided by leadership and the Board of Directors to ensure resources are used effectively and in alignment with mission priorities.



ABUNDANT GRATITUDE

Our work is made possible by strong partnerships with government agencies, private funders, businesses, donors, and community supporters. Your investment enables VCB to expand access, respond to emerging needs, and ensure individuals experiencing vision loss are supported with dignity and opportunity.

Adventist Health
Golden 1 Credit Union
Target Circle Program
Pawandeep Janghu
Shaver Lake Lions Club
CAF America
George & Sheila Saxelby
Barbara Angone
Bryan Eidal
Fred & Kim Amirfar
Chi (Arthur) Huang
S&E Organic Farms, Inc
Scott Davis
Hudson & Company, Inc.
Navjot Basra
Cara Roberts
Cala Carter
Patricia & Michael Camarillo
Scott & Renee McCallum
Paycom Payroll, LLC
United Way of California Capital Region
Charles & Lois Rigsbee
North Fresno Lions Club
Monica Huey
Gina Wathen
William Hedrick
Olga Andrade
Bianca Moreno
Bakersfield City Council- BruceFreeman
Jayne Ramirez
Laurie A. Isham
Jatinder Kumar
John & Catherine Moseley
Marissa O'Donnell
Cali Cheek
Fraternal Order of Eagles
Gregory Linkowski
Jonathan Nunez
Helen Ann Washburn

ATachi Casino & Resort
Mary Trichell
Adventist Health - Hanford
BHE Renewables
Mark A. Sidlinger
Bonnie Campbell
Blackbaud Giving Fund
Linda Sidlinger
David Caracas
Scott Laird
Advanced Retina Care (Dr. Vivian Kim)
Michelle Lumis
Mormastro Transport, Inc.
Javier Bustamante
Michael Douglass
Kiwanis Club of West Visalia
Olsen Construction & Restoration
Insurica
Scott Laird
Sarah J Karabian-Statler &
Ronald S Statler
Superior Doors & Building Materials
David Goss
Carissa Adams
Edward Davis
Frontstream / Truist (for CostCoGiving)
Leonard Deal
Richard Meridith
Gary Griffen
Joseph Blair
Shelly Guess
Elizabeth Meridith
Mike Burnett
Paimanjot Kaur
Catherine Betts
Carolyn Cave
Carolyn Kelvington
Edward Leroy
Henry Vehrs

Eye-Q Vision Care
The Bidart Family Foundation
Schilling Family Trust
Aldo Angone Farms
Jamie Gibson-Barrows (C)
James W. Kaufmann
Dino Mastrocinque
Ryan Wullschleger
City of Fresno
Lauren Fernandez
Sally Panero
Mike & Patricia Davis
Vernon Crowder (Trust)
Christina Linneman
The Foundation @ FCOE
Ruben Fernandez
Alan & Marie Cole
Lesley Gibbons
Sarah Trichell
David Jourden
Delta Gamma Foundation
Garrett French
Marvin & Debbie Douglass
Margaret J. Winchester
Madera Evening Lions of California
Nicole Angone
Regina Webb
Aaron Hegde
Bakersfield Sports Lions Club
James Gilmore
Carl's Jr.
Susan Begin
Bonni B. Pellicciotti
Lydia & Sam Espinoza
Robert Giardina
Michael & Beth Goldfarb
Bertina Richter
Carolyn Sakauye

LOOKING AHEAD TO A BRIGHT AND BOLD FUTURE



As needs continue to grow, Valley Center for the Blind is focused on:

- Expanding access to assistive technology and digital skills
- Strengthening support for students and families
- Advancing workforce opportunities and employer partnerships
- Sustaining high-quality services across all five counties we serve

Your support makes this work possible.



LEARN MORE AT [MYVCB.ORG](https://myvcb.org)

Together, we are building a Central Valley where people with vision loss have the tools, support, and opportunity to thrive.



Valley Center for the Blind 2024-2025

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT VCB

VISIT US!

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220 S Mooney Blvd. Suite E. Visalia, CA 93291

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559.222.4447 or 661.865.5115

FEDERAL TAX I.D. (EIN) :

94-2255626

WEBSITE :

www.myvcb.org

*We support, train, and
employ people who are blind
or have low vision.*