

A Lasting Vision

using Planned Giving

Headquarters: 244 N. Queen Street, Suite 301 | Lancaster, PA 17603
 VisionCorps Fundraising: 717-393-5894 | VisionCorps Services: 866-876-6550
 717-435-8367 fax | www.visioncorps.net
 Also serving Adams, Chester, Lebanon and York counties

VisionCorps

INDEPENDENCE is our *Vision!*

Serving individuals with vision loss in Lancaster County

MAKE A LASTING COMMITMENT AND SHOW YOU REALLY CARE

If the past year has taught us anything, it has given us a renewed focus on resilience, and an appreciation for people who really care. VisionCorps is deeply grateful to everyone who supports and sustains our mission by including VisionCorps in their estate plans. We'd like to thank and honor those who, by their commitment, are making an extraordinary difference in the resilience of our community today and tomorrow.

Two such caring people are Keith and Debbie Mink. When Keith's eyesight began to fail due to retinitis pigmentosa (RP), he retired from his career teaching shop and metalworking. He embarked on a journey to learn how to retain and regain a sense of independence. But he wasn't alone. His wife, Debbie was right by his side, and it had an impact on her sense of independence, as well.

"VisionCorps helped Keith learn how to use new technologies," Debbie said. "He was struggling with the buttons on the telephone. Now, he uses voiceover commands on his iPhone to dial, send emails or texts, set alarms, and access his calendar. He loves listening to audiobooks on WWII. And he knows how to reach me if he gets lost while out walking."

"My big concern was that he might walk in front of an oncoming car because he can't see well," Debbie said. On walks, Keith uses hiking poles that assist with balance. VisionCorps put red and white tape on his poles to help communicate that he's blind. At other times, he uses a white cane that helps him find curbs and steps.

Keith is among millions of people in the United States who have inherited RP. The Minks also support research, but until there's a cure, people with RP and other diseases and conditions that affect vision need help right now. "We are so fortunate to have VisionCorps here in our community," Debbie said. "We hope our story and our commitment inspires others to include this wonderful organization in their estate plans."



VisionCorps' community members, like Keith and Debbie Mink, have empowered and changed the lives of so many people, and have helped to create a world where vision loss isn't a barrier to independence. By including a gift to VisionCorps in your will, you too can honor and support their work for generations to come. Celebrate our community by creating a legacy with VisionCorps.

EVERY ONE OF US WILL LEAVE A LEGACY. NOW IS THE TIME TO DETERMINE WHAT YOURS WILL BE.

Leaving a legacy gift supports the future of VisionCorps and the continuation of services to future generations living with vision loss. It is both powerful and simple.

Having a will is the best way to take care of your family and loved ones by making sure your plans are in place no matter what. It is also an incredible way to create a lasting legacy with the causes and organizations that have made a huge impact on your life. A legacy with VisionCorps is a step towards a world where vision loss is not a barrier to personal and economic independence.

That's where you come in. By including VisionCorps in your estate plans, you can improve the quality of life for people in our community who are struggling to adjust to losing their vision. These are people who love to read, but can no longer see print. They've had to hang up their car keys because it is no longer safe for them to drive. They may have lost their livelihood when they lost their vision, and are letting their talents go to waste. Perhaps they've stopped going out because they're afraid of falling.

Imagine the hope and help your gift will bring them! When you consider the legacy you want to leave after you're gone, your family, of course, comes first. But please consider also including a gift to VisionCorps. Your gift empowers people who are blind or visually impaired to attain new levels of independence and improve their quality of life. You are helping to sustain VisionCorps' services for the future!

WAYS TO LEAVE A LEGACY

Many options for planned giving—including charitable remainder trusts, lead trusts, cash, life insurance, securities, and retirement plan assets—allow you to focus on what works best for you and your objectives. Gifts provide flexibility and control of assets, while providing for loved ones and a worthy cause.

A tax-free way to support VisionCorps

If you are 70.5 or older, and you have a traditional IRA, there's a smarter way for you to empower people who are blind or vision impaired. Making a gift from your IRA, known as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a tax-free way to give to the causes you care about, even if you don't itemize deductions on your tax return.

What is a Qualified Charitable Distribution?

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs), also known as "IRA Charitable Rollover Gifts," are distributions paid directly from an IRA to a charity. Because QCDs (in most cases) lower one's overall taxable income (as opposed to increasing deductions), they are one of the most tax-efficient ways for older donors to make charitable gifts.

Anyone 70.5 or older can give QCDs from a traditional IRA. Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) — the amount that IRA owners must withdraw from their accounts after a certain age — create a strong sense of urgency for them to donate. If they do not meet their RMDs, IRA owners face a large tax penalty. This provides them with an incentive to either withdraw those amounts (increasing their taxable income) or to donate them as QCDs.

LEARN HOW A LEGACY GIFT CAN WORK FOR YOU

Make a planned gift and join the VisionCorps' 1926 Society today. We can send you additional information or meet with you personally to explore various giving options.

***Contact Angela Lauer, Senior Philanthropy Officer at 717-925-7101
or alauer@visioncorps.net***