



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **VisionCorps is Looking for Old Photos and Objects**

**(LANCASTER, Penna.) Jan. 28, 2026 –** [VisionCorps](#) is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and is asking people for help in highlighting its work over the years.

“We are so excited to celebrate 100 years of serving individuals who are blind or vision impaired,” said Megan Sofilka Tomsheck, VisionCorps president and CEO. “We would like to present a well-rounded display of our history and are asking people in our communities for help by sharing objects of interest for us to document in our archives.”

“The objects or items can be donated or loaned to VisionCorps,” said Tomsheck. “We will keep the items in good condition and will return them to their owners.”

Over the years, said Tomsheck, VisionCorps has operated under several different names beginning with the Lancaster County Association for the Blind. It then became Susquehanna Association for the Blind & Vision Impaired when services expanded to Lebanon County, and York County Blind Center and ForSight Vision in York. While VisionCorps started in Lancaster, over the years its footprint expanded to also include providing vision rehabilitation services in Adams, Chester, Lebanon, and York Counties. Today, it offers employment for the blind and vision impaired in Lancaster, York, and Little Rock, Arkansas as well as remote opportunities nationwide in its Professional Services Division.

After its founding in 1926 as an agency offering help to veterans who returned from WWI with impaired vision, it taught chair caning, basket weaving and other tactile trades in its Lancaster location.

VisionCorps also offered educational activities including a speech and visit by Helen Keller in 1932. It operated a gift shop and a children’s preschool on-site. Its social activities included outreach luncheons, special music programs and fundraisers, and recreational opportunities such as a bowling league.

Some donated objects that VisionCorps would like to include in its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibit might include:

- Old photos of people at work or visiting the VisionCorps Lancaster office. These photos can be donated to VisionCorps or scanned to send an electronic version. If someone has photos they'd like to have scanned in their house, they can contact us for that service.
- Caned items – including chairs or caning features
- Hand-woven baskets
- Braille books, Bibles, or other items in Braille
- Old radios used to listen to programs
- Old canes used for mobility by people who were blind or vision impaired
- Older eyeglasses or objects used by blind or vision impaired people to improve their sight
- Children's toys or books designed for children who are blind or vision impaired
- Other objects specifically used by people who were blind or vision impaired

Tomsheck said the year-long celebration of the agency's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary will include special displays and programs, along with a celebration gala on Friday, October 2. In addition, VisionCorps' annual rappelling event, The [Eye Drop 2026](#), scheduled for Friday, June 5, will also have an anniversary theme, "Reeling into the Future."

For more information about donating items to VisionCorps or the anniversary commemorations, please contact Carol Gifford, Community Relations Manager, at 717-205-4149.

## **About VisionCorps**

VisionCorps is a nonprofit with a goal of empowering people who are blind, or vision impaired to attain independence by providing them with the tools and training, including employment, to empower them. The organization serves almost 1,400 individuals with rehabilitation services in Lancaster, Lebanon, Chester, York, and Adams counties. VisionCorps' prevention services include KidSight, which screens more than 11,000 children annually for vision loss.

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