

IDENTIFICATION OF TVI's in the STATE

The purpose of this project is to identify the current roles of certified teachers of the visually impaired in the state of Missouri. Two questions were addressed. Where are the certificated teachers of the visually impaired not working in that role and the location of students identified as having a visual impairment who may not have a service provider. The Blindness Skills Specialists and the Missouri School for the Blind Outreach Services addressed these questions for their assigned geographic region.

A 2013 list was generated by the DESE Core Data Department to provide us with the names and cities of all individuals who hold a Blind or Partially Sighted (B/PS) Certificate who are employed or not employed. That was a list of 402 names. The names were first divided geographically based on the 9 RPDC regions. Next, individuals working out of state were removed from the list. Then the names were divided into the 9 RPDC regions. The regional lists were examined to identify those individuals who were currently working, moved, retired, or working in another role or left the field. This list is not 100% accurate and we will continue to gather information regarding the list of certified teachers of the visually impaired in the state. The data was obtained using 2012 IDEA and APH child count and certification information. Keep in mind that families move and teachers change positions or retire.

RPDC HEART OF MISSOURI – REGION 2: It is located in the Central Part of the State and divided among the Blindness Skills Specialists and MSB Outreach. This document will describe the four counties (2N) assigned to Anthony Blades and the six counties (2W) assigned to the BSS positions out of MSU.

- 14 currently working in a Region 2N or 2W district as TVI. One TVI working in another role. The status of 3 certified TVI's is unknown at this time.
- 21 school districts have identified student(s).
- 14 districts have a service provider and 7 do not.

RPDC KANSAS CITY – REGION 3: It is located in the Kansas City area.

- 28 currently working in a Region 3 district as TVI. One TVI working in another role and the status of 8 certified TVI's is unknown at this time.
- 29 school districts have identified student(s).
- 25 districts have a service provider and 4 do not.

RPDC NORTHEAST - KIRKSVILLE – REGION 4: It is located in the northeast area of the state and served by Anthony Blades.

- 16 school districts have identified student(s).
- 5 districts have a service provider and 11 do not.

RPDC NORTHWEST - MARYVILLE – REGION 5: It is located in the northwest area of the state and served by Anthony Blades.

- 9 school districts have identified student(s).
- 5 districts have a service provider and 4 do not.

NOTE: 8 service providers in region 4 and 5

RPDC SOUTH CENTRAL - ROLLA – REGION 6: It is located in the central southern part of the state and is divided among the MSU Blindness Skills Specialists and Missouri School for the Blind. This document describes the three counties (6W) assigned to the BSS positions out of MSU.

- 1 Currently working in a Region 6W district as a TVI. Two TVI's are working in other roles and the status of 1 certified TVI is unknown at this time.
- 5 school districts have identified student(s).
- 3 districts have a service provider and 2 do not.

RPDC SOUTHWEST - SPRINGFIELD – REGION 7: It is located in the southwestern part of the state.

- 20 Currently working in a Region 7 district as a TVI. Nine TVI's are working in other roles and the status of 4 individuals is unknown at this time. An additional four individuals are at MSU.
- 44 school districts have identified student(s).
- 31 districts have a service provider and 13 do not.

RPDC CENTRAL - WARRENSBURG – REGION 9: It is located in the central western part of the state.

- 3 Currently working in a Region 9 district as a TVI and 2 are unknown at this time.
- 13 school districts have identified student(s).
- 4 districts have a service provider and 9 do not.

MSB ST. LOUIS METRO / SE MISSOURI– REGIONS 1 AND 8: (including parts of regions 2 & 6)

- 64 TVIs identified (may serve multiple areas)
- 19 O&Ms identified (may serve multiple areas)
- 3 districts and 5 MSSD schools have legally blind students without TVI services
- 9 districts and 6 MSSD schools have legally blind students without O&M services
- 10 counties in MO do not identify services provided by TVI or O&M for identified children enrolled in First Steps.

Services Plan of Action

- Outreach to districts reporting no services (TVI and/or O&M) for students identified as VI.
- Outreach to MSSD schools reporting no TVI or O&M services.
- Continue First Steps outreach efforts (10 counties in MO reported they did not have TVI or O&M services.)
- Network with LASE (Local Administrators of Special Education groups) to provide information on services available.
- Technical assistance to service providers currently serving multiple students in multiple districts.

- Look at data to determine which teachers are serving students after school, weekends, or part time while working in another role within the district or neighboring district.
- Outreach to districts where APH data indicates VI students do not have a Functional Vision or O&M Assessment on file. (Provide FVA or O&M assessments to assist with program planning)
- Provide MSU with information about areas of need. With this information they can conduct targeted marketing to those geographic regions for recruitment of potential TVIs and COMS.
- Update data with 2013 APH registration information when available.