Advances in medicine have made it possible for individuals who have suffered strokes to survive and recover. Once discharged from in-patient rehabilitation, however, they may experience vision-related issues that cause difficulty completing everyday tasks. Thanks to a generous $250,000 grant from the New York City-based Lavelle Fund for the Blind, Inc., ABVI is building a new program to help these individuals.

“We saw an opportunity to take the experience and the skill set we have at ABVI and focus on this area. Although we are not neurologic specialists, we are vision rehabilitation specialists. We want to offer vision rehabilitation services for this unique group of individuals,” says ABVI’s Low Vision Center Managing Director Katherine White, OD.

ABVI’s new program will focus on neurologic vision rehabilitation, providing services to individuals who have had strokes and who are experiencing visual deficits, such as the loss of side vision. Patients would see a low vision doctor at ABVI. Then the patient would work with a licensed occupational therapist specializing in vision rehabilitation to address their personal needs and goals. The patient would then undergo vision therapy, possibly incorporating specialized visual motor equipment.

According to Dr. White, ABVI has been serving individuals who have suffered strokes all along. This new program is an evolution of those services, and as such was included in the planning for the new Vision Rehabilitation Center.

“We did not have enough space in the previous Vision Rehabilitation Center for the program. We designated space for this program in the new building from the get go. It’s because of our donor’s generous contribution that this is even possible,” says Dr. White.
3M and ABVI are a SMART Team

ABVI and 3M Corporation have partnered together for 23 years to produce self-stick note pads under the AbilityOne Program, the largest single provider of jobs for people who are blind or have other severe disabilities in the United States. ABVI is where it is today in large part because of our partnership with 3M. Our work with them has helped to create jobs and sustainable income for people who are blind or visually impaired.

The products produced by ABVI’s staff members, including the more than 140 million self-stick note pads produced annually, are shipped throughout the United States and are used by armed forces members at military bases worldwide.

3M also supports our mission philanthropically. They were a major contributor to the recent Centennial Campaign and donated two SMART boards to the organization. We are grateful for 3M’s longstanding support and partnership.

Pointed Toward Confidence: The Charlie Hawken Story

When Charlie Hawken was diagnosed with diabetic retinopathy in 2000, it didn’t just change his life. It also affected his wife, Mary. “We’re a team,” says Charlie. As his vision diminished, he began to rely more on her. “I watch Mary. I follow in her footsteps. She tells me what to watch out for.”

Charlie’s doctor suggested he contact ABVI when he was told he was legally blind in both eyes. ABVI staff came to Charlie’s house, helped him with filing VA paperwork, and gave him tips for navigating his house and community. “My vision’s been stable for about eight years. I function very well. I am one of the lucky ones,” says Charlie.

“I think he’s done wonderfully with ABVI. He’s gotten what he’s needed and any contact with them has been wonderful,” adds Mary.

For Charlie, the biggest thing ABVI gave him was confidence. “People don’t realize how much they can help themselves if they get pointed in the right direction. That’s really what ABVI did for me. And I say for me, but it’s for us. It helps both of us. That’s really why I became a monthly donor – ABVI was there for me. I want them to be there for somebody else.”
Calling All Big Kids To Come Play At ABVI’s Annual Fundraiser

ABVI’s “Play It Forward” celebrates the kid in all of us. The event was inspired by our current project — construction of an Outdoor Mobility Training Area, which will help both children and adults who are blind or visually impaired learn to more easily navigate their world. The area will include adaptive equipment for children that will allow them to climb, jump, run and play outside just like their sighted peers.

To raise awareness for this project, we’ve created an evening of fun and frolicking for us big kids! Join us on June 1, 2013 in our new Vision Rehabilitation Center, which will be transformed into a big kids paradise with soaring kites, oversized flowers, and bright colors everywhere. The event will feature whimsical hors d’oeuvres, an open bar, live jazz music, games, raffles, silent and live auctions — all emceed by local radio personality and friend of ABVI Steve Hausmann.

For more information, please call Debra at (585) 697-5711, e-mail dcalandrillo@abvi-goodwill.com, or visit www.SeeGreatThings.com/WaystoHelp/PlayItForward.aspx

ABVI Announces Newest Visionary Society Members

The Visionary Society is a committed group of individuals who have supported the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired through their contributions for the last 10 or more consecutive years.

Members of the Visionary Society can take pride in knowing they have helped many people in the Greater Rochester area and surrounding communities who are blind or visually impaired. Their continued financial support has been paramount in us delivering services and fulfilling our mission.

We are grateful for our continuing members and would like to welcome our newest members:

Steven and Diane Feldon
Frederick and Rosanne Holbrook
Barbara Nussmann

For a full listing of Visionary Society Members, please visit our website – SeeGreatThings.com – and click on the ABVI Visionary Society link under the Donate Now drop down menu under the Ways To Help tab on the home page.

If you have any questions about the Visionary Society or you feel your name has been omitted, please contact Tracy Schleyer at (585) 697-5780.
Thank You!

Drawn by a 7-year-old participant in our Winter Chill Program, this artwork was given as a thanks, and in appreciation for the time spent together, building relationships, and the strengthening of skills.

PGA Championship Raffle Winners

Two Lucky ABVI Supporters Win 2013 PGA Championship Tickets!

On March 15, 2013, ABVI President and CEO Gidget Hopf drew the winning tickets for our 2013 PGA Championship at Oak Hill Country Club ticket raffle.

Our Grand Prize winner was William Clune. He receives two tickets to the 2013 PGA Championship’s sold-out final round on Sunday, August 11. Anthony Piccolo won the first prize of two tickets to attend the first six days of play.

We are grateful to everyone who supported ABVI in this appeal, which raised $5,571. This money will help fund the efforts to renovate existing space in our building. This area will include the Career and Training Center, a Children’s Room, the Family Resource Center, and an Adaptive Skills Training Area. With the help of our generous donors, we can provide better facilities for children and seniors, superior training rooms, and less crowded conditions for all we serve.
The kindness and generosity of our donors help us to offer the best and most up-to-date services possible. The following is a list of much needed items that are not covered by ABVI’s budget. To donate funds to purchase any of these items, or to donate the items themselves, please contact Tracy Schleyer, CFRE, at tschleyer@abvi-goodwill.com or (585) 697-5780.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital subscription to the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle: $156</td>
<td>$156</td>
<td>This resource would allow Career Development Specialists to stay current on area employers, employment opportunities as well as local labor trends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mac Mini with OS X Server $999</td>
<td>$999</td>
<td>This server would enable us to configure the devices we use for programs like TechBridge on a single account, allowing us to operate more efficiently at a lower cost.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The iPad with Retina Display (16GB Wi-Fi): $499</td>
<td>$499</td>
<td>The iPad will be used for our Children’s Programs. The accessibility and portability makes the iPad ideal to use with children who are blind or visually impaired.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikon D3000 Digital SLR Camera: $329</td>
<td>$329</td>
<td>This camera would allow our staff to capture moments from recreation programs and document and share the work that we do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPad Mini Wi-Fi 16GB: $329</td>
<td>$329</td>
<td>This is the newest iPad product from Apple. With this, we can demonstrate the most up-to-date technologies for those we serve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streak retinoscope: $399</td>
<td>$399</td>
<td>Our Project Eye Care program aids those who lack the means for eye care or lack insurance coverage. Often an eye exam and a simple pair of eye glasses can greatly improve the quality of life for an individual in need. This device would be used during Project Eye Care exams to help determine the correct eye glass prescription.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand-held ophthalmoscope: $278</td>
<td>$278</td>
<td>Also used as part of Project Eye Care, this tool allows the doctors to examine the back of the eye during a comprehensive eye exam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rechargeable handle for the ophthalmoscope: $178</td>
<td>$178</td>
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<tr>
<td>Replacement bulbs for ophthalmoscopes: $88.50</td>
<td>$88.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100 iTunes Gift Card</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>For our Children’s Program to purchase apps to use with children who are blind or visually impaired.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A memorial or honorary gift is a wonderful way to celebrate special occasions, honor a loved one, or pay tribute to the memory of family members or friends. Many generous people have found a way to express their caring spirit while helping to ensure the success of ABVI. As a thank you for your gift, ABVI will list your name and the names of those who you are honoring in our newsletter. We’ll also send a note acknowledging your gift according to your wishes. For more information about making a memorial or honorary gift donation, please contact ABVI’s Development Department at (585) 697-5713.

Thank you to the following friends who have made contributions from October 1, 2012 through February 28, 2013.

**In memory of Muriel Ackroyd**
Anne V. Wolff
Eveline Abdo & Rose Hawa
Rosalie Arana
Kay & Pat Boeckenstedt

**In memory of Wendy Ahlheim**
Judy A. Beal
Mr. and Mrs. Churchill
Mr. and Mrs. Onofrio DiBello
Judy C. Donaldson
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Froio, Jr.
Haifa Gantos
Julianne Grencham on behalf of the Western Region DM’s

**In memory of Matt Alexander**
Mr. and Mrs. Tim J. Bancroft

**In memory of Beverly T. Andersen**
Mr. and Mrs. Reyton F. Wojnowski
Nimer & Lori Hawa
Terry L. Hotsinpiller
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Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Robertson
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Mr. and Mrs. Timothy S. Temple on behalf of the Pfizer Vaccines Boston District
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**In memory of Joan G. Birch**
Janice Burbank

**In memory of John R. Blanchard**
Lorraine Houchin

**In memory of Catherine Boynton, Stephanie Boynton, Melissa and Eric LaMendola, and Amanda Ross**
Nancy Premo

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Rose Harrigan
Hugh Larry
Mr. and Mrs. Paul McEntee
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pino, Jr.
Gary Pino

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Mr. and Mrs. Hiram C. Johnson

**In memory of Angelo S. D’Ambra**
Josephine L. Basilio
David A. Binsack and Eileen M. Pines
Pfaudler Retiree Activity Club

**In memory of Hillis DeLyser**
Carol Goodman

**In memory of Toriy DeRycke**
Joyel Bennett

**In memory of Eli Eckman**
Brian and Ashley Eckman
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John and Doreen Hovey
Karen M. Schuhle-Williams, Ph.D.

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Virginia & David Rice

**In memory of Eva H. Falzone**
Stanley and Greta Kopec

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Barb and John Mongiovi
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Karen Stanton

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Shirley and Wesley Kline

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Lynn Kinsman

In memory of Larry Wortman
Marjorie Monte

In memory of Anne H. Yanicky
Suzanne and Bernard Ernst
Denise Kolarski

In memory of Melvin and Barbara Young
Kathryn J. Young
Leave Your Legacy Through Life Insurance

Contribute through life insurance to help those who are blind or visually impaired without sacrificing your personal financial plans.

It’s a simple, 2-step process:
1. Obtain a new “change of beneficiary” form from your agent or directly from the insurance company.
2. Simply name ABVI-Goodwill as a beneficiary for a specific dollar amount or percentage of the policy.

While ensuring your legacy, your gift through your life insurance will provide much needed services to people who are blind or visually impaired today.

Contact Tracy Schleyer, VP of Development at (585) 697-5780 or tschleyer@abvi-goodwill.com to learn more about making this type of gift.
The community lost a very dear friend and philanthropist with the passing of Jim Briggs in November. As you may know, Jim and Rudy Warren, both past chairs of the ABVI Board chaired our Centennial Campaign.

Jim was on the Board of Directors for 10 years and continued to serve on our Investment Committee after he retired from the Board. He agreed to help lead the Campaign because of his passion for our mission and admiration for ABVI-Goodwill’s entrepreneurial spirit. Jim highly respected that ABVI-Goodwill is a nearly self-sufficient organization and loved to share that message with prospective donors. He was very proud of his affiliation with us and introduced us to many of his friends and business associates.

Jim and Rudy led an outstanding campaign and helped us to exceed our fundraising goal. The result of their efforts is the fulfillment of our dream to create a world-class Vision Rehabilitation Center that has now come to life. It is already making a difference in the lives of so many. Unfortunately, Jim never got to see the new Center he and Rudy helped build. We feel a deep loss without Jim. His leadership, friendship, and passion for the people we serve, along with his infectious smile, are deeply missed.

A. Stuart Hayf
President and CEO
ABVI – Goodwill
Gifts Given in Memory of Jim Briggs

Thank you to the following friends who have made contributions to ABVI through February 28, 2013 in memory of Jim Briggs.

Sanford and Gay Abbey
Wendy Ahlheim
Alesco Advisors LLC
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