# Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Annual Report



Dear Vista Friends,

As we reflect on the past year, Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired remains steadfast in our commitment to addressing the critical needs of our client community. Our services have expanded significantly, now offering virtual/video sessions, and we have increased the number of low vision exams in our Palo Alto and San Jose branches. We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Mareena Roufail, as our first full-time Optometrist, marking a new chapter in Vista Center's history.

Our mission and work continue to grow in scope and impact. Through strategic partnerships, we're disseminating innovative information via initiatives such as Sight Tech Global, a free, virtual conference that brings the latest on accessibility technology to enhance the lives of people living with vision loss around the world. Our monthly Tech It Out webinars remain a valuable resource, supporting enhanced accessibility on our tech devices. I encourage you to explore our YouTube channel to view recent webinars.

We're also proud to announce that our well-respected Health Library newsletter is now available at www.vistacenter.org. Updated monthly, this summarized resource provides accessible health information, empowering individuals to better understand their vision loss conditions and stay informed about new treatments and research developments.

This FY24 Annual Report stands as a testament to the resilience of our clients and the unwavering support of the Vista Center donor community. I'm deeply grateful for our exceptional staff, dedicated Board of Directors, and generous volunteers who make our work possible.

In Gratitude,

CEO, Vista Center

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Patrice Maginnis, Chair **Meaux Costello** Joan Desmond **John Giddings** Susan Glass John Glass Katie Hogan John Hufferd Karae Lisle, CEO Roberto Manduchi, Ph.D. **Bill Miklos Marquise Murphy** Mike Plesha Dr. Steven Sanislo **Bob Stewart** Ashley Tuan, Ph.D.

### **LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Vinney Arora
Sophia Boylan
Marty Cunnie
Neeraj Gupta
Poonam Malik
Lisa Quan
Catalina Reynolds
Bethany Small
Marlu Treuhaft

### **OUR MISSION**

Vista Center empowers individuals who are blind or visually impaired to embrace life to the fullest through evaluation, counseling, education, and training.



We believe vision loss is no longer a barrier to independence.

Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit

# **Vista Center Changes Lives**

3,700+

Clients aged 3–107 served:

- Palo Alto
- Santa Cruz
- San Jose
- Virtually

50+

Unique programs offered in the home.

community, or

branches.

44,755

Hours of client services provided online and in-person.

We rely upon charitable donations to serve people living with vision loss.



**Donate here** 

# **Programs and Services**

At Vista Center, our dedicated team provides tailored support to address emotional, functional, and mobility hurdles for anyone in need. With compassion and expertise, we instill confidence and optimism, guiding and empowering individuals through every step of their vision loss journey. Our programs serve children, working adults, and seniors providing vital support to people facing challenges related to vision loss.



### **Low Vision Clinic**

- Low Vision Optometrists
- Functional Vision Exams
- Low Vision Aids & Devices Store



### **Supportive Services**

- Emotional Counseling
- Educational Workshops
- Peer Mentor Groups
- Accessible Fitness
- Group Skill Building
- Youth Enrichment



### **Instructive Programs**

- Daily Living Skills
- Assistive Technology
- Travel and Navigation
- Accessible Education and Academic Tutoring



# **Events**



#### **VISTA HONORS**

In December, the tech accessibility community honored Be My Eyes founder, Hans Wiburg. This annual gala event highlights individuals' outstanding contributions made to enhancing the lives for people worldwide living with vision loss.



### **SIGHT TECH GLOBAL**

In December, our 4th annual online conference featuring technology pioneers working in accessible tech, hosted 4,000 attendees, with YouTube conference recordings viewed 18,733 times on demand throughout the year. One of Vista's top fundraisers!



#### **VOICES FOR VISTA**

In April our annual musical concert featured an all female acapella group, Solstice. This benefit fundraiser continues to be a fun and festive celebration for the Vista community.







# **Client Success**

My name is Quinh, and I began to lose my vision when I was a child in Vietnam. When I came to America, I faced new challenges, including the inability to attend school like my sighted neighbors and friends did. My family turned to Vista Center to learn English alongside other families with blind children. It was a crucial step for me to learn English as a foundation for living in this new country, especially as a blind person seeking employment.

I also received training from Vista Center staff to navigate my neighborhood and other places, such as taking the bus to the San Jose Vista site. Their caring staff encouraged me to participate in activities at the center, and it was then that I realized the true value of this place. Vista Center is a haven for visually impaired individuals from diverse communities, offering support that fosters independence, tech proficiency, artistic growth, and language skills.



Vista Center's services are remarkable. It is a unique environment that significantly improves the quality of life for people blind people like me.

# **Gratitude to Our Partners**



Lifeguard Charitable Fund in Honor of Dr. Victor Defino



The Tae Foundation



Peninsula Endowment

















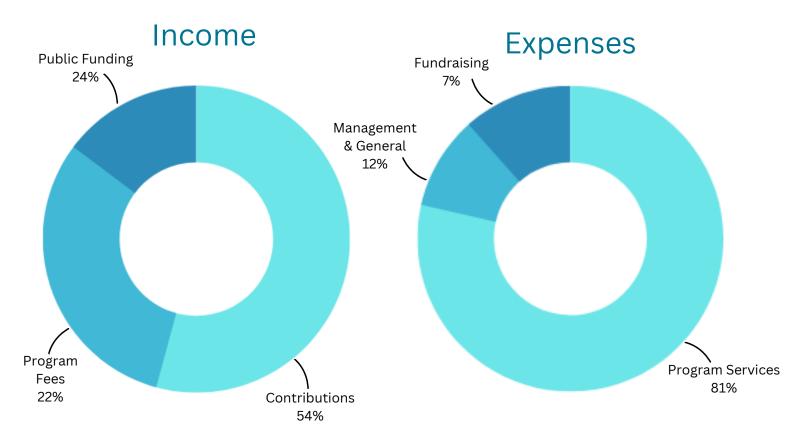








# **Financials**



INCOME	
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 1,879,252
PROGRAM SERVICE FEES	\$ 778,606
PUBLIC FUNDING GRANTS	\$ 849,913
TOTAL	\$ 3,507,770

EXPENSES	
PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 3,480,659
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	\$ 515,653
FUNDRAISING	\$ 300,797
TOTAL	\$ 4,297,109

Thank you, to the volunteers, donors, and community partners that support Vista Center. Your generosity allows us to continue to provide a breadth of programs to our clients living with blindness and vision loss.

Our mission is possible with a balanced diverse portfolio of public, medical, grant, and charitable funding support!