

Weigel Williamson Center for Visual Rehabilitation



UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Medical Center

**704 South 38th Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska**

402-559-2463

www.unmc.edu/lowvision

*A Place for Renewed Hope and Help
for those with low vision.*

Overview

Normal Vision



Millions of Americans live with low vision. For these individuals everyday tasks such as reading, shopping and recognizing faces are difficult.

Some of the most common causes of low vision include:

- Macular degeneration
- Diabetic retinopathy
- Glaucoma
- Stroke or brain injury



Effects of Macular Degeneration

With low vision, one's eyesight often cannot be improved with regular glasses, medicine or surgery. If you are living with low vision, vision rehabilitation can help you regain your independence. Training combined with low vision devices can help one to safely complete daily activities that are difficult because of vision loss.

Services Provided

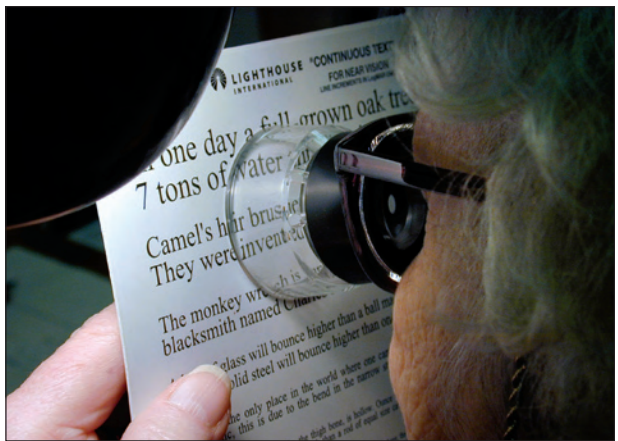
At the Weigel Williamson Center for Visual Rehabilitation we are dedicated to helping individuals with low vision keep their independence, spirit and quality of life. Reading, writing checks, preparing meals and safely taking medications are just a few of the areas in which low vision rehabilitation can help. Using the latest advances in technology and training, our skilled physicians and therapists will develop a tailored program to assist you in maximizing the use of your remaining vision.

The Center has been designed with a unique home-like setting to showcase low vision adaptations. Our clients are given instructions on how to make similar adaptations in their own home.



Vision Enhancement

Many devices are available to help people with low vision function better. Our team will prescribe devices to help you meet your goals, whether it's seeing objects at a distance, reading, watching television or writing. We'll train you in how to use the devices and we'll even let you borrow some of the devices and practice with them at home prior to purchase.



Common devices or products that help make everyday activities easier include:

- High powered magnifiers, low vision reading glasses and telescopic devices
- Computers or closed circuit TV reading machines that can magnify printed material or pictures
- High-contrast and large-number items such as telephones, watches and remote controls
- Talking clocks, timers and medical equipment

Our Team



John Shepherd, M.D.
Medical Director



Evy Katz, OTR/L
Occupational Therapist



Frank Graf, O.D.
Optometrist on Staff



Patti Fries, O.D.
Optometrist on Staff



Kathy VonDollen, R.N.
Patient Care Coordinator



Pat Jones, R.N., B.A.N.
Assistant Coordinator

Getting Started

If you are having difficulty performing common daily activities because of vision loss, your eye doctor may make a referral to the Weigel Williamson Center or you may call the Center directly at 402-559-2463.

We encourage you to bring a family member or friend with you. A client will usually make two or more visits to the Center.

First Visit (2½ hours)

The first visit will include an interview, vision testing and a low vision exam. Your visual goals will be identified and the doctor will determine the devices and training activities that will help you to meet these goals.

Training Sessions (1 to 2 hours)

An occupational therapist will teach you skills that will help you maximize the use of your remaining vision and lead a more independent life. Although most sessions will be held at the Center, one or two sessions may be held in your own home.

Areas in which training may help include:

- Reading and writing
- Using magnification devices
- Preparing meals
- Doing hobbies and crafts
- Shopping



Medicare and most insurances cover our services, but not devices.

Low Vision Store

A low vision store also is located at the Center. The store has a wide variety of nonoptical items available for purchase such as large number watches, calendars, playing cards, check guides, lamps, low vision toys for children and much more.

The store will be open Monday through Friday.



Would you like to make a contribution to help support the Weigel Williamson Center?

If you would like to help support the services provided at the Weigel Williamson Center for Visual Rehabilitation, you can contact the University of Nebraska Foundation at 402-502-4921.

You may also go to www.unmc.edu/lowvision.

Thank you.

Map and Directions



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Omaha, Nebraska 68105

Phone (402) 559-2463

Web: www.unmc.edu/lowvision

Email: lowvision@unmc.edu

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