Michigan Low Vision Support Groups

Support groups are important forums in which individuals suffering with low vision can discuss their experiences, provide support for each other, and find solutions to the problems they face. Groups are organized alphabetically by city.

It is recommended that you contact a group of interest to confirm date and time prior to attending a meeting.

**Ann Arbor**

**Living With Low Vision**
Kellogg Eye Center, University of Michigan
1000 Wall St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Contact: Gale Oren
Phone: (734) 763-9468
Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Website: http://www.kellogg.umich.edu

**Turner Senior Resource Center**
2401 Plymouth Rd. Suite C
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Contact: Mary Rumman, mrumman@umich.edu
Phone: (734) 764-2556
Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month, 1-3 pm
Website: http://www.med.umich.edu/geriatrics/communityprograms/supportgroups.htm

**Bay City**

**Bay County-Division on Aging**
Riverside Friendship Center
800 JF Kennedy Drive
Bay City, MI 48706
Contact: Janet McInnis
Phone: (877) 229-9960
Website: http://www.baycounty-mi.gov/Aging/Education-Support-Health.aspx
Meetings: usually 3rd Thursday of the month, 11:00 am with lunch at noon

**Brighton**

**Visually Impaired and Blind in Livingston Incorporated**
Lion’s Den
465 Main St.
Brighton, MI 48116
Contact: Andrea Stepien
Phone: (810) 231-1277
Meetings: 1st Saturday of the month, 9:30 am – 12 noon

**Cadillac**

**Cadillac Area Low Vision Support Group**
Cadillac Senior Center
601 Chesnut Street
Cadillac, MI
Contact: Connie Payne
Phone: (231)779-0149 (personal) or (231)779-9420
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 10:00-11:15 am

**Canton**

Canton Low Vision Support Group
Canton Senior Center
46000 Summit Parkway
Canton, MI
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month, 2:30 – 4:00 pm
Contact: Harriett Beltrondi
Phone: 734-844-7247

**Detroit**

**Book Club**
Detroit Library, Douglas Branch
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of the month, 5:00 – 6:30 pm
Contact: Ava Johnson
Phone: 313-865-3111

Bright Lights, A Social Dining Group
Fridays, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Contact: Windy Northern (for location and date)
Phone: 313-368-8197

Helping Hands
Greater Detroit Agency for the Blind
16625 Grand River
Detroit, MI 48277
Phone: (313) 272-3900
Meetings: 4th Tuesday of the month, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Contact: Mary Wilks
Phone: (313) 893-7263
Email: lester@gdabvi.org

The Junior Organized Blind
Triumph Hospital
Meetings: 4th Friday of the month, 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Call first before attending
Contact: Ernest R. Eaves
Phone: 313-371-3545

Nifty Knitter's Club
Detroit Subregional Library for the Blind
3660 Grand River
Detroit, MI
Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 11:00 – 1:00 pm
Contact: Ava Johnson
Phone: 313-865-3111

Sight Unseen Support Group
Detroit Receiving Hospital, University Health Center
Visually Handicapped Services
4201 St. Antoine
Detroit, MI 48201
Contact: Michael Guinyarb
Phone: 313-745-4510
Meetings: Every other Friday, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

VIP Gospel Choir
Christian Faith Church  
21241 Fenkel  
Detroit, MI  
Meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month, 11:00-1:00 pm  
Contact: Ava Johnson  
Phone: 313-865-3111

Visually Impaired Outreach Center  
Berea Lutheran Church  
7047 Tireman  
Detroit, MI 48204  
Phone: 313-834-5901  
Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month, 10:30 – 12:30 pm  
Contact: Ollie Lester  
Phone: 313-701-0033

Visually Impaired Group  
Disability Network  
5555 Conner  
Detroit, MI  
Meetings: 4th Friday of the month, noon – 3:00 pm  
Contact: Leonard Grosse  
Phone: 313-875-3071

Farmington Hills

Visually Impaired Support Group  
Costick Senior Center  
28600 11 Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336  
Contact: Angela  
Phone: (248) 473-1830  
Meetings: 1st Wednesday of the month, 1-2:30 pm

Grand Rapids

Kent County Support Group  
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired  
456 Cherry Street SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
Phone: 1-800-466-8084  
Contact: John McElheron
Veterans Support Group
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
456 Cherry Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Contact: John McElheron
Phone: 1-800-466-8084
Website: http://www.abvimichigan.org
Meetings: 1st Monday of the month at 9:45 am

Grosse Pointe Park
Friends of Vision
Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology
15415 East Jefferson Avenue
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
Contact: Nancy Pilorget
Phone: (313) 824-3937
Website: www.eyeson.org
Meetings: Senior Groups at Grosse Pointe Park
1st & 3rd Monday of the month, 10:00-11:30 am
1st & 3rd Monday of the month, 1:00-2:15 am
1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month, 10:00-11:30 am
Visionary Groups (55 years and younger)
1st Wednesday of the month, 6:00-7:30 pm
Grosse Pointe Park

Kalamazoo
Shiners VIP of Kalamazoo
Coover Center Senior Services
918 Jasper Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
Contact: Elaine TenBrinck
Phone: (269) 553-4960
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, 10:30 am -12 noon
**Lansing**

**Lansing Peer Support Group**  
Plymouth Congregational Church  
2001 E. Grand River Ave  
Lansing, MI  
Contact: Betty Krashen  
(517) 349-4035  
or Roberta McCall  
(517) 230-0751  
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month Sep-Jun, noon  
*Note: Bring brown bag lunch*

**Lincoln Park**

**Downriver Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired Inc**  
1574 Winchester  
Lincoln Park, MI 48146  
Contact: Mary Eileen Hogan  
Phone: (313) 382-7974  
Website: www.livingdownriver.com/groups.asp  
Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month, Noon to 2 p.m at  
Knights of Columbus  
Robert Jones Council No. 3078  
25160 W. Outer Drive  
Lincoln Park, MI 48146

**Plymouth**

**Plymouth District Library Low Vision Support Group**  
223 S. Main St.  
Plymouth, MI 48170-1687  
Contact: Ellen Stross  
Phone: 734-453-0750 ext. 232  
Website: www.plymouthlibrary.org  
Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month, 1-3 pm  
*Participants share advice on coping skills and adaptive technologies in a supportive atmosphere. A qualified facilitator will lead the group and guest speakers provide expertise. Library staff members will be on hand to provide assistance with Library equipment, services and offerings.*
Pontiac

Book Club for Visually Impaired People
Oakland County Library for the Blind
Pontiac, MI
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of every other month, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Contact: Ilene Sawyer
Phone: 248-788-0358

Pontiac VIP’s
Bowen Senior Center
52 Bagley Pontiac, MI 48341
Meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
Contact: Sharon Shannon
Phone: 248-377-3529

Rochester

Visually Impaired Center Club of OPC of Rochester
650 Letica Drive
Rochester, MI 48307
Contact: Lisa Murray
Phone: (248) 608-0249
Meetings: 4th Friday of the month, 10-11:30 am

Royal Oak

Beaumont Eye Institute Low Vision Support Group
Medical Office Building
3535 W. 13 Mile, Suite 555, 5th floor
Royal Oak, MI 48073
Phone: (248) 551-2142
Contact: Linda Powers
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month Jan-Mar, 6:30-7:30 pm
1st Tuesday of the month Mar-Dec 6:30-7:30 pm

Sault Ste. Marie

Eastern Upper Peninsula Low Vision Support Group
Bayliss Library
Sault Ste. Marie, MI
Contact: Elgie Dow  
Phone: (906) 643-7487  
Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month

**Shelby Township**

**Support Group for the Visually Impaired**  
Shelby Senior Center  
51670 Van Dyke  
Shelby Township, MI 48316  
Phone: 586-739-7540  
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**Sterling Heights**

**Low Vision Group**  
Sterling Heights Senior Center  
40200 Utica Road  
Sterling Heights, MI  
Phone: 586-446-2750  
Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month 10:00 – 11:00 am  
Contact: Leonie Sauer  
Phone: 586-731-2583

**Troy**

**Visually Impaired Persons Support Group**  
Oakland Park Towers  
930 John R  
Troy, MI 48083  
Contact: Marian Arasa  
Phone: (248) 585-4875  
Meetings: 3rd Thursday of the month, 1:00 pm

**Wayne**

**Detroit Northwest Chapter of the Michigan Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired**  
Brownies Diner  
34250 Michigan Avenue  
Wayne, MI 48184  
Contact: George Illingworth at (734) 326-4770
or Christine Schumaker (ONLY after 4:30pm) at (313) 562-5720
Meetings: 2\textsuperscript{nd} Saturday of the month Mar-Dec, 12:30-3pm

**West Bloomfield**

**Individual Meetings**
Contact: Ilene Sawyer, social worker
Phone: 248-788-0358

**Westland**

**Low Vision Support Group**
City of Westland Friendship Center
1119 N. Newburg
Westland, MI 48185
Phone: (734) 722-7628
Meetings: Fridays, 11:30 am

**Visually Impaired Persons**
Village of Westland
32001 Cherry Hill road
Westland, MI 48186
Contact: Emily Farber
Phone: 734-762-8810
Email: efarber@pvm.org
Meetings: Contact Emily for dates and times

**White Lake**

**Low Vision Support Group**
Dublin Community Senior Center
685 Union Lake Road
White Lake, MI 48386
Contact: Kathy Gordinear
Phone: (248) 698-2394
Website: www.whitelaketwp.com/Dublin/indexnew.htm
Meetings: Call for more information.

Updated 3/14