

AMERICAN ACTION FUND for Blind Children and Adults

YEAR IN REVIEW

A resource. A community. A commitment. Since 1919.

"The American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults is unique because our board is made up entirely of blind people who are making decisions based on lived experience. Braille is a central component of what we offer in our programming because we understand that Braille fosters independence, community, and success. " – Mark A. Riccobono, Executive Director

CULTIVATING CARE AND COMPETITIVE SPIRITS

Hundreds of volunteer hours bridge the importance of lived experiences with providing essential services.

"The American Action Fund helps us know we are not alone. It lowers the frustration and loneliness of feeling like we are the only parents with a blind child."

Braille Readers Are Leaders Contest – 325 children and adults participated in this annual contest on most minutes read to encourage a love of Braille. All ages, all reading levels, all fun.

BUILDING LITERACY THROUGH BRAILLE BOOKS AND BRILLIANCE

Braille Book Fair – An annual event that provides hundreds of Braille readers of all ages the rare opportunity to build their very own collection of Braille and Twin Vision(R) books free-of-charge.

"Xiomara has an avid love for reading Braille books. We are so grateful for the service that you have provided and your part in giving her a love for reading."

Braille Books Program – Every month, we send a free Braille book from a popular children's reading series to blind children across the country. This past year, we sent 22,524 books to participants. "Knowing about the American Action Fund is comforting. You get a warm hug. There is a community of individuals that realize the importance of literacy."

"We worry about Gwenn being different. We want to see her fit in. It is a big deal to have access to her Braille books in school."

EXPANDING ACCESS TO TOOLS AND OPPORTUNITIES

EADERS ARE LEA

Braille Calendars – These pocket calendars are a valuable informational tool for everyday use. This past year, we produced 6,499 Braille calendars and sent them free-of-charge to blind people.

"I have had students who have utilized your Braille calendars in the past and it was a game changer for them within the classroom."

Support for Higher Education – Each year, the American Action Fund supports merit-based scholarships to blind students who are changing the public perception of the capabilities of blind people.

HOW CAN YOU HELP

- Contribute online today at <u>www.actionfund.org/donate</u> or to give over the phone, please call us at 410-659-9315.
- Mail checks to American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults, attention Outreach, 1800 Johnson Street, Baltimore, MD 21230.
- Leave a legacy that will help future generations of blind and deafblind children. Call 410-659-9315 and ask for Patti Chang for planned giving options.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT & TRANSPARENCY

The American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code and completes an annual audit of activities. Learn more at <u>www.actionfund.org/about</u>.

Together, we will continue to positively impact the lives of both blind children and adults for decades to come. If you have any questions or want to learn more about our work, please contact us at 410-659-9315, explore <u>www.actionfund.org</u>, or email us at <u>actionfund@actionfund.org</u>.

*All contributions and gains received in the year not spent on management and general or fundraising are available for program services.

Management & General and Fundraising as a Percent of Contributions

