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July 21, 2022

Dear Community Member,

The Statutory Council on Blindness (SCOB) would like to thank all of you who participated in our recent community conversations and related survey. The collective value of your experiences and stories will help shape the advocacy priorities of this Council and the work we do together.

These conversations highlighted that although federal and state laws and protections are in place to ensure people who are blind or visually impaired have equal access to the opportunities that make Wisconsin great, there are still countless barriers to making this a reality. The Statutory Council on Blindness is committed to working in partnership with the Department of Health Services (DHS) to ensure that people who are blind or visually impaired have access to and are afforded the opportunity to "live their best life".

The Council is currently working on identifying action steps to address several of the barriers that were shared by our community. We anticipate having a compilation of results from the Community Conversations and related survey, and a complete list of priority areas and action steps before the end of this year. As information becomes available, we will be sure to communicate with all of you.

In the meantime, the Council recognizes the timeliness of the election season, and we will be working with the WI Disability Vote Coalition and the Department of Health Services, to address some of the concerns you shared regarding access to voting in our state. For more information about the Disability Vote Coalition go to their website at <u>disabilityvote.org.</u>

Thank you for taking the time to talk to us, we will be in touch as information and resources become available.

Sincerely,

The Statutory Council on Blindness