

NH Association for the Blind

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Created 03/27/2010 - 00:00

Teaser:

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Synopsis:

Stephanie Hurd first called the New Hampshire Association for the Blind for help with transportation. The organization quickly became an integral part of her life. She now works for the Association as a volunteer coordinator.

Transcript:

Stephanie: When I was younger, I saw a lot more. I could read large print and ride a bike. I learned Braille as a child because they knew I would lose vision. In my 20s, I would say I lost a considerable amount of vision; going from being able to walk around without any cane to having to have to use that cane.

I think I had first contacted the NH Association for the Blind in regards to transportation. I wanted to get to a place where they taught water-skiing. They helped me with the transportation piece. They helped me when my daughters were young, especially my first born. I thought of things like, how would you carry her around. Would I use a stroller? How would I push that and use a cane? They taught me choices. Whether I wanted to wear her in a backpack, some people I know even pull a stroller behind and keep a cane in front of them. So there are a lot of choices in the approach of how they can teach you.

So they helped me with that. They've helped me with things such as marking my stove - little bubble dots so you know where 350 is - or marking your heat. I got involved in the organization because they also have a peer support group. And that's a group for people dealing with their vision loss. It was great, because you don't have to explain yourself there. You're with other people that get it right away.

The bottom line for the NH Association for the Blind is give people with vision loss a better quality, a more employable quality of life, and more independence. And I live it.