



**Department for
the Aging**

Donna Corrado Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:

Jon Minners

(212) 602-4152

jminners@aging.nyc.gov

NYC Coalition on Aging and Vision launches a website designed for those needing vision rehabilitation

New site helps connect seniors, their caregivers and health professionals to information and referrals around vision rehabilitation

NEW YORK, NY (September 9, 2015)—About 2.9 million U.S. seniors are affected by vision impairment and the number of seniors with vision loss is expected to double in the next three decades. In response, the NYC Coalition on Aging and Vision launched a website at www.nycvisioncoalition.org/ to help older adults with vision loss receive individualized referrals to vision rehabilitation services.

Since its founding in 2007, the NYC Coalition on Aging and Vision, through its founding members, has provided valuable services and helpful resources to thousands of New Yorkers 55 years of age and older with vision loss. Founding members are ANYF, Catholic Guild for the Blind, Helen Keller Services for the Blind, Lighthouse Guild, SUNY College of Optometry, VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and the NYC Department for the Aging.

The website, a central resource for both professionals and the public at large, was designed to make it easier for seniors with vision loss to learn about and access the multitude of services offered by the leading vision rehabilitation providers in New York City. The content covers topics such as vision rehabilitation therapy, orientation and mobility training, coping with vision loss, and information about local support groups. It also provides links to numerous articles about living with vision loss.

Despite the documented need, benefit and availability of resources, rehabilitative services for people with vision loss are largely underutilized, according to the Vision Coalition, whose founding members estimate that far less than 10% of those with vision loss access vision rehabilitation services.

