Oregon Low Vision Support Groups

Last updated May 2024. Please contact before attending a meeting as times and locations may change. Find additional resources here: [https://www.visionaware.org/info/ emotional-support/peer-support-groups-and-other-resources/13](https://www.visionaware.org/info/%20emotional-support/peer-support-groups-and-other-resources/13). If you would like to add your support group to this list, please contact [natalie.hewitt@ocb.oregon.gov](mailto:natalie.hewitt@ocb.oregon.gov).

# Virtual/ Remote

## Casey Eye Institute Vision Support Group

**Where:** Virtual on Webex; call for information.

**When:** Every third Wednesday, 1 pm - 2:15pm.

**Contact:** Marie Oliva, 971-263-3977 and Tara Albury, 503-494-1618.

<https://www.ohsu.edu/casey-eye-institute/vision-loss-support-group>

## Blind Women Veteran’s Support Group

**Where:** Virtual meeting via conference call.

**When:** Wednesdays at 10AM PST.

**Contact:** Call Laurette Santos 541-826-2111, X 3575 to reach her assistant for details.

## Eye2Eye Peer Support

**Where:** Virtual meeting.

They offer free one-to-one, phone-based peer support for adults who are blind or visually impaired anywhere in the US. Callers are matched with a Peer Support Partner who calls regularly to check in and offer emotional support, shared experiences, helpful resources, and connection. Program participants can also attend virtual monthly support groups. Note: as of August 2022 there was a three to four month waitlist for the program.

**Contact:** 833-932-3931, or [eye2eye@shp.rutgers.edu](mailto:eye2eye@shp.rutgers.edu). Include your location in your message.

## Oral Hull Foundation for the Blind Support Groups

**Where:** Remote via Zoom.

**When:** Varies – check schedule online, and sign up at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85043450312?pwd=ZjBkMFJWNWdNTG9EdU5pNXNMWndTUT09> to receive daily emails, listing the fun calls and classes for the week.

Online groups include Sight Loss and Hearing Loss, Using Your Five Senses, Navigating Social Situations--Visually Impaired Vs. Sighted, and Legal Blindness. Oral Hull also holds in-person events and trainings like Living with Sight Loss, craft days, and field trips.

**Location:** 43233 SE Oral Hull Rd, Sandy, OR 97055. Call first for information.

**Contact:** Creanne Read, 503-668-6195. <https://hullflc.org/my-calendar-2/>

## Hadley’s Peer to Peer

**Where:** One on one phone call, or remote via Zoom.

Connect with someone who can relate to the everyday challenges of vision loss. You're not alone. Hadley’s Peer to Peer is a chance to gain new perspectives, problem-solve together, support, and learn from one another.

**Contact:** 1-800-323-4238 <https://hadleyhelps.org/peer-peer>

# In Person

# Bend

## Bend Low Vision Support Group

**Where:** Downtown Bend Public Library, 601 NW Wall St.

**When:** Second Thursday of each month, 3-4 pm, except in July (Friday July 15th 3-4pm)

**Contact:** Darwin Simtustus, 541-390-4736.

# Grants Pass

## Grants Pass Vison Loss Support/Discussion Group

Held by the Rogue Valley Chapter of The American Council of the Blind of Oregon.

**Where:** Black Forest Restaurant, 820 NE E St, Grants Pass, OR 97526.

**When:** Second Wednesday of each month, 11:30 am luncheon meeting, program at noon.

**Contact:** Mona Huntley, 541-761-5918. [frankmona@charter.net](mailto:frankmona@charter.net).

# Milwaukie

Willamette View Retirement Community Low Vision Support Group

**Where:** 12705 SE River Rd., Portland 97222.

**When:** Second Tuesday of each month, 1 pm (call to confirm).

**Contact:** Sandra Gurling-Werner, 503-654-6581.

# Portland/ Gresham

## Oral Hull Foundation for the Blind Support Groups

**Where:** Remote via Zoom + In person events.

**When:** Varies – check schedule online.

Online groups include Sight Loss and Hearing Loss, Using Your Five Senses, Navigating Social Situations--Visually Impaired Vs. Sighted, and Legal Blindness. Oral Hull also holds in-person events and trainings like Living with Sight Loss, craft days, and field trips.

**Location:** 43233 SE Oral Hull Rd, Sandy, OR 97055. Call first for information.

**Contact:** Creanne Read, 503-668-6195[. https://hullflc.org/my-calendar-2/](https://hullflc.org/my-calendar-2/)