



SD School for the Blind  
and Visually Impaired

# Stepping Forward



## South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Mission Forward™ Plan



# Mission, Vision, & Values

## MISSION

Preparing students to step forward with confidence and a vision of lifetime success.

## VISION

All South Dakota children who are blind or visually impaired will have full access to educational resources that prepare them for life.

## CORE VALUES

### WE VALUE:

Each child as an **individual**, deserving of uniquely designed learning opportunities focused to help them achieve their highest level of independence.

**Families, communities, and school districts** as key partners in meeting the needs of each child.

**Knowledgeable and caring professionals** who provide experiences for each child in the least restrictive environment.

Innovative use of **technological tools** adapted for each child.

**Safety and security** in a positive healthy environment.

A **commitment** to the highest level of independent readiness as each child embraces **adulthood** with a sense of opportunity.



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## Program

### Strategic Priority A

Expand, deepen, and strengthen continuity of outreach services to assure critical support for children within homes, schools, and communities.

## Partnerships

### Strategic Priority B

Build on the partnership with Northern State University to be a Laboratory of Excellence in workforce readiness for services to the blind and visually impaired.

## Transitions

### Strategic Priority C

Establish a center of excellence in transition resources for children who are blind or visually impaired in South Dakota.

## Brand Promise

### Strategic Priority D

Increase local, state and national understanding of SDSBVI's roles and responsibilities as a resource for children in need of specialized vision services.

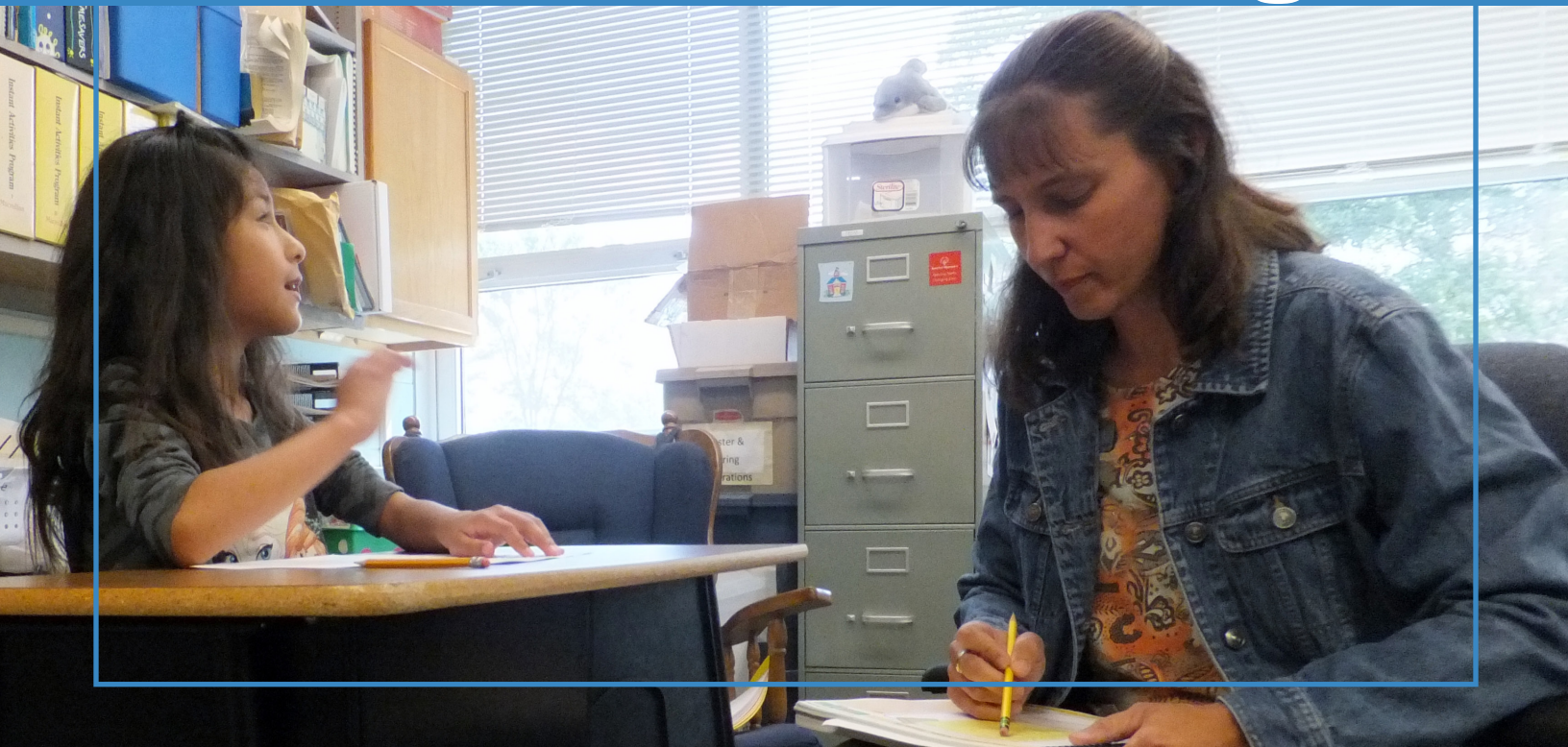
# STRATEGIC PRIORITY A

Expand, deepen, and strengthen continuity of outreach services to assure critical support for children within homes, schools, and communities.

## GOALS:

1. Strengthen model of statewide services for students who are blind or visually impaired.
2. Expand the assessment program to better serve students.
3. Further develop consistent procedures organization-wide.
4. Build a collection of resources for parents and school districts to expand learning for children receiving services.
5. Expand SDSBVI campus-based experiences for students served in their home school districts.

## Program



# STRATEGIC PRIORITY B

**Build on the partnership with Northern State University to be a Laboratory of Excellence in workforce readiness for services to the blind and visually impaired.**

## GOALS:

1. Strengthen and bring awareness to Northern State University (NSU) students to build interest and engagement in the field of vision loss.
2. Partner with the Distance Learning Network of NSU (Technical and Media Relations) offering college credits in the area of Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI).
3. Finalize a TVI masters degree within the School of Education at NSU that includes internship opportunities at SDSBVI.
4. Partner with NSU to market the TVI program across the state, region, and nation.

## Partnerships





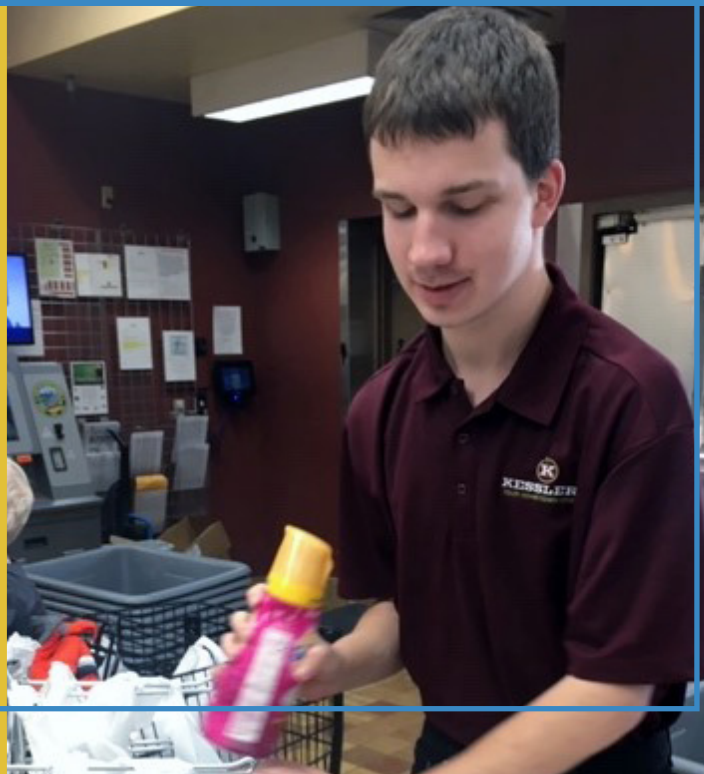
# STRATEGIC PRIORITY C

Establish a center of excellence in transition resources for children who are blind or visually impaired in South Dakota.

## GOALS:

1. Make investments to expand the readiness of staff to meet the unique needs of students of transition age.
2. Market our “Learning to be Equipped for Adulthood Program” (LEAP) that delivers customized transition services for students who are seeking work or post secondary education.

## Transitions



# STRATEGIC PRIORITY D

Increase local, state, and national understanding of SDSBVI's roles and responsibilities as a resource for children in need of specialized vision services.

## GOALS:

1. Develop an internal leadership culture within the SDSBVI design to build capacity and engagement of staff.
2. Use the new SDSBVI facility as a marketing tool to develop a national "Center of Excellence" for educational services and technology.

## Brand Promise





## SD School for the Blind and Visually Impaired

The South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired retained the consulting services of Sioux Falls, SD based company Sumption & Wyland, LLC for strategic planning. This Mission Forward™ plan and report is the result of this effort.

The South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Mission Forward™ plan and report was completed in June 2019. The work-plan for the strategic plan is contained in a separate, internal document.

