The COVID-19 pandemic forced us to cancel the group activities at the LBA but caseworkers strived on and provided essential services to our clients. We kept in touch with clients by providing Zoom audio support groups and life skills education regarding the coronavirus along with guidelines issued by the CDC to keep them safe and healthy. In addition, we are proud to offer our Radio Reading Service during these unprecedented times to assist blind and visually impaired individuals keep in touch with the news and help reduce isolation especially for individuals living alone.

This unique service broadcasts on WUSR-FM 99.5 Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 10:00am. Manager Paul Trama and twenty dedicated volunteers read selections of local and national news from the Scranton Times-Tribune, as well as health tips and announcements of community events. They also include obituaries, TV listings, horoscopes, editorials, sports and our own agency activities. We provide connections with food banks, resources and agencies. This service is a valuable source of information for the blind and visually impaired and has even greater significance to everyone especially during this unprecedented time.

We are extremely grateful to the University of Scranton for hosting our program on their radio channel since 2009. It can also be heard online at http://wusrstreamingscranton.edu8080/live.mp3. This radio link can be easily be found on our website under services.

Thank you to the Scranton Times-Tribune for your numerous years of our newspaper subscription and thank you to our many dedicated volunteers. We are so proud of this service and hope that you can tune in one morning to hear the news and so much more!

On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, and most importantly, our clients, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to everyone who has contributed in making FY 2019-2020 a success!

Mary Lou Wascavich, Executive Director
217 individuals received **1,074 hours** of life skills in their homes or in a community setting to maintain or improve their activities of daily living.

224 individuals received **1,249 hours** of client support services.

20 individuals were assisted for **71 sessions** of Transportation/Escort Services to Medical Appointments.

21 individuals participated in **132 sessions** of Support Groups.

93 individuals were assisted with grocery and personal needs shopping in **298 sessions** of shopping trips.

224 individuals received **412 community connections/referrals** made on behalf of individuals and families to address their specific health/safety/welfare needs.

224 individuals received **472 sessions** to enhance utilization of technology services and resources to maintain their independence.

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**PELL RADIO READING SERVICES**

1,306 hours of service were logged by 20 volunteers.

504 hours of news, health tips, and agency and community events were broadcast on WUSR-FM 99.5 FM, Monday through Friday, 8 am - 10 am.

*All statistics represent unduplicated numbers of persons served.*
SOCIAL ACTIVITY PROGRAMS

LBA clients and staff enjoying our many outings and get-togethers throughout the past year.

20 clients shared and learned in 10 Book Club meetings and enjoyed 7 descriptive movies together
41 clients attended 13 outings and Social Club events

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

1854 children at 61 sites were screened for vision problems
92 adults at 10 sites were screened for vision problems
401 children at 15 sites were educated about eye care and safety
264 adults at 9 sites were educated about eye care and safety
250 children and 14 adults were referred for follow-up care
2288 3rd-grade students in 92 classes participated in the Magic World of Vision Eye Safety Education Program

Pictured above are the 2020 winners of our annual Magic World of Vision eye safety and health poster contest. Congratulations to Sophia Christian, Connor Scoblick, Marisa Hinkley, Abigail Uhrin and Alexis Wasp!

EYEGLASSES

102 Individuals received low-cost eyeglasses

VOLUNTEERS

2,081 Volunteer Hours were logged at the Lackawanna Blind Association
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FY 2019-2020
Karl Pfeiffenberger, Chairman
Noreen Burke, Vice Chair
Paula DePeters, Secretary
Sharon Borgia, Treasurer
Mary Lou Wascavich, Executive Director
Atty. Jerome Musheno, Immediate Past Chairman
Tracy Bannon
Joseph Barrasso
Elaine Blondek
Sharon Borgia
Noreen Burke
Gerard Champi
Paula DePeters
Thomas Donohue
William Donovan
Leigh Fennie
Robert Gebert
Richard Green, Client Rep.
Kristen Hinds
Dr. William Jordan, Jr.
Alexis Kelly
Melissa Kirtley
Atty. Jerome Musheno
Nick Parise
Karl Pfeiffenberger
Judy Pronko
Howard Spizer

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS
Phil Condron
Ron Leas
John Mesko
Claudia Naismith
Marylyn Preven
Ted Reap
Scott Thorpe

ASSOCIATION STAFF
Mary Lou Wascavich, Executive Director
Mary Claire Boylan, Case Work Coordinator
Lisa Walter, Case Worker/POB
Janet May, Office Assistant/Case Worker
Paul Trama, Radio Program Manager
Anne Lawler, Prevention of Blindness Coordinator
Rich Mikolayczak, Mini Bus Driver

OPERATING INCOME
FISCAL YEAR 2019 –2020
$300,259

OPERATING EXPENSES
FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020
$319,449*

Light the Way Legacy Society
The Light the Way Legacy Society was formed in 2012 as a way to invite our community members to include the Lackawanna Blind Association in their estate planning and to honor those who notify us that they have done so. Members of the Light the Way Legacy Society can have the special satisfaction of knowing that their life’s efforts will continue to make a difference. Legacy gifts become a permanent part of LBA’s endowment, ensuring that LBA can continue to provide compassionate care for its blind and visually impaired family. Legacy gifts also may be designated for a specific purpose or as a memorial or tribute to loved ones.

*Income and Expenses estimated, pending FY19/20 Audit