

# Advancing Clinical Practice Skills: Low Vision Rehabilitation

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## Site Description

### Major Charles Robert Soltes Jr. O.D. Blind Rehabilitation Center

Comprehensive, patient-driven program that addresses all levels of visual impairment commonly associated to conditions such as TBI, CVA, and acquired/progressive eye diseases

Team consists of visual rehabilitation specialists with optometrists and ophthalmologists

Referrals made by Low Vision optometrist or primary-care ocular doctor that guide treatment plans for the certified low vision therapist (CLVT)

### Mission

(US

Department of Veteran Affairs, n.d.)

## Identified Needs

## Literature Review

### Common Themes

Lack of confidence in occupational therapy (OT) services providing visual rehabilitation (Molitor & Mayou, 2018; Smallfield et al., 2017)

Most successful outcomes received by multi-disciplinary teams with rehabilitation specialists (Das et al., 2019; Macnaughton et al., 2019; Smallfield et al., 2017)

Success focusing on patient goals and desired ADLs and IADLs (Blaylock et al., 2017)

## Student Learning Objectives

By the of the DCE, the doctorate student has:

## Project Description and Implementation

## Evaluation and Outcomes

## Scholarly Deliverables

Completed competency evaluation forms for the CLVT examination qualification

CLVT Certification

Recorded in-service presentations for ocular health professionals on OT scope of practice, and the need for the profession in vision rehabilitation

Strong need for future OT that are certified in low vision therapy to serve this specific community

Job opportunities in niche eye-care settings such as primary optometry or specialty low vision clinics

Research opportunities to address gaps of knowledge within rehabilitative services for visual impairment