The mission of CCVI (Children’s Center for the Visually Impaired) is to prepare children with visual impairments, including those with multiple disabilities, to reach their highest potential in the sighted world.

**Our Programs:**

- **Early Intervention Program** Focuses on developing all senses by encouraging listening, smelling, touching, and movement, and maximizing functional vision. CCVI teachers and therapists also provide in-home services and instruction.

- **Preschool and Kindergarten** These classes, beginning at age two, are designed to enhance basic skills while preparing children for inclusion in public or private schools.

- **Outreach Program** Helps to fill the gap for students who have returned to their own school systems and face limited services.

**Enrollment: 198**

(Unduplicated count: 315)

- 113 in Early Intervention Program
- 61 + 16 Sighted Peers in Preschool/Kindergarten Program
- 8 in Outreach (Itinerant/Consulting) Program

**Specialized Instruction/Therapy Hours**

- 48,255 in Preschool/Kindergarten Specialized Instruction
- 8,100 in Preschool/Kindergarten Therapy
- 4,933 hours in Early Intervention Program
- 788 hours in Outreach Program

**Referrals: 157**

- 49% from physicians and medical personnel
- 40% from local, county and state agencies
- 11% from miscellaneous sources

**25 Counties represented**

- 17 in Missouri
- 8 in Kansas

**105,304** miles were driven to help children and families
It was a busy year at CCVI this past school year. We made some great improvements to our preschool at 31st and Main. The KC Street Car Constructors selected our proposal and built an incredible Sensory Garden that serves the entire Children’s Center Campus. CCVI students love having a big open green yard to run and play in, raised garden beds in which to plant herbs and pumpkins, and a walkway with different surfaces to explore with their canes and wheelchairs. We also installed a sunshade over the central courtyard playground of the Campus. A grant from the American Dermatology Association helped make this possible, as well as considerable help from our friends at Helix Architecture and Belger Cartage Service. Finally, our wonderful friends at Hufft Projects also helped renovate all the CCVI classroom sinks so that they are more accessible to our students using wheelchairs.

We had another big year of fun and unique fundraising events for the school. Everyone was inspired by the heartfelt story Isaiah Austin shared at Hoo’s Afraid of the Dark about how he handled not only his visual impairment, but also the diagnosis of Marfan Syndrome. Trolley Run was bigger and better than ever in 2016. We love our continued collaboration with the U.S. Association of Blind Athletes who sent five elite athletes to participate in Trolley Run. Thanks to all who sponsored the race, volunteered to help with the race, and ran or walked in the race. We also kicked off our new fundraiser Spectacle this summer and it was a huge hit. Thanks to Boys Grow Farm for letting CCVI host the event on their farm and thank you to all the chefs and bartenders who created an absolute feast that was a “spectacle” for the senses. Thank you for helping to make this incredible resource available in KC for the last 64 years!

Nicola R. Heskett
CCVI Executive Director