It is better to do things than to imagine them.

– Helen Keller
The OASIS Program

The Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services’ OASIS Program (Older Alabamians System of Information and Services) is dedicated to renewing independent and rewarding lifestyles for Alabama’s adults 55 and older who have vision problems.

Our statewide program is federally funded and operates through a network of skilled rehabilitation professionals. These vision rehabilitation professionals are trained to identify your individual needs and to recommend the appropriate services. We are committed to adding life to your years. We want to help you overcome the barriers that limit your independence.

Services are at no cost to the participant and are available regardless of financial need.

OASIS Services

- evaluation and referrals
- instruction in independent living skills
- adaptive equipment
- low-vision exams and aids
- orientation and mobility instruction

The OASIS Team

The OASIS team of highly qualified rehabilitation teachers and orientation and mobility specialists understand the impact of a visual impairment and sight loss. We know that individual needs are not the same, so we take special care to design a program of services that meets your personal goals and interests.

Rehabilitation teachers are experienced in helping you to learn new or adaptive methods of performing day-to-day activities such as meal preparation, money identification and management, reading adaptations, and communication skills.

Orientation and mobility specialists train you to become more independent outside the home.

Peer support groups are also available in most areas around the state. Peer supporters can share their personal experiences regarding vision loss and can also provide additional information on the availability of resources in your community.

OASIS Advisory Council

To ensure that we provide you with the most comprehensive and personalized independent living training, OASIS maintains an advisory council comprised of former consumers and representatives from:

- Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program
- Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind
- Alabama Public Library Service
- Alabama Radio Reading Service
- Alumni and Workers Association of the Blind
- American Council of the Blind
- Better Business Bureau, Inc.
- Blinded Veterans Association
- Centers for Independent Living
- Crisis Center Senior Talk Line
- Department of Human Resources
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Senior Services
- Department of VA Blind Rehab/VIST
- Jefferson County Office of Senior Citizens
- National Federation of the Blind
- Positive Maturity
- UAB Center for Low Vision Rehabilitation
- UAB Geriatric Education Center
- UAB School of Optometry

OASIS is funded under Title VII, Chapter 2 of the Rehabilitation Act.