



CONNECT

offering hope & maximizing quality of life for people with vision loss

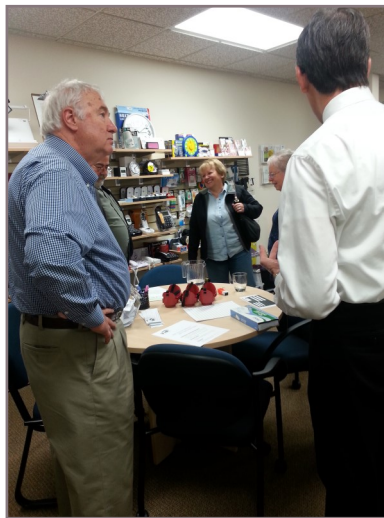
Open House Shows Off New Location

Board members, volunteers, and staff enjoyed seeing everyone that came through the doors to tour our new office space during the Open House event on March 3rd. Without the support of a grant from **Yakima Valley Community Foundation**, we could not have had a prouder moment showing off not just our new office but also our retail space, evaluation room, and technology lab. A special thank you to Dr. Hinze, recently retired, for the donation of office furniture and equipment.

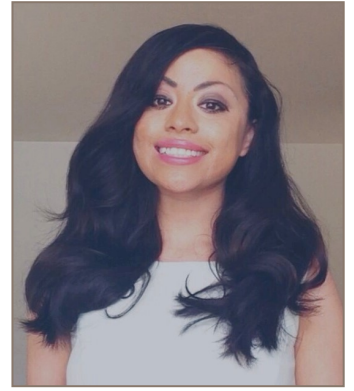
In addition to the yummy snacks and refreshments we offered, there were also door prizes given away! Congratulations to the following door prize winners:

- ☆ L. Kinney \$25 Black Angus gift card
- ☆ A. Marrs Starbucks gift bag
- ☆ S. Barnes \$20 Red Robin gift card
- ☆ C. Lizotte \$15 Starbucks gift card

Our thanks to everyone that stopped in to learn a little more about VIC and our mission. If you didn't make it to the open house, please visit us during our regular hours on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



VIC Welcomes new Outreach Director; Jovhanna Mayo

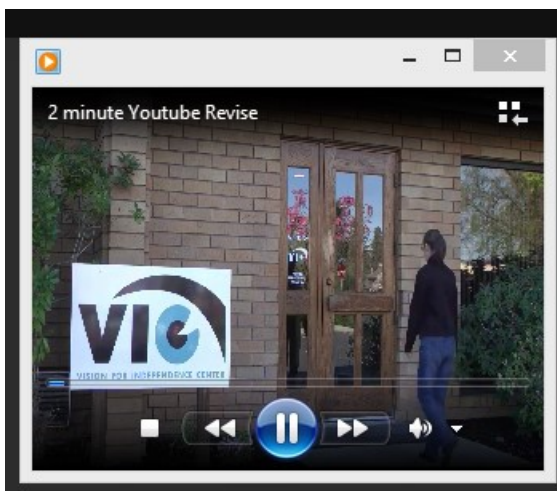


VIC is delighted to announce that Jovhanna Mayo has joined the team as our new Outreach Director. She has over seven years' experience in public relations and has been volunteering since she was ten years old. She is active in her local church, serving as a volunteer on community based projects and assisting with fundraisers. Jovhanna's volunteer work has also included involvement with the Toppenish School District and Child Abuse and Neglect Coordinating Council of Yakima.

Jovhanna was born and raised in Toppenish and is a new resident to Yakima. She and her 6-year old son, Kane, enjoy going to Mariner and Trailblazer games.

A few of Jovhanna's responsibilities will be to seek out events for VIC to display informational exhibits, make presentations to local organizations, grant sponsors, and eye care providers, and to participate in fundraising and marketing activities. As an outreach director, her role plays an important part in increasing the communities' awareness of VIC's services and the realization of VIC's mission.

We look forward to the many great things Jovhanna can do to spread the word that VIC is ". . . Offering hope and maximizing quality of life for people with vision loss".



Media to Make an Impact!

A \$9,500 grant awarded to VIC in 2014 by Northwest Lions Foundation has been instrumental in the production of a professionally produced video. The video project, months in the making and recently completed, will have a great impact on spreading the word about Vision for Independence Center. VIC will use this 10-minute video as

part of its outreach program to share with all of Yakima and Kittitas counties the low vision resources that are available right here in Yakima. To have VIC's Outreach Director give a presentation to your club or group, contact us at vicoutreach@vicyakima.org or call (509) 452-8301.

In addition to the video project, the Northwest Lions Foundation grant will also be used for website redesign and advertising at Yakima Theatres.

Open on Tuesdays??

Although Tuesdays are not usually part of our business hours, you may have noticed that we've been offering Tuesday clinic days. Dr. Jennifer Crown, married last November



(congratulations!), moved out of the area but has recently been able to continue her volunteer optometric services with VIC. We

are pleased to have her back in the clinic and also for the opportunity to offer an extra clinic day for scheduling clients.

Product Feature

Naturalight 2x Magnifying Floor-Table LED Light



This lamp is a table lamp and a floor lamp at the same time, just add or remove the pole! The large 5" diameter lens offers 2x magnification. The Full Spectrum LEDs give you great lighting, reduce your energy bills and they do not need to be replaced. Available in the VIC store and priced at \$129.93



VIC Welcomes New Board Member; Lisa George

VIC is pleased to announce that Lisa George has joined the Board of Directors for Vision for Independence Center. Lisa has a BS in Business Administration with an emphasis in

Marketing from the University of Missouri and an MBA from Rockhurst University in Kansas City. Lisa and her husband Reginald moved to Yakima two years ago, from Kansas City, Missouri, when he was offered a job as an assistive technology specialist with the Department of Services for the Blind. Reginald has been blind since birth and Lisa works part-time as his reader/driver.

Lisa is also newly-elected to the position of secretary of the Yakima Valley Council of the Blind. Her previous experience with working in the low vision field includes work with a retirement facility where her mother lived. She helped her mother's friends through an organization called First Steps for the Blind; an organization that assists those going blind with adjusting to vision loss and managing daily activities.

Save the date for the 7th Annual
Dinner in the Dark

Saturday, October 24, 2015

Harman Senior Center

6 - 9 p.m.

\$45

*More info coming in the
Summer edition of VIC Connect*



Thank you, Abbott's Printing, Inc., for a great job on our newsletter and on all of our printing needs. Abbott's is the printer of choice for VIC.

