# BRAILLE DICTIONARY

Braille Navigator Guide — Words, Money-Folding, Signage & Everyday Skills for Blind

Compiled By Alan Dunbar



Version 1.52

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The reason that I put together the Braille Dictionary and help guide together was to help organize myself while learning and becoming proficient in Braille. I became legally blind a short time ago and I have now had to learn to read with my finger tips. It really is a new language with its own character set, rules and short forms. I did not expect to learn Braille in my life time, but I am glad that I am learning to read again. It is one of the pleasures in my life that I have always enjoyed. Many blind people have not picked up the language and that is unfortunate. You can only learn so much when you only listen to books, and many books have not yet been produced in an audio format.

I hope that putting in some structure and making things more accessible in this format helps people that have become blind. I would like to thank those people that have helped me to learn as much as I have to this point. I am a Veteran and I went to the VA in West Palm Beach, Florida and was helped there by very caring, talented, and patient instructors who encouraged me when I was newly blind and helped me to learn and healed me in many ways. The Braille Dictionary Project is dedicated to them.

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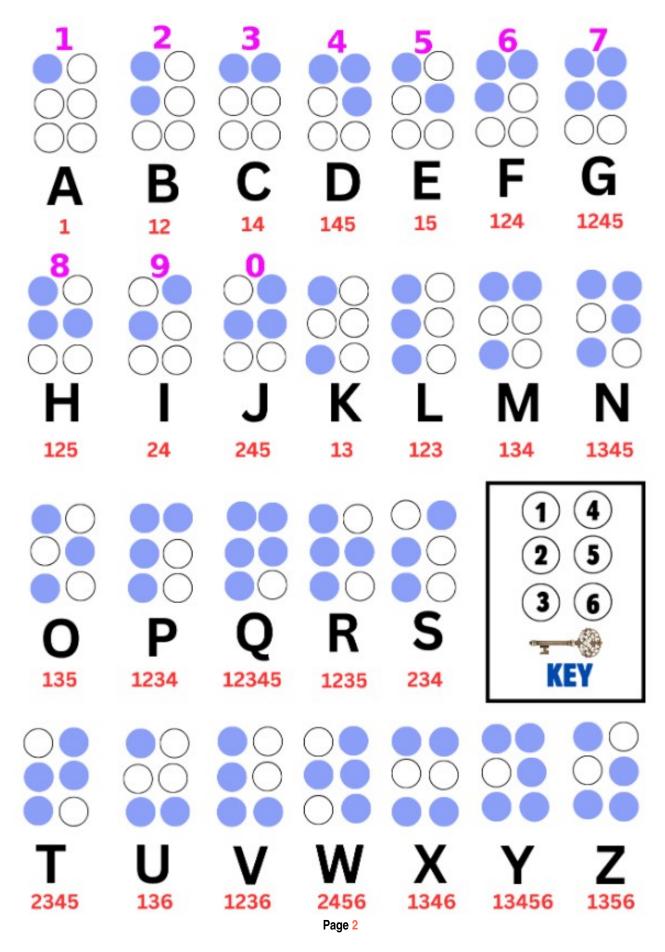
#### **Author**

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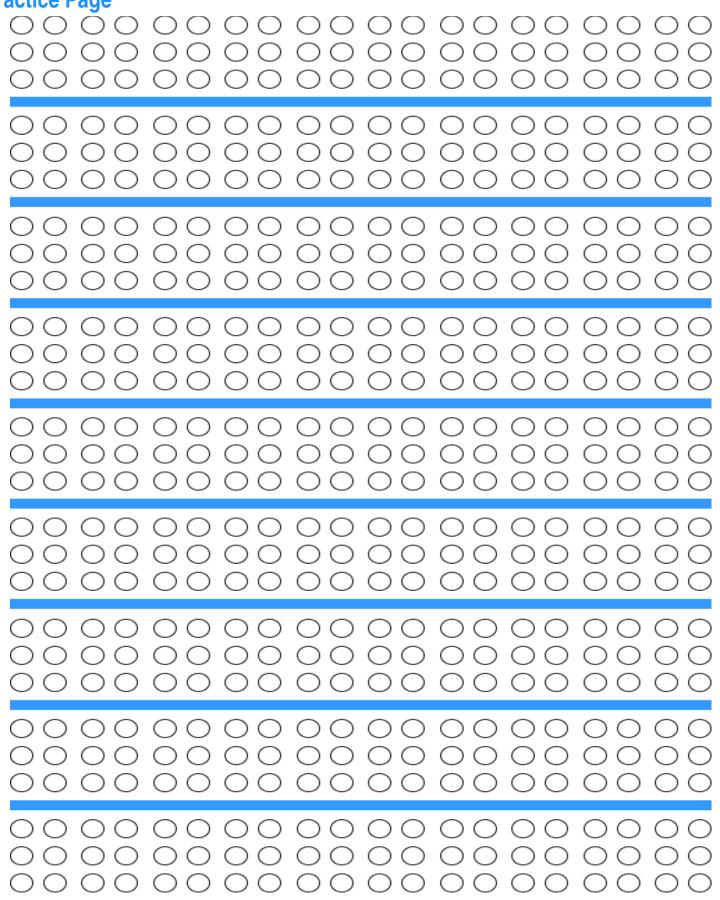
## **GitHub Repository**

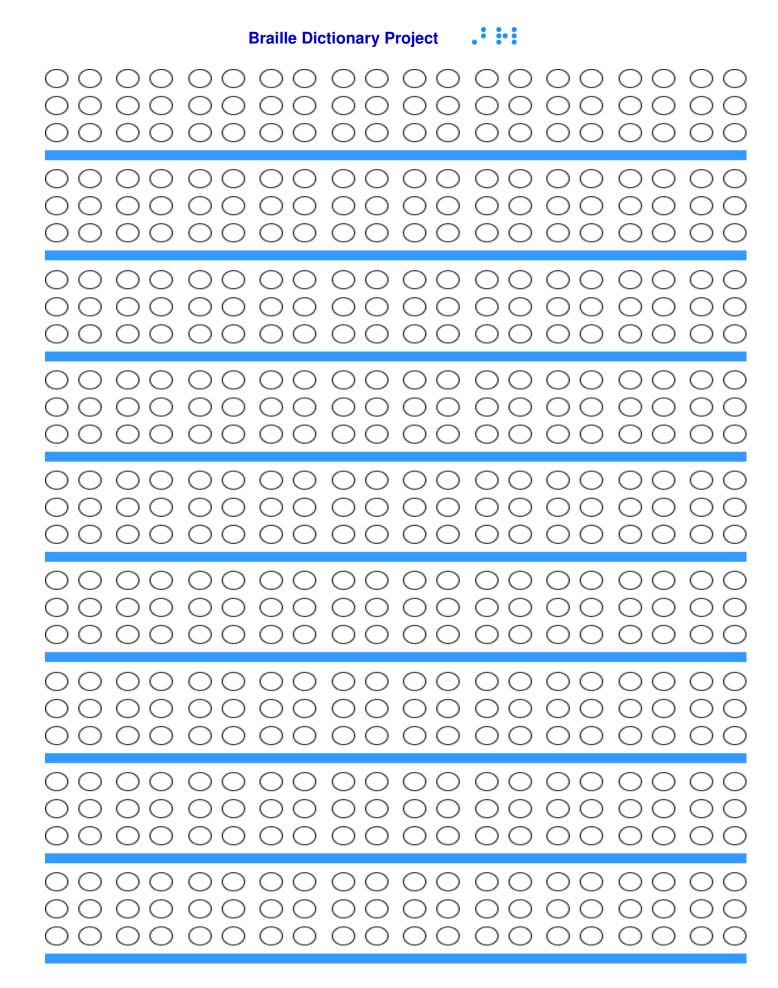
I noticed some things that were inaccurate in previous versions of the project and have fixed them. To get the latest version go to our GitHub Page. (<a href="https://github.com/pixelateddwarf/Braille\_Dictionary">https://github.com/pixelateddwarf/Braille\_Dictionary</a>).

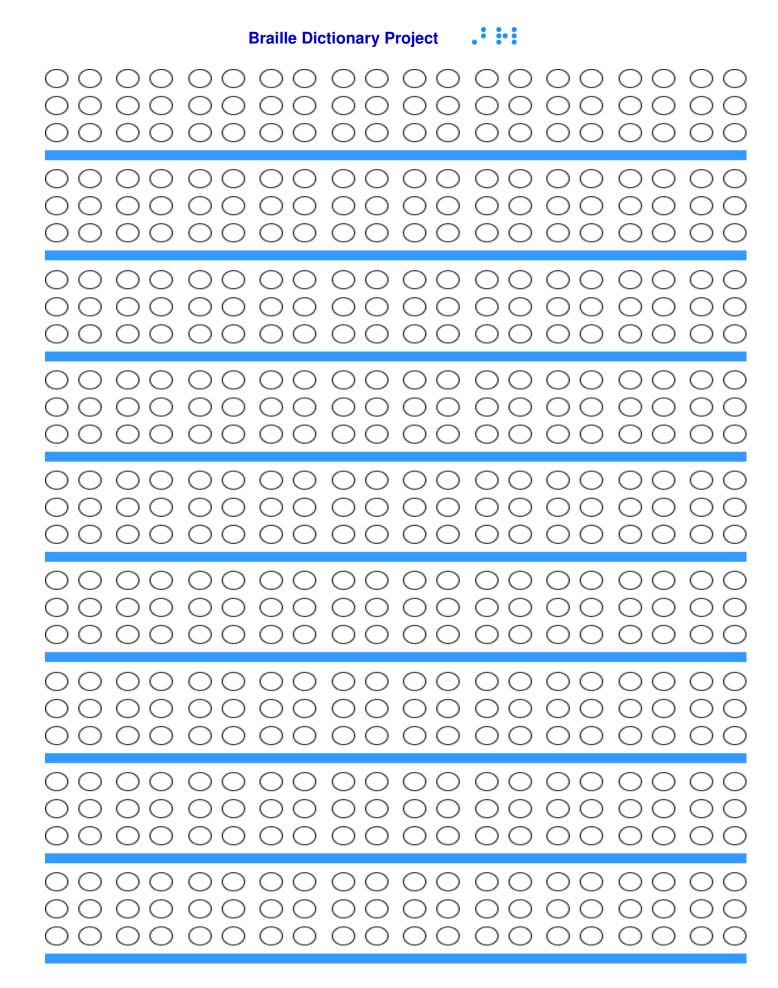




**Practice Page** 







Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
Α				
	A	•	1	Letter Word
	About	• •	112	Short Form (AB)
	Above	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1121236	Short Form (ABV)
	According	• ••	114	Short Form (AC)
	Across	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1141235	Short Form (ACR)
	After	• ••	1-124	Short Form (AF)
	Afternoon	• • • •	11241345	Short Form (AFN)
	Afterward	• • • •	11242456	Short Form (AFW)
	Again	• ••	11245	Short Form (AG)
	Against	• • • •	1124534	Short Form (AG+ST)
	Almost	• • • •	1123134	Short Form (ALM)
	Already	• • • •	11231235	Short Form (ALR)
	Also	• •	1123	Short Form (AL)
	Although	• • • •	11231456	Short Form (AL+TH)
	Altogether	• • • •	11232345	Short Form (ALT)
	Always	• • •	11232456	Short Form (ALW)
	ance	•••	4615	46-Word

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
Α		Cor	ntinued	
	And	••	1	Letter Word
	ar	.*	345	Short Form (AB)
В				
	В	•	12	Letter
	Be	•	23	Contraction
	Because	•	2314	Short Form (BE+C)
	Before	• • •	23124	Short Form (BE+F)
	Behind	• ••	23-125	Short Form (BE+H)
	Below	• •	23-123	Short Form (BE+L)
	Beneath	• •	23234	Short Form (BE+S)
	Beside	• •	232345	Short Form (BE+T)
	Between	::	11231235	Short Form (ALR)
	Beyond	• • •	23-13456	Short Form (AL)
	ble	•	3456	Contraction
	Blind	• •	12-123	Short Form (BL)
	Braille	• • •	12-1235-123	Short Form (BRL)
	But	•	12	Letter Word

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
C				
	Can	••	14	Letter Word
	Cannot	• • •	456-14	Dot 456
	сс	••	25	Contraction
	ch	•	16	Contraction
	Character	•	<b>5-16</b>	Dot 5
	Child	•	16	Contraction
	Children	•	16-1345	Short Form (CH+N)
	con	••	25	Contraction
	Conceive	•	25-14-1236	Short Form (CON+CV)
	Conceiving	••••	15-14-1236-1245	Short Form (CON+CVG)
	Could	••••	14-145	Short Form (CD)
D				
	Day	•	5-145	Dot 5
	Deceive	••••	145-14-1236	Short Form (DCV)
	Declare	••••	145-14-123	Short Form (DCL)
	Declaring	••••	145-14-123-1245	Short Form (DCLG)
	dis	•	256	Contraction

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
D			Continued	
	Do	••	145	Letter Word
Ε				
	ea	•	2	Contraction
	ed	••	<b>25</b>	Contraction
	Either	•••	1524	Contraction
	en	••	26	Contraction
	er	••	12456	Contraction
	Enough	••	26	Contraction
	Ever	••	15	Contraction
	Every	• ••	515	Dot 5
F				
	Father	• • •	5124	Dot 5
	ff	••	235	Contraction
	First	•	12434	Short Form (F+ST)
	Friend	•••	145-14-1236	Short Form (FR)
	From	••	124	Letter Word
	For	••	145-14-123-1245	Contraction

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
F			Continued	.,,,,,
	ful	::	56123	Contraction
G				
	gg	•	2	Contraction
	gh	••	25	Contraction
	Go	•••	1524	Contraction
	Good	••	26	Contraction
	Great	••	12456	Contraction
Н				
	Had	•••	456-125	Dot 456
	Have	••	125	Letter Word
	Here	• ••	5125	Dot 5
	Herself	••••	12512456-124	Short Form (H+ER+S)
	Him	•••	12434	Short Form (HM)
	Himself	••••	125-134-124	Short Form (HMF)
	His	••	124	Contraction

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
Ι				
	I	••	56123	Contraction
	Immediate	• • • • •	24134-134	Short Form (HMF)
	in	••	35	Contraction
	ing	•	346	Contraction
	It	••	1346	Letter Word
	Its	•••	1346234	Short Form (XS)
	Itself	••••	1346124	Short Form (XF)
J				
	Just	••	245	Letter Word
K				
	Know	••	125	Letter Word
	Knowledge	• • •	5125	Dot 5
L				
	Letter	• • •	1231235	Short Form (LR)
	Like	•	123	Letter Word
	Little	• •	123123	Short Form (LL)

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
L				
	Lord	• •	5123	Dot 5
M				
	Many	• • •	456-134	Dot 456
	More	••	134	Letter Word
	Mother	• • •	5-134	Dot 5
	Much	• •	13416	Short Form (M+CH)
	Must	•• •	13413456124	Short Form (MYF)
N				
	Name	• • •	51345	Dot 5
	Necessary	••••	13451514	Short Form (NEC)
	Neither	•••••	13451524	Short Form (NEI)
	Not	••	1345	Letter Word
0				
	Of	•••	12356	Contraction
	One	•••	5135	Dot 5
	Oneself	• • • • •	5135124	Dot 5

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
0		C	Continued	
	Ought	• • •	<b>51356</b>	Dot 5
	ou	•	1256	Contraction
	Ourselves	•••••	12561235123 234	Short Form (CH+ RLS)
	Out	••	1256	Contraction
	ound	• • •	46145	Dot 46
	ow	••	246	Contraction
P				
	Paid	••••	1234145	Short Form (PD)
	Part	• • •	51234	Dot 5
	People	••	1234	Letter Word
	Perceive	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	12341245614 1236	Short Form (P+ER+CV)
	Perceiving		12341245614 12361245	Short Form (P+ER+CVG)
	Perhaps	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	123412456125	Short Form (P+ER+H)
Q				
	Quick	•••	12345-13	Short Form (QK)

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
Q			Continued	
	Quite	••	12345	Letter Word
	Question	• • • •	5-12345	Dot 5
R				
	Ourselves	•••••	12561235123234	Short Form (CH+ RLS)
	Out	••	1256	Contraction
	ound	• • •	46145	Dot 46
	ow	••	246	Contraction
S				
	sh	••	146	Contraction
	Shall	••	146	Contraction
	Should	•	146145	Short Form (SH+D)
	sion	• • •	46-1345	Dot 46
	Some	••	5234	Dot 5
	Spirit	•••	456234	Dot 456
	st	•	34	Contraction
	Still	•	34 Page 14	Contraction

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
S			Continued	
	Such	•	23416	Short Form (S+CH)
T				
	That	••	2345	Letter Word
	Themselves		2346134234	Short Form (THE+MVS)
	th	•	1456	Contraction
	The	•	2346	Contraction
	There	• • •	146	Contraction
	These	• • •	452346	Dot 45
	Their	• • •	4562346	Dot 456
	This	•	1456	Contraction
	Those	• •	451456	Dot 45
	Through	•	51456	Dot 5
	Thyself	• • • •	145613456124	Short Form (TH+YF)
	Time	• • •	5-2345	Dot 5
	Today	••••	2345145	Short Form (TD)
	Together	••••	234512451235	Short Form (TGR)

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
T			Continued	
	Tomorrow	•••	2345134	Short Form (TM)
	Tonight	••••	23451345	Short Form (TN)
U				
	Under	• • • •	5136	Dot 5
	Upon	• • •	45136	Dot 45
	Us	•	136	Letter Word
V				
	Very	•	1236	Letter Word
W				
	Was	••	356	Contraction
	Were	••	2356	Contraction
	wh	•	156	Contraction
	Which	•	156	Contraction
	Where	•••••	24565-125	Short Form (W+HERE)
	Whose	•••	45156	Dot 45
	Will	••	2456	Letter Word

Letter	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	Туре
W			Continued	
	With	**	23456	Contraction
	Word	•••	452456	Dot 45
	World	•••	4562456	Dot 456
	Work	•••	52456	Dot 5
	Would	••••	2456145	Short Form (WD)
X				
	It	••	1346	Letter Word
Y				
	You	••	13456	Letter Word
	Young	• • • •	513456	Dot 5
Z				
	As	:	1356	Letter Word

## **Braille Punctuation Marks**

Punctuation	Mark	Braille Symbol	Cell Numbers
Apostrophe	6	•	3
At Symbol	@	• •	4-1
Bullet	•	• • •	456-235
Colon	••	••	25
Comma	,	•	2
Dash	-	• ••	6-36
Ellipsis	•••	••••	256-256-256
Exclamation		••	235
Forward Slash	/	• •	456-34
Hyphen	-	••	36
Period	•	••	256
Question Mark	?	••	236
Quote (Closing)	"	••	356
Quote (Opening)	"	••	236
Semi-Colon	;	•	23

### **Braille Math Symbols**

Punctuation	Mark	Braille Symbol	Cell Numbers
Addition (Plus)	+	• • •	5-235
Division	÷	• •	5-34
Equals	=	• • •	5-2356
Greater Than	>	• •	4-345
Less Than	<	• •	4-126
Multiplication (Dot)	•	• • •	4-236
Multiplication (x)	X	• • •	4-256
Number Sign	#	•	3456

## **Braille Currency Symbols**

Punctuation	Mark	Braille Symbol	Cell Numbers
British Pound	£	• •	4-123
Cent	¢	• ••	4-14
Dollar	\$	• •	4-234
Euro	€	• •	4-15



## **Braille Restroom Signs**









Sign	Braille
Men's	
Male	••••
Boy's	
Women's	
Female	
Girl's	
Restroom	
Handicapped	
Family	
Toilet	

## **Braille Elevator Signs**

Elevator



Picture	Word	Braille	Dot Numbers	<b>Dot Numbers</b>
<b>*</b>	Main	••••	121-35	Short Form (MA+IN)
• : .::.	Alarm	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1456-345134	Short Form (AI+AR+M)
;···:	Phone	****	12341255135	Short Form (PH+ONE)
<b>⊗</b> .∵::	Stop	•••	341351234	Short Form (ST+OP)
<b>⟨ ⟩</b> :-::·.	Open	***•	135123526	Short Form (OPN)
»; ;·	Close	** .	13512326	Short Form (CLS)



#### **Folding Money**

Yes, Actually folding money to identify it.





#### One Dollar Bills are not folded





Five Dollar Bills are folded in half





Ten Dollar Bills are folded in half lengthwise





Twenty Dollar Bills are folded in half and then half again

## Sighted Guide Techniques for use by Individuals who are Blind or Visually Impaired

The use of sighted guide techniques can be used by individuals who are blind or visually impaired, to help them travel safely in any environment. Using a sighted guide allows individuals who are blind or visual impairment a comfortable way to travel safely in any environment. The sighted guide technique is felt to be the most efficient way for a person who is blind or visual impairment to travel with a sighted person.

#### **Offer Your Services**

To offer your services as a sighted guide, approach the person who is blind or visually impaired, introduce yourself and ask if they would like your help. Do not grab, push or pull a person with vision loss, regardless of their age. If they indicate they would like your assistance, verbally offer your arm and brush it against their hand or arm.

The person being guided should lightly grasp the guide's arm, thumb out, just above their elbow. Right elbow of the guide will be grasped by the left hand of the person being guided, and vice versa. The left elbow of the guide will be grasped by the right hand of the person being guided. For children, have them grasp your wrist or hold your hand.

When an individual acts as a human guide, they should walk a half step ahead of the person they are guiding.



When approaching a narrow area or doorway, the sighted guide will move their forearm and hand to rest against the lower portion of their back, palm

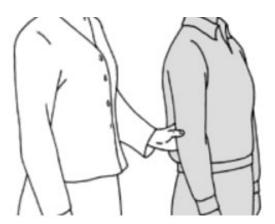
facing outward. The person being guiding should slide their hand down to their guide's wrist and move directly behind the guide, at arm's length.

#### **Curbs and Stairs**

The guide should approach curbs, stairs and doorways squarely, never at an angle. At doorways, the guide should tell the person being guided which way the door opens so the person being guided can hold the door as both pass through.

The guide should let the person know when they are approaching steps. At steps, the guide should inform the person they are quiding whether the steps go up or down and how many steps there are.

The guide should position the person so their free hand is closest to the rail. The guide should pause at the first step and at each landing.





#### **Chairs and Seating**

When approaching a seat, the guide should tell the person they are guiding that they are in front of or beside the seat. The guide will then place their guide arm hand on the chair back or chair arm and allow the guided person to follow the guide's arm down to the seat. Some people tap the seat to give an audio clue as to where the seat is.

#### **White Cane**

A white cane can be a very helpful tool for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Often, a white cane is used as a mobility tool for independent travel purposes. However, the white cane can also be used as an identification tool for others who may not realize the individual has a visual impairment.

With this in mind, even if you, a family member or your friend is using sighted guide technique, a white cane can add another level of safety and security when moving in both familiar and unfamiliar setting. It is important to know that when a white cane is used for independent travel purposes, proper training by a qualified orientation and mobility specialist is required.



#### **Veteran's Administration Blind Rehabilitation Centers**

Facility	Phone	
Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind & Vision-Impaired – Richmond, VA	(804) 371-3151 – (800) 622-2155	
Central BRC – Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital – Hines, IL	(601) 364-2700 - (800) 443-1000	
Western BRC – Palo Alto, CA	(650) 724-3300 – (650) 724-3322	
Long Beach BRC – Long Beach, CA	(562) 494-2100	
Augusta BRC – Augusta, GA	(706) 721-3100	
Southeastern BRC – Birmingham, AL	(205) 254-3000	
Puerto Rico BRC – San Juan, PR	(787) 722-2200	
Southwestern BRC – Tucson, AZ	(520) 791-2600	
American Lake BRC – Tacoma, WA	(253) 572-3000	
Waco BRC– Waco, TX	(254) 752-3000	
Eastern BRC – West Haven, CT	(203) 974-3000	
Louis Stokes Cleveland BRC – Cleveland, OH	(216) 844-3000	
West Palm Beach BRC – West Palm Beach, FL	(561) 295-3000	

Call the center nearest you to get more information. You can also call the **VIST** (*Visual Impairment Services Team*) coordinator phone (**202-461-7317**) for the national office.