

Blind Adaptive Equipment Campaign

Changing the Lives of People who Want to Work. Lions Services needs your HELP to create more jobs for the blind and low vision community!

Mission: Empowering people who are blind to achieve personal and economic independence by providing them with vocational rehabilitation and employment opportunities.

70% of working-age adults who are blind or visually impaired are not employed.



Support us in expanding job opportunities for the 16,000 blind and low vision individuals living in Charlotte by empowering them to secure stable employment and to achieve personal economic independence!

Lions Services Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has proudly served Charlotte's blind and visually impaired community for 88 years! We're seeking funds for a groundbreaking initiative: the Blind Innovations Center (BIC). This initiative aims to revolutionize workforce development for blind and visually impaired individuals in our manufacturing facility. The centerpiece of this effort is the acquisition of adaptive equipment, a crucial first step toward creating jobs tailored to empower and foster independence for the blind and visually impaired. This technology is vital for modern manufacturing, enhancing competitiveness, efficiency, and reducing waste. By automating processes, we ensure accessibility and precision in cutting textiles, a task previously hindered by manual methods. This upgrade creates 75 new job opportunities for blind employees, aligning us with industry standards and fostering inclusivity in the workforce.

Why Your Support Matters: Since 1935, Lions Services has created more than 3,000 jobs for people who are blind/visually impaired that live in Charlotte and surrounding cities. Our devoted team of mechanics passionately ensures accessibility by installing foot pedals and hand operation guides, making manufacturing machines inclusive for all. The Lions Services Work Force Development Program is dedicated to providing essential skills and opportunities to blind & visually impaired individuals, enabling them to lead independent and fulfilling lives. The Eastman Talon Automated Cutting System will play a pivotal role in our efforts, allowing our participants to develop valuable skills and contribute meaningfully to society. The new system increases production capability and diversification of new commercial work orders that lead to long term sustainability.



1 Year Plan

Between March 2024 and March 2025, LSI will raise funds through grants, donors, and sponsorships to purchase the blind adaptive equipment that will CREATE new pathways for the blind community through job expansion in manufacturing programs.



Goal: \$300,000

A detailed breakdown of the cost of the equipment:

Talon Cutting System-
\$192,300

Spreading System \$50,000

Nesting Software- \$9,300

Photo Digitizer- \$8,000

Plotter- \$11,000

Additional expenses and setup- \$29,400



Donation Levels

Champion \$25,000 +

Patron: \$15,000

Sponsor: \$5,000

Friend: A donation of any amount. Your contribution, regardless of the amount, will make a difference.

Our Donors will be recognized in many different ways including on the organization's website and newsletter.





Your support will change the lives of people who want to work.
The Eastman Talon Automated Cutting System

**Eastman Talon 75
Cutting System
\$192,300**



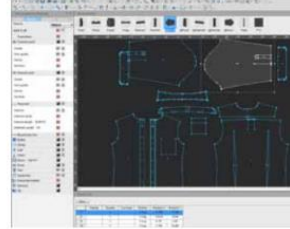
**ES-960
Spreading System
\$50,000**



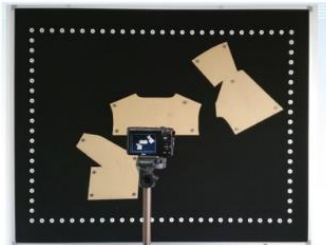
**Vector Four
Plotter \$11,000**



**Pattern PRO Design
& Nesting Software
\$9,300**



**Photo Digitizer
\$8,000**



**Additional expenses:
crating, shipping,
travel and personnel
training.
\$29,400**

Additional costs to crate, and ship the new automated cutting system to Lions Services Inc., in Charlotte, NC. Set up of the machine, and travel for Eastman personnel to provide training of the cutting system to Lions Services staff.

Your donations, pledges and planned gifts directly impact the lives of people who are blind. By giving to Blind Adaptive Equipment Campaign, you will create a job for someone who hasn't had the training or opportunity to find meaningful work. To meet the challenge, Lions Services must receive \$300,000 in financial gifts, pledges, and grants.

How to Give-Your Gifts Unleash Unseen Potential in People who are blind Donate Today



Donation Levels:

- Champion** : \$25,000 +
- Patron**: \$15,000
- Sponsor**: \$5,000
- Friend**: A donation of any amount



Give online using the link or scan the QR code:

LionsServices.org/GIVE

Planned giving and gifts from Donor Advised Funds are also accepted. **By Check made out to: Lions Services Inc. (mail to: 4600 North Tryon Street Charlotte NC 28213)**

You may contact Agatha Bisbikis, Development Director by phone 704-921-1527 Ext. 621, 704-661-5467 mobile or agathab@lionsservices.org for support.

Thank you for your investment and partnership with Lions Services! Lions Services is a 501 (c)(3). Your donation is tax- deductible. Learn more about Lions Services at www.lionsservices.org