



SSP.NJ

Enhancing independence for New Jersey residents who have a combined vision and hearing loss

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What is an SSP?

SSPs provide support that enhances independence and encourages community integration.

SSPs are professionally trained to provide visual and environmental information, human guide services, and access to communication so that a person who cannot see or hear is empowered to make his own informed decisions.

SSPs provide support for activities related to health, post-secondary education or training, work, independent living in the community, and peer support activities.



SSPNJ provides a community-based network of professionally trained Support Service Providers

Support Service Providers, or SSPs, act as the eyes and/or ears and mobility guide for those who cannot see and hear.

SSPNJ is a consumer-driven network of Support Service Providers. In accordance with program guidelines, participants select when and how they want to use SSPs, and their SSPs of choice.

Program participants receive 16 hours of SSP services per month.

Persons who meet eligibility requirements can access SSPNJ services free of charge.



What are the eligibility requirements?

Adults (over the age of 18 and out of the K-12 school system) who have a combined vision and hearing loss can apply for SSPNJ services if they are:

- Eligible for vocational rehabilitation services from the New Jersey Commission for the Blind;
- Working, looking for work, or preparing for work;
- A New Jersey resident living in the community; and
- Capable of directing and managing an SSP.



Comments from those who use SSPNJ services:

"The SSPs are great. I am really happy and more relaxed that I have people to help me interact in the community."

"SSPNJ provides a very professional service, which is easy to notice and appreciate."

"The SSPs help me to be more independent."

"My SSPs know what they are doing. They are very skilled."

"When I became DeafBlind, I started working with an SSP. We went shopping at the mall. They led me through the stores. I really enjoyed that and appreciated it. It is a great relief from my husband so I do not have to depend on him."



Our Philosophy

All people are created equal and human relationships thrive when the community is accessible to all.

SSPNJ is offered through the

Center for Sensory and Complex Disabilities
at THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

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