As individuals age, they frequently experience changes in vision that may affect functional abilities, mobility and safety.
The Occupational Therapists at Lutheran SeniorLife Rehab Services have developed a program to help individuals experiencing visual challenges achieve greater independence while improving their quality of life.

Visual Rehabilitation Program
Promoting independence and improving quality of life with visual retraining

Lutheran SeniorLife complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. Lutheran SeniorLife does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex.

ATTENTION: If you do not speak or understand English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call (724) 742-2295 (TTY Relay Services 711)

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al (724) 742-2295 (TTY 711)

ATTENZIONE: In caso la lingua parlata sia l’italiano, sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica gratuiti. Chiamare il numero (724) 742-2295 (TTY 711)
The Occupational Therapist will evaluate one’s living space by:
• Adapting appliances to make operating them easier
• Using contrast with color or texture allowing improved knowledge of surroundings
• Adapting the environment with use of lighting
• Adapting pill boxes
• Educating on low vision aids
• Eccentric viewing training to help manage blind spots

Lutheran SeniorLife also offers SilverSmart™. Consultations are available at Passavant Community to learn about available low vision aids using technology and adaptive devices.

To make a referral or for more information contact Outpatient Therapy at 724-452-3492.

OVERALL BENEFITS
Occupational Therapy low vision training techniques help clients:
• Use their remaining vision more effectively
• Improve their ability to read through vision retraining
• Function more successfully by modifying their activities
• Achieve maximum safety by implementing environmental modifications

THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED FOR
Individuals who have problems with:
• Recognizing faces of family and friends
• Watching television
• Reading smaller print
• Seeing steps or curbs
• Personal grooming
• Taking their medications correctly
• Cooking

Individuals who have been diagnosed with:
• Macular Degeneration
• Diabetic Retinopathy
• Vision loss related to stroke or brain injury

Standardized state-of-the art visual testing is completed to establish an accurate visual baseline and assess progress. In addition to observing for functional abilities, these tests include:
• MN Read Charts
• Pepper Visual Skills for Reading Test
• Tangent Screen Exam
• Clock Face Test
• Lumen Sensor

GOALS OF THE LOW VISION PROGRAM
• Safety in the place they call home
• Promoting or maintaining independence
• Maintaining the best quality of life related to activities requiring visual functioning

“Although my eyes will never get better, this program taught me how to look out of the perimeter of my eyes to see better and help me stay in my own home alone. It’s all about staying independent.”

– J.M