

“Clovernook has virtually changed my life in being able to read my bills, business letters and correspondence. It’s a joy to be able to read my mail myself and not have to wait for family to find time to read it to me.”

—Joan Duncan

Technology:

Diabetic retinopathy—an eye disease caused by long-term diabetes that damages the eye’s retina. This was the diagnosis that Jack Atkinson received from his eye care professional.

Fortunately, Jack’s doctor connected him with the Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired (BSVI) where he was referred to Clovernook Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired for additional help.

How we helped

After losing his job of 18 years, Jack connected with Clovernook in order to receive technology training so that he could remain competitive within the work environment. He learned how to utilize adaptive software, such as Zoomtext, in order to enlarge and enhance everything on his computer screen – making all of his applications easy to see and use.

Jack also learned how to operate applications such as Microsoft Word, enabling him to write his resume and resulting in employment. Clovernook’s technology specialist, Larry Klug, also helped him develop the organizational skills needed in order to utilize his skills effectively. Jack is now an employee at Clovernook, where he utilizes his training and newly found skills on a daily basis.

With over 13 years of experience with both Windows and Macintosh operating systems and a user of adaptive technology himself, Larry is able to develop a working plan that fits the needs of each low vision individual seeking assistance.

By assessing each consumer’s need individually, Jack is able to determine whether a one-on-one or a group setting would be most beneficial for that individual. Then, recommendations are made so that he or she can maintain a level of independence.

We need your help

Employment statistics are troubling. According to the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB), 75 percent of people who reported vision loss were “not in the labor force.” Additionally, of the approximately 4 million people who reported vision loss, only 22 percent were identified as employed.

Please help Clovernook’s consumer remain independent and competitive in the workforce through the use of technology and training.

