



**AMERICAN
ACTION FUND**
for Blind Children
and Adults

YEAR IN REVIEW

A resource. A community. A commitment. Since 1919.

“Access to Braille is not just about literacy—it is about belonging, independence, and community. At the American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults, our work continues to center on supporting Braille literacy at every stage of life.”

– Mark A. Riccobono, Executive Director

Supporting Braille Literacy

Braille literacy is the foundation of opportunity for blind people. In 2025, the American Action Fund continued to expand programs that strengthen reading skills, provide accessible materials, and connect blind individuals with a nationwide community built around Braille.

From early childhood readers to adults rediscovering literacy, these initiatives ensure that Braille remains a powerful tool for learning, independence, and participation in everyday life.

Braille Readers Are Leaders Contest - 383 children and adults participated in this annual contest to set reading goals, track progress, and celebrate achievement—empowering participants to see themselves as capable, successful Braille readers.

Expanding Access to Braille Books

Braille Book Fair – An annual event that provides hundreds of Braille readers of all ages the rare opportunity to build their very own collection of Braille and Twin Vision® books free-of-charge.

Braille Books Program – Every month, we send a free Braille book from a popular children’s reading series to blind children and families, as well as teachers and libraries, across the country. This past year, we sent **23,699 books** to participants.

Share Braille – Share Braille brings readers together through a national community centered on Braille literacy. By connecting people who want to exchange Braille books, the program helps extend the life of each book while expanding access to new titles and strengthening connections among readers.

“Receiving these books has changed the way my child sees herself. She knows now that Braille belongs in her life every day.”



Tools that Support Daily Life and Independence

Braille Calendars – These pocket calendars provide an accessible way to keep track of important dates and commitments, supporting organization and independence throughout the year. This year, we produced **4,809 Braille calendars** and sent them free-of-charge to blind people.

“My Braille calendar helps me manage my life on my own. It’s a small thing that makes a big difference.”

Free White Cane Program – The American Action Fund provided support for **6,048 free white canes** to be sent to blind people in 2025. For many recipients, a white cane represents an important step toward greater independence and confidence in travel and exploration.

How You Can Help

- Contribute online today at www.actionfund.org/donate, or to give over the phone, please call us at 410-659-9315.
- Mail checks to American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults, attention Outreach, 1800 Johnson Street, Baltimore, MD 21230.
- Leave a legacy that will help future generations of blind and deafblind children. Call 410-659-9315 and ask for Patti Chang for planned giving options.

Financial Statement & Transparency

The American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code and completes an annual audit of activities. Learn more at www.actionfund.org/about.

Together, we will continue to positively impact the lives of both blind children and adults for decades to come. If you have questions or want to learn more about our work, please contact us at 410-659-9315, explore www.actionfund.org, or email us at actionfund@actionfund.org.

**All contributions and gains received in the year not spent on management and general or fundraising are available for program services.*



“I was afraid to leave my house alone. My white cane changed that and gave me the confidence to step back into the world and start living independently again.”



Fundraising and Management and General Expense as a percent of Total Revenue and Gains and Other Support

