

# Caregivers Corner

## Low Vision Doesn't Need To Mean No Vision

(NAPSA)—It is estimated that more than 6 million Americans are robbed of their sight by low vision, a number that will continue to grow as the nation ages. Low vision is an eye condition in which sight cannot be corrected through surgery, pharmaceuticals, eyeglasses or contact lenses. Low vision can be characterized by partial sight, such as blind spots or tunnel vision, but also includes legal blindness.



Eye injuries, hereditary factors and eye diseases such as macular degeneration, glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy can all lead to low vision. Symptoms of low vision can include:

- Hazy or blurred vision
- Loss of peripheral vision
- Color confusion
- Trouble reading, cooking or doing close-up tasks
- Difficulty recognizing familiar faces
- Light sensitivity (complaints that lights are too dim indoors).

The Vision Council recommends scheduling an appointment with an eye doctor if your loved ones experience any of these symptoms. In addition to accurately diagnosing low vision, an eye doctor can suggest tools and devices, such as magnifiers, telescopic eyewear and CCTVs, to help those with low vision regain their independence.

For more information, visit [www.thevisioncouncil.org](http://www.thevisioncouncil.org).