Training Program on Vision Rehabilitation

Background:
Vision impairment impacts negatively on a person’s quality of life. It impedes an individual’s ability to learn or perform their usual daily tasks. Importantly, it has implications for employment and educational opportunities, as unemployment or underemployment are major problems for men and women who have vision impairment. Paradoxically, more than 90% of patients with vision impairment do not receive any rehabilitative services. The shortage of professionals with specialized training in assessing and managing patients with vision impairment is a major barrier to providing adequate rehabilitative services, especially in rural India. Given the acute shortage of human resources to work at secondary and primary levels, the Institute for Vision Rehabilitation is proposing training programs for multi-skilled rehabilitation workers.

Program
To impart skills required to provide rehabilitation care to individuals with vision impairment, including children and adults.

Curriculum:
The curriculum includes both theory and practical exposure to rehabilitation practice.

- **Theory:** Includes introduction to the structure and functioning of the human eye, understanding disability and low vision; components of rehabilitation; educational methods such as Braille, Taylor Frame and Abacus; economic and social rehabilitation; training in orientation, mobility, activities of daily living and home economics; assistive computer-based technology; early intervention, and community-based rehabilitation.
- **Practical component:** As LVPEI's Vision Rehabilitation Centres are an integral part of the LVPEI patient care services (or eye hospital), students are exposed to a wide range of patients from all parts of India and abroad. This rich and diverse database enables students to learn about a wide range of rehabilitation needs, develop customized solutions for every client and acquire the confidence to independently dispense vision rehabilitation services.

Eligibility:
- Age 18 to 25 years
- 10+2, Intermediate with Science background
- Aptitude to work in disability
- Gender: No specification
- Commitment to complete the course and work in LVPEI's system for another 3 years
- Persons With Disability (PWD) category: Persons with low vision, or physically challenged persons are eligible
- Other desirable qualities: Being empathetic, and having good listening and communication skills

Mode of Selection: Written test and Interview

Number of seats: 6 candidates per year

Course duration: 2 years

Cost: INR 2,50,000 / Student for 2 years

- The entire course is at no cost to the student