

## **NVT Testimonial**

I have worked in the blindness and low-vision profession for forty-six years, starting as a State of California Licensed Dog-Guide Instructor/Trainer in San Rafael, California, and finally retiring from the Department of Veterans Affairs Blind Rehabilitation Service after twenty-nine years.

My last five years with the Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital of the Palo Alto, California Health Care System was focused on planning, establishing and coordinating the Comprehensive Neurological Vision Rehabilitation (CNVR) section of the Western Blind Rehabilitation Center.

The Department of Veterans Affairs Blind Rehabilitation Service is one of the most effective programs in the world, providing highly effective rehabilitation therapy for patients with blindness and vision impairment caused by various eye pathologies. With the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and resultant combat injuries associated with improvised explosive devices, gunshot wounds and other causes, the Palo Alto Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital Polytrauma Unit began referring patients with brain injury caused vision impairment and associated cognitive disorders across campus to the Western Blind Rehabilitation Center. Vision impairment caused by eye pathology and vision impairment caused by brain injury have little in common. While the eyes may be in perfect order, how the injured brain interprets what the eyes see can present infinitely complex problems. The necessity to gain knowledge and experience providing effective rehabilitation to these combat injured patients with vision impairment caused by brain injury was the reason for establishing the CNVR program at the Blind Rehab Center.

The basis for the CNVR program was this writer's training over five years ago, among the first three therapists so trained in the USA, by two of NVT Systems founders, Gayle Clarke and Allison Hayes. These two highly experienced professionals have unparalleled expertise working with patients and clients with neurological vision impairment. This thorough NVT training gave me knowledge of a systematic, multidisciplinary approach for assessment and individualized therapy treatment for patients with neurological vision disorders. The NVT system organizes multidisciplinary information, provides neuro visual assessment, provides a systematic means to determine specifically individualized therapy treatment, collects data, and prints reports. The system is an excellent means of helping patient/clients and their involved family to understand their visual functioning capabilities and limitations, and to attain their maximal, safe visual functioning potential. In addition to patient/clients with combat related injuries, many who have experienced stroke, accidents and other acquired brain Injuries (ABI) have received highly effective rehabilitation therapy via the NVT system.

To my knowledge there is no other patient evaluation and therapy system approaching the effectiveness of this NVT System.

**Scott S. Johnson,**  
Founding Coordinator of CNVR, Retired.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott S. Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.