

Ellie Carlson
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303-818-8440

Professional Experience:

- Canines and Canes - Orientation and Mobility Support Services 02/14-10/17, 4/19 - present
Independent contractor providing assessment and training to dog guide users and cane travelers as well as in-service training for professionals and guest speaker presentations to consumer groups. Established contracts with several dog guide schools, state rehabilitation agencies, and local non-profit organizations serving individuals who are blind, low-vision, and Deaf-Blind.
- Guide Dog Foundation and America's Vet Dogs, Smithtown, NY 10/2017 – 04/2019
Field Services Representative supporting program applicants and graduates in 13 western states and all applicant and graduates who are profoundly Deaf-Blind nationwide. In-service presentations to internal staff and public speaking at professional seminars and consumer group conventions.
- Helen Keller National Center, Sands Point, NY 10/2011 – 01/2014
Rocky Mountain Regional Representative for CO, UT, MT, ND, SD, WY.
- State of Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Fort Collins, CO 04/2010 - 09/2011
Rehabilitation Counselor for the Blind/ Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf.
- Leader Dogs for the Blind, Rochester, MI 08/2006 - 04/2010
Guide Dog Mobility Instructor for Deaf-Blind Program, completed apprentice requirements 6/12/09.
- State of Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Fort Collins, CO 12/2004 - 07/2006
Itinerant Orientation and Mobility/ Vision Rehabilitation Therapy instructor for adults in eight counties.
- Helen Keller National Center, Sands Point, NY 08/2003 - 11/2004
Senior Orientation and Mobility instructor for Deaf-Blind youth and adults in a residential training facility.
- Resources for Disabled Students, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 08/1999 - 12/2001
Coordinator of accommodations for university students who are blind and visually impaired.

Education

- Oakland Community College, Rochester, MI 08/2008 - 12/2009
Coursework in Sign Language Studies
- California State University at Los Angeles 09/2001 - 12/2002
Master of Special Education, Education and Rehabilitation for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- University of Northern Colorado, Greeley 08/1999 -05/2001
Bachelor of Science, Human Rehabilitative Services
- Colorado State University, Fort Collins 08/1997 - 06/1999
University Open Option

Credentials

- Guide Dog Mobility Instructor, qualified by Leader Dogs for the Blind June 12, 2009
- Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist, License #22455 expires 12/2023
- American Sign Language, advanced conversational fluency including tactile sign language
- Valid Colorado drivers license and US passport
- Valid professional liability insurance and auto insurance policy

Internships

Western Blind Rehabilitation Center, Palo Alto, CA 09/2002 - 12/2002

Orientation and Mobility assessment and training to retired veterans with acquired visual impairments

Volunteer Experience

- Colorado Deaf-Blind Citizens Advisory Council 06/2019 – 06-2025
Nominated by community, professional working with individuals who are Deaf-Blind chair.
- Colorado Association of Guide Dog Users 06/2015 – 06/2018
Board member. Chair of outreach committee.
- Great Lakes Mastiff Rescue, Rochester, MI 01/2007 - 4/2010
Evaluate, transport, and foster English Mastiffs, participate in breed awareness and adoption events, perform home interviews for applicants and follow-up support to adopters.
- Guide Dog Foundation, Guide Dogs for the Blind, & Leader Dogs for the Blind 2000 - 2009
Puppy raiser, puppy sitter, participation in fund raising and public awareness events for dog guides.