

For more information:

Sally Thomas, Public Education & Relations Director

Vision Rehabilitation Services (VRS)

...the new Blind & Low Vision Services (BLVS)

770-432-7280 - sthomas@vrsga.org

**Blind & Low Vision Services of North Georgia Changes its Name to
Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia (VRS)**

Smyrna, GA/June 5, 2009/ - Nancy Eaton, Chair of the Board for Blind & Low Vision Services of North Georgia announces that the organization has changed its name to **Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia (VRS)**. According to Eaton, discussions about a name change began about a year ago during the Board's strategic planning process. The Board chose Vision Rehabilitation Services because it more accurately reflects the organization's services.

Founded in 1983 by Sarah Sentell Scott, the non-profit organization's services include comprehensive low vision evaluations, instruction in adaptive skills and techniques to enable clients with low vision carry out their daily living activities, instruction in safe and independent travel skills (orientation and mobility), instruction in Access Technology and computer skills, vocational evaluations, and independent and group counseling for adjustment to vision loss.

One of the organization's consulting optometrists, Dr. Jon Forche, expressed his support of the name change by stating, "As vision rehabilitation continues to evolve in its attempt to assimilate the physical medicine model of rehabilitation, clinics across the United States are changing their names from Low Vision to Vision Rehabilitation. This new name reflects the Board's commitment to providing state-of-the-art services to our clients".

Joan M. Stuart, Executive Director and CEO, commented, "By changing our name to Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia, we are letting potential clients know that our purpose is their rehabilitation. We are committed to providing them with the skills they need to enjoy independent, productive lives. The future need for vision rehabilitation services is growing at a rapid pace. Along with the aging of our population and the related vision challenges that brings, new technologies are benefiting people with all types of vision limitations. It is VRS's goal to increase our resources for the community in order to keep up with these needs. Many individuals, organizations and businesses support VRS in achieving these goals, and we hope that our updated name enhances understanding of our services".

About Vision Rehabilitation Services of Georgia (VRS) – Vision Rehabilitation Services is dedicated to assisting persons who are blind or visually impaired so that they may function independently in their environments such as their home, school, place of work, house of worship, shopping and other places. VRS is located at 3830 South Cobb Drive in Smyrna. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Vision Rehabilitation Services is fully accredited by the National Accreditation Council for agencies serving individuals who are visually impaired. Community partners include United Way in Cobb County, Cobb County Government, and Georgia Department of Labor – Rehabilitation Services. Contact information: 770-432-7280 www.vrsga.org.

#