

PRESS RELEASE
November 16, 2017

**ESSEX COUNTY FREEHOLDERS PROCLAIM
OCTOBER 2017 AS BLINDNESS AWARENESS MONTH
IN ESSEX COUNTY**

(Newark, NJ) – On Wednesday, October 25, 2017, the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders proclaimed the month of October 2017 as Blindness Awareness Month in Essex County.

Blindness and profound vision loss affect more than 130,000 adults over age 35 in New Jersey. As the population ages, the eye disease cases that can lead to vision loss increase. Throughout the year, and especially during the month of October, Vision Loss Alliance of New Jersey and other agencies raise awareness about the significance of this issue.

In its 74-year history, Vision Loss Alliance of New Jersey has been a persistent leader in the programs and services offered to those with profound vision loss. Under the leadership of its Executive Director Kris Marino, and with the support of its renowned staff, the alliance delivers expert programs and services that build confidence and improve the quality of life for individuals living with profound vision loss.

The Freeholders join Vision Loss Alliance of New Jersey in an effort to effectuate change and raise awareness about the severity of this issue in, not only Essex County, but throughout the State of New Jersey.

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