

Division for the Visually Impaired Celebrates White Cane Safety Day

NEW CASTLE (October 19, 2021) – More than 40 participants joined the Division for the Visually Impaired (DVI) in a celebration of White Cane Safety Day on Oct. 8 for a fun walk along the Wilmington Riverfront and the Jack A. Markell Trail.

Each year, White Cane Safety Day is celebrated on Oct. 15. The white cane symbolizes the ability to achieve a full and independent life and the capacity to work productively in competitive employment; move freely and safely from place to place; and make it possible for individuals who are blind or visually impaired to fully participate in and contribute to our society.

DVI students, families, and friends were invited to walk for exercise, gather with friends, and celebrate White Cane Safety Day. A proclamation from Governor John Carney and Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long was given in recognition of White Cane Safety Day.

In addition, the New Castle County Mounted Police showed their support. DelDOT, Delaware Association for Blind Athletes (DABA) and BlindSight were also there to show their support of DVI.

“White Cane Safety Day is about promoting and celebrating inclusion for Delawareans who are blind and visually impaired,” said Deborah Talley, Director of the Division for the Visually Impaired, one of 10 divisions in the Department of Health and Social Services. “I am grateful to the Orientation and Mobility Team, who helped supervise this event at the Wilmington Riverfront, and especially to Heather Dougherty, who coordinated the event, and for all of the

community partners who participated.”

The Division for the Visually Impaired provides educational, vocational, and technical support to empower and foster independence for Delawareans with visual impairments. To learn more, visit [DVI's website](#).

-30-

The Department of Health and Social Services is committed to improving the quality of life of Delaware's citizens by promoting health and well-being, fostering self-sufficiency, and protecting vulnerable populations.