

# Braille Trail Walk for Independence



## Sponsorship Proposal



Your partnership can open doors & dismantle barriers.





# DEAR FRIENDS,

For 91 years, Lions Services has engineered accessible employment opportunities, **ensuring talent and drive are the determinants of success, not vision status.** Now, we're evolving to create holistic solutions to the obstacles blind and low vision North Carolinians encounter every day.

Our innovative model will blend a full-service vision resource center with tools and training to meet individual accessibility needs, combined with systemic solutions that dismantle barriers for everyone.

We're committed to designing a community **where vision status is never a obstacle to a life of choice, career, and connection,** and we look forward to partnering with you to get there.

## About Our Work

Our highly skilled, majority blind or low vision workforce proudly manufactures **products that serve the U.S. military,** protecting those who protect us.

But we are more than an accessible employer. Everyday, our blind and low vision team members must **navigate a world that wasn't built for them.**

We're committed to supporting them with tools and training to overcome the obstacles of inaccessible design by offering **accessible technology training and equipment, orientation and mobility services, accessible health & wellness tools and individualized support.**

## Your Impact

Your sponsorship directly fuels these comprehensive services to ensure economic mobility, promote health & wellness, and offer connection to a full life.

In Mecklenburg County, where more than **16,000 individuals live with vision loss,** your partnership ensures everyone in our community has access to opportunity. Please join us as a sponsor and invest in a model that empowers the whole person and strengthens our entire community. I look forward to partnering with you.



## Philip Murph

President and CEO

[philipm@lionservices.org](mailto:philipm@lionservices.org)

With Gratitude,



# 2026 Braille Trail Walk for Independence

**Saturday, October 3, 2026**

4600 N Tryon St, Charlotte, NC

**8:30 am:** Packet Pickup

**8:40 am:** Welcome & Announcements

**9 am:** Walk Starts

**10am-Noon:** Celebrate with food, music & giveaways

The Braille Trail Walk for Independence achieves a key milestone this year, taking place for the first time on the newly constructed inaugural section of Charlotte Braille Trail.

With the excitement of the new trail, we anticipate attendance at this fast-growing event to top 500 this year.

Join us for a scenic two-mile walk amidst tactile sculptures, multi-sensory art installations and a fragrant community garden!

Walk begins at the trailhead on the Lions Services Campus.



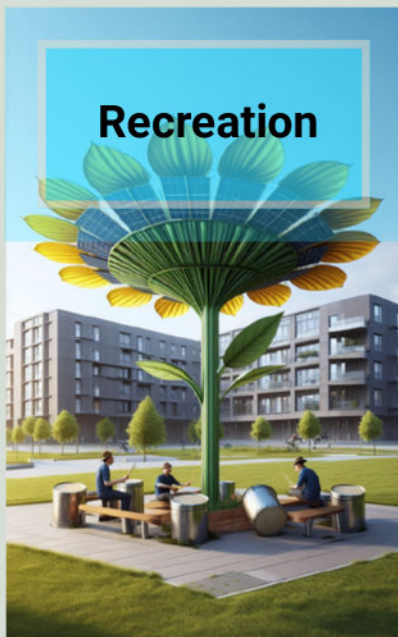


# The Charlotte Braille Trail

## An accessible outdoor space...that's so much more

Opening the first section of the Charlotte Braille Trail—a project two years in the making—represents a milestone in equitable access for our blind and low vision neighbors.

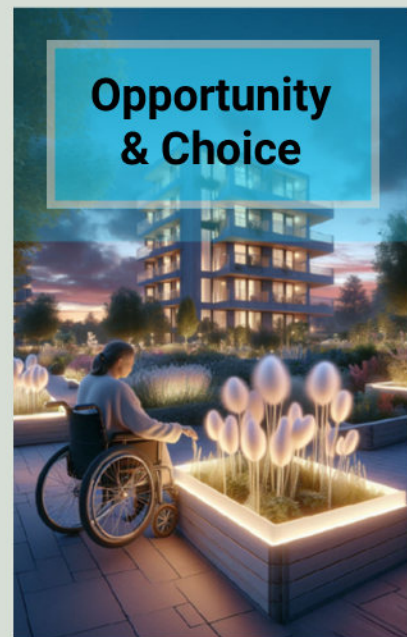
When all sections are complete, the trail will thread its way from the Lions Services campus to the CATS Sugar Creek Station, providing a safe, walkable outdoor space for everyone, regardless of how well they see.



In Charlotte, we prize our greenways and green spaces. By opening the Charlotte Braille Trail, designed with navigational tools for blind and low vision walkers, we're ensuring no one is left out of this quintessential outdoor recreational experience.



Walking spaces provide not just recreation, but a path to wellness through exercise and movement. Creating an accessible pathway removes barriers to wellness for blind and low vision Charlotte residents, so we can all stay healthier.



Beyond recreation & exercise, the trail offers connection. When complete, it will connect accessible employers, living spaces, and public transit options via a walkable route. We're replacing obstacles with a path to opportunity & choice.

# Why partner with us?

Sponsorship of the Walk for Independence supports critical accessibility services, aligns your brand with an established and respected nonprofit, and offers a unique employee community engagement opportunity for your team, as they walk side-by-side on the trail with individuals who know firsthand the obstacles of navigating an inaccessible world.



## The Impact

Serving Mecklenburg + 8 Surrounding Counties

68% Blind or Low Vision Workforce

1,500 Hours of Wellness Services Delivered

167 Hours of Accessible Tech Training

86 Accessible Devices Provided

91 Years of Impact

## Brand Benefits

Brand Exposure

Booth/Table Space

Social Media Recognition

Employee Engagement Opportunity

Some sponsorship benefits are dependent on investment level. Please review available sponsorship opportunities and benefit details on the next page.

All sponsorship levels will be recognized on the event T-shirts and website.





# Sponsorship Packages

## TITLE SPONSORSHIP - \$20,000 (EXCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY)

Top-level brand exposure & exclusive naming rights (*Braille Trail Walk for Independence presented by [YOUR COMPANY]*). Title sponsor has the opportunity to offer welcome remarks from the main stage, be featured in a pre-event email spotlight and media outreach, and to host an exclusive pre-event reception for sponsors and key donors at your company site or venue of choice.

	TITLE \$20,000 (Limit 1)	PLATINUM \$10,000 (Limit 3)	GOLD \$5,000 (Limit 4)	SILVER \$2,500	BRONZE \$1,250	PEARL \$625
<b>Naming Rights</b>	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
<b>Logo Placement</b>	Title-level placement on website (w/link), T-shirt, banner, newsletter, printed material, lawn signs along route.	Premium placement on website (w/link), T-shirt, banner, newsletter, printed material, lawn signs along route.	T-shirt, banner, newsletter, printed material	T-shirts, banner, newsletter	T-shirt, newsletter	Name on T-Shirt
<b>Booth/Table Space</b>	Booth	Booth	Booth	Table	✗	✗
<b>Vision Loss Staff Awareness Training</b>	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
<b>Social Media/Website Recognition</b>	✓ + Personalized thank you video!	✓ + Personalized thank you video!	✓	✓	✓	Name on website
<b>Walk Registrations For Your Team</b>	20	12	8	6	4	✗

**Contact:** Agatha Bisbikis, Development Director | [agathab@lionsservices.org](mailto:agathab@lionsservices.org)

# Secure Your Spot

Sign Up to Sponsor Online



[lionservices.org/2026walksponsor](https://lionservices.org/2026walksponsor)



For check payments or to be invoiced, use the form below.

**Mailing a check? Make payable to:**

Lions Services Inc.  
PO Box 561987  
Charlotte, NC 28526

**Need invoiced? More Questions?**

Email: [agathab@lionservices.org](mailto:agathab@lionservices.org)  
Call: 704-921-1527 ext. 621

## Sponsorship Level

- \$20,000 - TITLE     \$10,000 - Platinum     \$5,000- Gold
- \$2,500 - Silver     \$1,250- Bronze     \$625- Pearl

## Sponsorship Information

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please write your name as it should appear publicly)*

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Method

- Check enclosed     Please send invoice to: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

*Lions Services Inc. is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Your sponsorship donation is tax- deductible as allowed by law (EIN #51-019811).*



# Community Engagement for Your Team

Corporate values are a key decision factor for both customers and employees when they decide where they'll spend their dollars or invest their time and talent. More than ever, these audiences want to see **actions that align with values**, and not just through the power of the purse.

## Two Ways to Engage

### 1 Walk & Fundraise

Create one corporate team and reach a fundraising goal together, or have multiple teams to enjoy some healthy competition and see who can raise the most! Every donation supports accessibility training and tools for our blind and low vision neighbors.

#### It's as easy as...

**1 Sign up** at [lionssservices.org/2026walksignup](https://lionssservices.org/2026walksignup). Select whether you want to join or create a team on the registration form.



**2**

**Start fundraising** using our event platform, RunSignUp. Select "Start a Fundraiser" to create your fundraising page and join/create a team fundraiser. Share your page to your social platforms or through email with a message about why the Braille Trail Walk for Independence matters to you.

**3**

**WALK** with us on the new Charlotte Braille Trail on Saturday, October 3, 2026!

Volunteers ensure the Braille Trail Walk for Independence runs smoothly by helping with setup/cleanup, directing traffic/parking, etc.

**Volunteer on Walk Day**

**2**

The Braille Trail Walk for Independence delivers an opportunity to **engage employees in a meaningful way with your company's philanthropy work**.

Together, you'll be contributing to the mission of an organization with a direct impact on the lives of Charlotte's blind and low vision residents.






**Together, we can  
ensure vision is never  
a barrier.**

 [lionservices.org](https://lionservices.org)

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 704-921-1527 ext. 621





**Lions  
Services**