

INVITATION

On behalf of the board, employees, and volunteers of the Chance for the Blind Foundation, we are honored to invite you to the 20th edition of the international conference REHA FOR THE BLIND IN POLAND, i.e. to the World Meeting of the Blind, partially sighted, their families and friends, which will be held in Warsaw on 15-18.09.2022 under the motto: "A world open to the blind".

It will be an extraordinary edition of this event, as it will crown the 30th anniversary of our organization. Moreover, REHA is being held for the 20th time, which makes us happy, but also obliges us to organize more and more interesting attractions.

For several years our meeting has been developing more and more dynamically and it is the only event of this type in the world, which is confirmed by numerous opinions of our guests from Poland and other countries. As in previous years, the event will include:

- opening ceremony of the conference;
- speeches by special guests;
- Awards ceremony for the winners of the IDOL competition at the national and global level;
- Substantive session;
- Exhibition "The World of Touch and Sound";
- Technological exhibition (presentation of the latest technical and methodological solutions to mitigate the effects of visual impairment);
- numerous panel discussions;
- concerts featuring artists with and without disabilities;
- audits of public places checking their accessibility for the blind and visually impaired;
- manifestation of the blind under the slogan "We see you and you,? Do you see us?".

There will also be new attractions that have appeared for the first time in 2021.

These will include: chess tournaments, Rubik's cube solving tournaments, and a tandem rally for the blind named after Mother Elżbieta Róża Czacka.

The first element of the conference, however, will be a substantive meeting devoted to accessibility. Its recipients will be professionals dealing with the implementation of solutions reducing the effects of visual impairment, as well as everyone interested in this topic.

The event will be broadcasted on the Internet and interpreted into English for our international friends.

We cordially invite you to participate in our meeting.

The Foundation, due to the epidemiological situation, enables two forms of participation in the conference:

1. stationary - in case of such participation, we provide free participation in the conference attractions. In some, justified and individually agreed cases, we are able to help to subsidize the cost of arrival and accommodation.
2. online - we will organize an internet streaming of the conference , which will be interpreted into the following foreign languages: English, Arabic, Hebrew, Georgian, Russian, Spanish, Romanian. We also allow for the possibility of adding more languages to the broadcast if we receive a request and it is justified.

A special feature of the REHA conference will be the so-called "East-West, North-South Meeting," during which we will hear presentations on the situation of the blind community in each country of the world, and meet prominent representatives of the visually impaired from those countries.

Therefore, we invite you to submit your speeches that will be given during the second day of the conference in a separate, specially created block of panel discussions.

Please send your applications to the following address:
reha_in_poland@szansadlaniewidomych.org.

Why is it worth it?

We are one of the first organizations working for the benefit of people with disabilities in Poland. We have 17 offices in every major city in our country. We cooperate with organizations of and for the blind all over the world (European Blind Union, Center for the Blind in Israel, World Blind Union) and others. We employ 56 employees, who carry out several

dozen projects a year. We organize regular meetings, events and conferences, the most important of which is the international conference REHA FOR THE BLIND IN POLAND. We publish books. The author of most of them is the founder of the Foundation - Marek Kalbarczyk. We help dozens of blind and visually impaired people in Poland. We cooperate with volunteers. We create a friendly space for everyone so that everyone feels important and needed regardless of their life situation.

REHA in numbers - our records:

- 33 meetings in one year (conferences and social events), forming a coherent, project-based REHA,
- approx. 3500 participants during the central REHA meeting,
- approx. 6000 participants at REHA meetings all over the country,
- 62 exhibitors
- 70 employees
- 245 volunteers
- 885 project beneficiaries hosted in Warsaw hotels
- 21 foreign delegations.

We hope that these data encourage you to come to us
and you would like to honor our meeting with your presence.

Marek Kalbarczyk

Chairman of the Council of Founders of the Foundation

Malwina Wysocka-Dziuba

**President of the Management Board
Of the Chance for the Blind Foundation**