

**Acting for the autonomy
of blind and partially
sighted persons**

ASSOCIATION VALENTIN HAÛY

Corporate brochure

Valentin
HAÛY

Avec les aveugles et les malvoyants

Agir pour l'autonomie

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P.34 HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION VALENTIN HAÜY

The association Valentin Haüy with blind and partially sighted persons

The association Valentin Haüy, founded in 1889 by Maurice de La Sizeranne and state-approved in 1891, has a history of helping the visually impaired. For more than 125 years, it has been involved in a wide range of services and activities throughout France, to:

- Defend the rights of people with sight loss,
- Provide them a suitable training and access to employment,
- Restore and develop their autonomy,
- Enable access to written documents,
- Provide accessible cultural, sporting and recreational activities.



Today, there are in France about 1,3 million blind and very partially sighted people of various ages..

Statutes wise all the members of the association Valentin Haüy governing body are volunteers, half of them who are sighted volunteers and the other half who are blind or partially sighted volunteers. Our potential of actions rests mainly on the generosity of its donors.



FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the corporate brochure of our association so that you can better understand its organization and missions, but also easily get in touch with us regarding your specific needs.

A key player in helping visually impaired people in France, the association Valentin Haüy works each day to propose solutions that allow them to gain autonomy and to find their place in a society that is constantly changing.

Thank you very much for the interest you are showing our association.

Let us unite to fight against the exclusion of the visually impaired and to accompany them towards a more secure future. Let us continue to act for autonomy!

Gérard Colliot

Chairman of the association Valentin Haüy

A new community project launched in early 2016

By launching its new associative project early 2016, the association Valentin Haüy which brings together more than 3,300 volunteers and 470 employees, has reaffirmed its desire to strengthen its actions around major areas of intervention such as the digital world, social inclusion, access to culture and leisure, adapting to the evolution of our society and anticipating the trends of tomorrow.

The association Valentin Haüy wishes that the city becomes fully accessible to people with sight loss, both in a physical and digital manner. This is one of the biggest challenges of the coming years: ensuring that the ever-perpetual evolution of the digital advances does not translate into barriers to accessibility. Furthermore, its associative project revolves around priorities to: provide vocational training and retraining for visually impaired people; support their insertion in the ordinary working environment in professions with career opening and long term perspective.

Thus, with this new associative project, the main objective of the association Valentin Haüy is to enable the blind and partially sighted people to live their lives to the fullest.

Acting for autonomy

Although the social life of visually impaired people has improved considerably since the creation of the association Valentin Haüy in the 19th century, expectations in terms of full social integration are far from being met.

Support, train and accompany blind and partially-sighted people towards their full autonomy has been the mission of the association Valentin Haüy for more than 125 years.

Autonomy is a primordial step to achieve a key objective of the association, which is the integration of the blind and partially sighted people into social and professional life.

Reaching an optimal autonomy requires that the two following conditions be satisfied:

- On the one hand, an adapted environment, it is the problem of accessibility in all its declensions: physical, digital, audiovisual, appropriate equipment, etc.
- On the other hand, people with sight loss must be trained and comfortable with all the palliative technics: locomotion, assistive technology, gestures of everyday life, etc.

The association Valentin Haüy places special emphasis on:

- Physical accessibility, by developing awareness campaigns, dedicated training, advices to the building industry,

accessibility of everyday equipment and of communication devices, etc.

- And digital accessibility, including all the devices such as television sets, Internet boxes, mobiles phones, ATMs, software and Internet websites, whether professional or not.

Adapting to the perpetual evolution of society

The world is changing. Needs and ways of life are in constant evolution. Beyond being an undeniable societal challenge, enabling visually impaired people to live fully in today's society is the primary ambition of the association Valentin Haüy. Above all, it wishes to find the solutions adap-

ted to the society as it is today so that the visually impaired occupy an equal place, the one due to them.

Access to culture and to written documents is still a topical issue in France and globally speaking worldwide for blind and partially sighted people. Today there is a shortage of suitable books: of the 60,000 books published every year in France, only 5,000 are made accessible to people affected by sight loss. For the association, the objective is to shift from scarcity to abundance by bringing its offer of accessible books, in French to more than 40,000 titles in three years.



« The associative project provided the opportunity for collective reflection on the evolution of the needs of blind or partially-sighted people. If the current values of the association remain identical to those of its creation in 1889, our services have been in constant evolution to adapt to the expectations of our beneficiaries. Our mission: to give support to the person with visual disabilities to greater autonomy. A real challenge when the population concerned is more than one million people in France ! »

Gérard Colliot, Chairman of the association Valentin Haüy

To work alongside the blind and partially sighted to help them pursue an active and independent life.

Every day, the association Valentin Haüy is mobilizing, helped by more than 3,300 volunteers, alongside those who do not see, or cannot see anymore and those who slowly or brutally lose their sight, in order to give them an attractive future, regardless of their age.

Together we help them break out of their isolation and bring them the means to live a life as normal as possible.

Providing information, counselling and guidance

How to cope with visual impairment if one is not first informed in a relevant manner, advised, guided and morally, for instance on one's professional orientation? The first role of the association Valentin Haüy is to welcome people with visual disabilities and those who are threatened by low vision or blindness. Dedicated teams are at their disposal in all regional entities that account the association Valentin Haüy to inform them, come up with solutions to their problems and restore their confidence in the future.



Defending the rights of people with visual disabilities

Blind and partially sighted people have the same fundamental rights as anybody else, namely: to get around the city, to be educated, to work, to have access to information, culture and leisure, etc. In order to obtain recognition and enforcement of these rights, we act with public authorities, communities, etc., and, throughout France, with bodies dealing with disability issues.

We also offer legal support to all persons facing some difficulties in the recognition of their rights as visually impaired.

Contributing to vocational training, promoting employment

For people with sight loss, especially young people, there is no future or complete integration in society without professional qualification and without employment. Getting out of isolation, being active, being useful, earning a living, etc. are all challenges for these people who suffer from a higher unemployment rate than the rest of the

population. To give them the means, the association created and runs vocational training centers preparing for various specialized jobs, such as mass-physiotherapy or secretarial duties.

Our association also partners with other bodies to promote the integration of these young people into the world of employment and itself employs many visually impaired workers in its services and in its establishments, both in the adapted sector or the protected sector.

Restoring and improving autonomy

For anyone whose sight is failing, finding the path to independence is the dearest wish. That is why we are fully involved in helping the visually impaired reclaim the gestures of everyday life.

- Through training courses offered throughout France, locomotion, Braille, assistive technology classes, etc.
- Through the selection and provision of suitable equipment for blind and partially sighted people. Such equipment, available in our shops range from Braille desktop displays to vocal GPS but also talking books DAISY players. These technical aids are tremendous resources for the visually impaired and provide an easy way to access culture, etc.

Promoting access to written documents

Can we imagine a life without reading? Certainly not.

From the Braille book to the audio book the association Valentin Haüy has continually expanded for more than one century the offers of its lending libraries. In Paris and by correspondence, the Braille readers have access to, and can benefit from the largest collection of Braille books in France, the books can be lent by phone, by e-mail or directly borrowed from the headquarters of the association in Paris. Similarly, more and more talking books are offered and can either be sent by the mail to the borrower or downloaded on the AVH website. Not to mention movies with audio description and music scores in Braille.





Providing cultural, sporting and leisure activities

Continue living a full life when one has lost sight also means in addition to personal activities such as reading a braille book, being involved in the richness of social life: cultural outings such as going to the theater, the museums, meeting friends, artisanal creation, excursions, travels, etc.

In Paris, and everywhere in France we offer to people affected by sight loss many activities ranging from the simple friendly meetings around a board game and card games to the tactile visit of museums, conferences or manual workshops, movies with audio description, etc.

We also propose to practice adapted sports appropriate for blind people such as blind soccer or torball.

An association and a foundation united around a common objective

Created in 2012 by the association Valentin Haüy, the Valentin Haüy Foundation - Valentin Haüy Foundation - aims to raise funds from patrons and philanthropists to contribute to its mission towards blind and partially sighted people.

The association and the foundation act jointly to fulfil their common objectives: to be as helpful as possible to blind and partially sighted people.

The Valentin Haüy Foundation develops active partnerships and also supports various projects in several different fields, both in terms of research in ophthalmology – medical R&D - and in new digital technologies (for example by participating financially in the development of the 'localisateur', a software program that simplifies access to the internet for blind and partially-sighted people), and in the field of culture by participating actively in the production of Braille and large print editions of the novelties of the publisher Benjamin Medias specializing in children's books.

Furthermore, every year the education and training of several guide dogs



from specialized schools, which are members of the dedicated Fédération Française des Associations de Chiens guides d'aveugles - French Federation of Guide Dog Associations - is financed by the foundation. Valentin Haüy Foundation, by virtue of its bylaws, also has the capacity to house other foundations whose purpose is related to its mission. In less than four years, four sheltered foundations have already been created: fondation Martine Brouder, fondation Stargardt, fondation APAM and fondation Retina. Since 2015, Valentin Haüy Foundation has been a member of the Centre français des fonds et fondations thus obtaining the official agreement by French Authorities.



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-  Tél. : +33 1 44 38 72 90
Fax : +33 1 45 66 61 48
-  fondation@fondationvalentinhauy.fr
-  www.fondationvalentinhauy.fr

To efficiently carry out its tasks throughout France, the association Valentin Haüy is organized with central headquarters in Paris which relies on regional entities situated all over the French territory, where various tasks are grouped in a few departments. All these departments and entities work every day as close as possible to people who are blind or partially sighted and to offer them solutions to recover or improve their autonomy, thus 'acting for autonomy'.

You will find in the next pages of this booklet a description of the various parts of the association Valentin Haüy.

Regional presence throughout France

In addition to its headquarters located in Paris, AVH relies on the support of about 120 regional offices to conduct its activities throughout the country.

These offices are in direct contact with people with sight loss, they can be considered as the direct link of the association with these people with whom they have a strong relationship. They relay the association and intervene on the spot with:

- people with sight loss, who find a personalized and optimistic welcome and a range of activities and services,
- and local authorities in charge of disability issues, typically in France maisons départementales des personnes handicapées (MDPH) – Departmental Homes for Persons with Disabilities -.

Regional offices are run mainly by a large number of volunteers, under the responsibility of a volunteer chairperson.

The proposed services vary from one office to the other depending on its size. The visually impaired will always find in these offices a warm welcome, advice, guidance and, as appropriate:

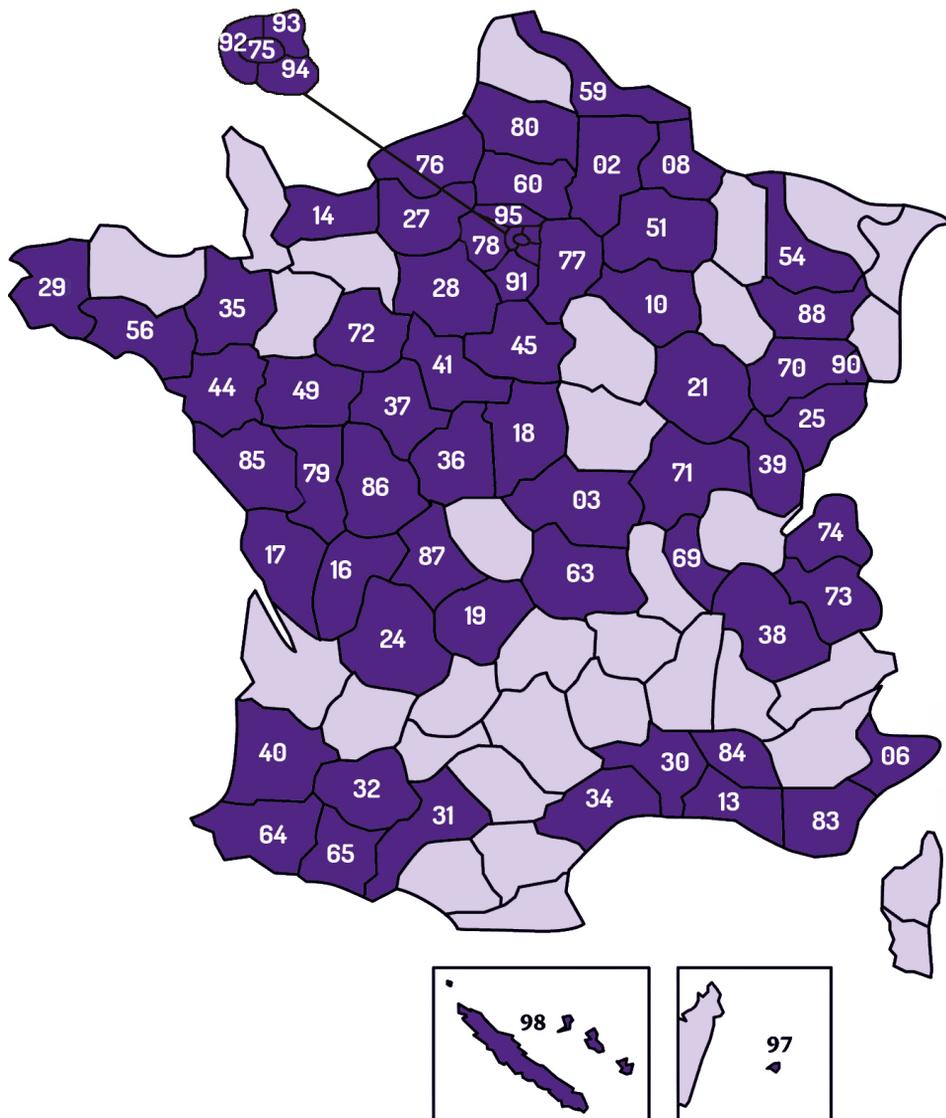
- Training courses in Braille reading and writing, computer science, locomotion,
- Suitable cooking classes,
- Books and movies: talking books, Braille books, audio description films,
- Special equipment,
- Cultural visits,
- Adapted holidays, accommodations or trips in France or abroad.
- Spare time activities such as social meetings, outings, hikes, crafts (pottery, basketwork, caning, etc.), listening to or playing music, singing, going to the theater or acting classes.
- Sports activities (tandem, skiing, swimming, gym, pétanque, etc.).

Contact us

- 📍 Association Valentin Haüy
Coordination des comités
5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS
- ☎️ +33 1 44 49 27 27 - extension 22 67
- ✉️ comites@avh.asso.fr
- ➡️ Find the nearest office to you by visiting our web site:
www.avh.asso.fr



OUR REGIONAL DELEGATIONS



With its 120 regional offices dispatched throughout more than 60 French departments including French overseas territories (Reunion and New Caledonia), the association Valentin Haüy is present and active everywhere on the French territory.

The exhaustive and up to date list of these regional establishments is available with their contact details on the association Valentin Haüy web site:

www.avh.asso.fr

The social and legal department

Located in Paris, at the headquarters of the association, the social and legal department strives to help. Its purpose is to assist, give relevant advice to all persons with a visual handicap who express the need for information.

A team of skilled workers (social workers, social and family economics counselors, lawyers, psychologists) are at their disposal to assess their particular situation and offer them personalized support they will explore together with the blind person.

If you need any information or if you encounter any difficulty, you can get assistance by phone or during a face-to-face meeting after an appointment is made, by contacting a secretary of the social and legal department.

Reading and writing assistance

A service of “public writers” is provided every working day - Monday to Friday - in the Paris headquarter by volunteers. Do not hesitate to ask them some assistance if you have difficulties in reading or reading your personal correspondence or for sorting your personal papers.



Reception and information in the regional offices

In complement to the Paris headquarter of the association, our regional offices also ensure the reception, information and advice of people with visual impairment and will refer them to the relevant administrative service or a department of the association Valentin Haüy that can meet their specific expectations.

For more information, contact the nearest regional office of the association by visiting our web site: www.avh.asso.fr

The central solidarity fund

The central solidarity fund proposes a zero-rate loan to blind or partially-sighted people with a disability rate of at least 50 % or more to finance a project approved by the committee.

The amount of this loan can vary between €3,500 and €4,000 depending on the targeted operation. It is refundable up to 48 months.

All applications are submitted using a dedicated form available from the secretary of the social and legal department or in a regional office of the association. The applications are studied during sessions of an attribution committee which meets several times a year.

Computer equipment donation

Every year, a donation campaign of computer equipment is organized by the association. A limited number of

personal computers and reading machines combined to a synthetic voice - Narratis - are offered.

This initiative is aimed primarily at visually impaired people whose resources are low and who cannot benefit from the legal services allowing the financing of adapted technical aids.

Interested parties are invited to submit their application form and to send it to association Valentin Haüy. These applications are examined once a year by a special awarding committee.



Contact us

-  Association Valentin Haüy.
Pôle social et juridique
5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS
-  Tél. : +33 1 44 49 27 27 -
extension 22 66 (du lundi au
vendredi)
-  Fax : + 33 1 44 49 27 21
social@avh.asso.fr

The accessibility department

For the association Valentin Haüy, which strives to ensure that people with visual impairment can enjoy maximum autonomy on a daily basis, accessibility is a key challenge. In order to tackle it, it strives to intervene to improve access every day to:

- all establishments – workplaces, schools, shops, etc.,
- roads, public spaces and transportation,
- communication and information,
- places of culture, sports, leisure, etc.,

Considering the necessary adaptations engendered by blindness and visual impairment.

Training and awareness of visual impairment

To better welcome a blind or partially sighted person, it is necessary to understand the specificities of his handicap. This necessity is well understood by the association Valentin Haüy.

This is why it conducts all-year-round awareness-raising and training courses on visual impairment for all those who need advice, starting with organizations open to the public.

What is visual disability? What does this imply for the people concerned? What are the means of compensating for the handicap? How does one behave towards people with visual impairment?

During interactive meetings, the association Valentin Haüy dedicated trainers answer all these essential questions by sharing their own experiences and facilitating scenario-based workshops.



Accessibility to public places

Going out, walking on one's own in the street, crossing a junction, riding the bus or the metro unaccompanied, circulating in a train station without the help of others, etc. are all situations that are difficult for a visually impaired person.

The association actively participates in the accessibility of public places, both within its own institutions and

through the initiatives of its “accessibility” correspondents who act voluntarily throughout: field actions, participation in municipal or departmental advisory committees, missions, expertise, partnerships and action with the world of industry as well as with national associations and institutions.



Digital accessibility

Digital accessibility is recognized in Europe as a legal obligation to comply with fundamental human rights -access to culture, education, jobs, etc. -. In this respect the association is fighting to have this obligation fully satisfied. Digital accessibility concerns all types of disabilities, including visual impairment, and implies that everyone can access digital resources -computers, web, debit or credit cards, television, telephones, etc. - without

discrimination.

It is a growing issue in our society, due to the aging of the population and the proliferation of online initiatives.

The association Valentin Haüy must follow as closely as possible the evolution of new technologies and ensure that they can be used completely and with ease by people with visual impairments, by themselves.

The accessibility department ensures a technological watch and conducts tests on hardware, software and applications in order to determine the most suitable products on the market for the visually impaired.

Becoming a regional accessibility partner

Visually impaired or sighted person aware of the difficulties faced by the former, you can join our accessibility network of volunteers to help improve accessibility on a daily basis. The accessibility department offers accessibility trainings for those who wish to join.

Contact us

-  Association Valentin Haüy
Pôle central accessibilité
5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS
-  +33 1 44 49 27 27 - extension
27 17
-  Public places accessibility :
accessibilite@avh.asso.fr
-  Digital accessibility :
accessibilite numerique@avh.asso.fr

Adapted computer devices and new technologies training courses

Today, IT is accessible to all people with visual impairment thanks to the implementation of adapted technologies: speech synthesis software, character enhancement or Braille display.

In order to help the visually impaired use these technologies, the first network of new technologies and adapted computer devices suitable to visually impaired people was created, made up of volunteers from the association.

Training in some fifty regional offices

The latter provide training courses accessible to anyone who is visually impaired, regardless of age, visual acuity and level of computer knowledge. Trainers build an individualized program with each beneficiary to best meet their specific needs.

Through these training courses, doing research on the internet, exchanging emails with those around the person, reading newspapers and books on a tablet, etc. become possible for blind and partially-sighted people.

To find the computer club closest to you or to become a volunteer trainer, contact the coordination department of new technologies and adapted computer devices clubs.

Contact

📍 Association Valentin Haüy
Coordination des clubs nouvelles technologies et informatique adaptée
5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS

☎️ +33 1 44 49 27 27 - extension 26 51

✉️ coordination.clubsinformatique@avh.asso.fr



CERTAM (Centre d'évaluation et de recherche sur les technologies pour les aveugles et les malvoyants) – evaluation and research center on technologies for the blind and partially sighted

Carrying on its mission of expertise and information, the association Valentin Haüy created in 2008 an expert center to evaluate high-tech products adapted to visual impairment: CERTAM.

The aim of CERTAM is to test the technical aids currently available on the market, to evaluate their usefulness, reliability, flexibility of use, to carry out comparative tests and to publish the results.

This expert job is accompanied by the development of a computerized database listing manufacturers and distributors of technical aids as well as the software programs and devices that can be used by visually impaired people.

It regularly publishes evaluation sheets in the electronic newsletter of the association and the magazine "Le Louis Braille". These sheets are available on its own website.

CERTAM's mission will be gradually extended to the evaluation of general public products and software -such as coffee makers, washing machines, etc.-to educate hardware manufacturers and software publishers to the importance of integrating from the start the accessibility concern in the design of their products and software.

Contact

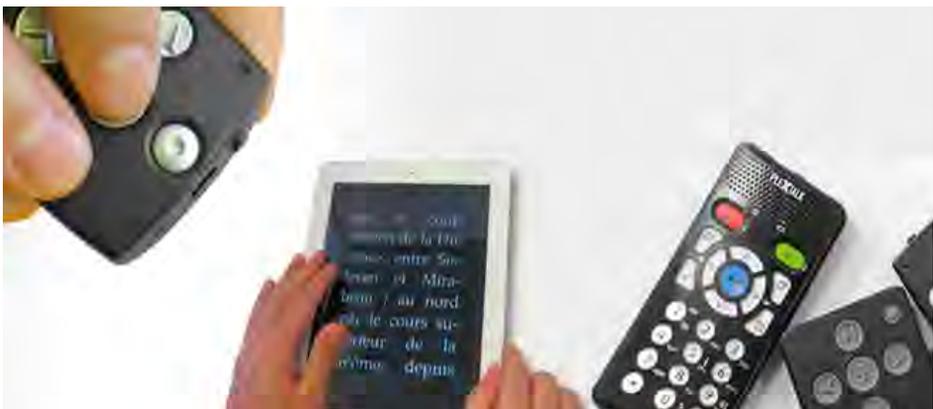
📍 Association Valentin Haüy
CERTAM

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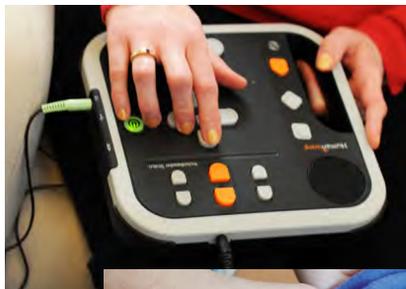


Specialized equipment

Regaining autonomy is a priority for all people with visual impairment. To assist them, the association Valentin Haüy has at their disposal its specialized equipment store in Paris available soon in its seven regional stores located all over France. The association offers many items suitable for blind or partially sighted persons.

A catalog with over 350 references

Audio book readers, video magnifiers, reading machines, telephones, kitchen utensils, locomotion tools, color detectors, watches, etc. are referenced in the store catalog and available on site.



Contact

📍 Magasin de l'association
Valentin Haüy
3 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS
(beside headquarters)

☎ +33 1 44 49 27 37

✉ magasin@avh.asso.fr

📌 www.magasin.avh.asso.fr

Store hours are as follow: Mondays to Thursdays from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm and Fridays from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm -excluding periods of annual closures-.

A team of demonstrators is on site to advise and present the equipment and its operation.



Regional relay outlets near you

Within the regional offices of the association, you have the possibility to buy directly or to order and to have all the products listed in the catalog delivered.

You can find the list of all store outlets by visiting its web site

www.magasin.avh.asso.fr

The multimedia library Valentin Haüy

Making culture accessible to people who are blind or partially sighted, or who can no longer read due to another disability, is an essential mission for the association Valentin Haüy. To achieve this, it provides them with its own media library.

A wide range of suitable media - books, magazines, movies, musical scores, etc. - is proposed, such as:



Daisy audio-digital books

Recorded on CDs or downloadable from [Éole - eole.avh.asso.fr](http://eole-avh.asso.fr) -, they can be listened to with a Daisy player, MP3 player or computer.

This technology provides ease of use, increased storage capacity and allows the installation of bookmarks.

More than 20,000 books available and hundreds of new releases each year.



Books in Braille and digital Braille

New publications are available every months and access to the largest collection in France of Braille books whether in uncontracted or contracted forms: with more than 20,000 books in Braille available, 1,000 digital Braille titles downloadable from the [Éole web site: eole.avh.asso.fr](http://eole.avh.asso.fr)



Musical score in Braille

New features every month in connection with our on-demand transcription service. Over 10,000 musical scores available.



Movies in audio description

This technology, developed by AVH France, allows inserting in the heart of the film a voiceover which describes the action. Thus, the partially sighted and blind can enjoy the unfolding of a movie and not a lesser experience. More than 150 movies in audio description available.



Books in foreign languages

In partnership with the American Library Bookshare. Over 200,000 books available.

Wherever you are, you can take advantage of the services of the multimedia library -subject to the presentation of an 80 % disability card and after acceptance by our service within 48 hours-. The materials can be consulted or borrowed on site – at the headquarters of the association – or ordered remotely by telephone, e-mail or mail.

Benefit from individual support

By telephone, email, mail or on-site, our librarians help you select the reading methods that are best for you, find reading, and discover new literary horizons.

You can also subscribe for free to the Gazette, a newsletter sent by emails fortnightly. It informs about the news of the multimedia library and presents novelties, favorites and reading ideas.

Some twenty offices offer talking books or books in Braille. To find the office closest to you by visiting our website: www.avh.asso.fr.

Valentin Haüy multimedia library has a network of partners formed of numerous public libraries, all of which are committed to providing access to written materials for disabled people with Daisy recorders.

Contact

-  Médiathèque Valentin Haüy -
Media library
5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS
-  +33 1 44 49 27 27
(ask for médiathèque)
-  mediatheque@avh.asso.fr



Recording of talking books and programs in audiovision

Recording talking books

Each year, the association Valentin Haüy produces numerous talking books recorded using a recording of a real human voice or speech synthesis. Talking books are the most widely used means of access by the visually impaired. Each audio book produced by the association comes to enrich the collection of the multimedia library Valentin Haüy.

In 2015, the association produced 540 titles using speech synthesis and 1,000 talking books using natural speech.

Recording using speech synthesis

Speech synthesis is the artificial reproduction of natural speech. That is, for example, the voice used in public transport, or when using a talking watch or a computer. The human voice has qualities to express particular emotions or tones that speech synthesis cannot replace. However, the most recent artificial voices offer quality sufficient enough to enable us today to produce novels or non-fiction books. Within the association Valentin Haüy, the CERTAM technicians have worked on the voice of Manon of the Acapela group in order to obtain books for the Valentin Haüy multimedia library that we offer today. This process is faster than recording using natural speech.

Recording using natural speech

Thanks to the many volunteers who lend their voices each year, the association Valentin Haüy allows visually impaired people to have access to a large number of talking books.

Record your books on demand !

In addition to the talking books available in its multimedia library, the association Valentin Haüy gives the possibility for any visual impaired person to request the recording of one or more books of his choosing. If you wish to benefit from this service, please contact our recording department.

Become a volunteer reader !

Do you want to share your love and pleasure of reading with a visually impaired person by lending your voice for one or more book recordings? Do not hesitate to take the leap, contact our recording department, where people will help you take this step.

Recording programs in Audiovision

Audio description, called 'Audiovision' when performed by the association Valentin Haüy, enables blind and partially sighted people to follow and understand a program -movie, show- without seeing the images.

The association Valentin Haüy which is at the origin of audio description in France, is an unavoidable and indispensable interlocutor in this field. Since 1989 the association Valentin Haüy has worked with more than 10,000 visually impaired audiences in order to establish the basis of audio description. The association Valentin Haüy intervenes most often in:

- adaptation of films and documentaries - for television and cinema - ,
- transcript of live performances,
- adaptation of corporate films,
- exhibitions.

Nearly 200 programs are adapted using audio description every year by the association Valentin Haüy

Contact

📍 Association Valentin Haüy
Recording, Audiovision,
Daisy, On-demand recording
department
5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS

☎ +33 1 44 49 27 27 - extension 27 06

✉ audiovision@avh.asso.fr



Every year since 2010, the association organizes, in partnership with a Paris cinema theater le Festival Audiovision Valentin Haüy – Valentin Haüy audiovision festival-.

This event allows sighted and visually impaired people to share and enjoy cinema screenings together.



Production of suitable media

Thanks to its two in-house printing works, in Paris and Lyon, AVH produces every year numerous supports adapted for people affected by sight loss. Customers of all types – companies, communities, associations and individuals – also entrust their work to the qualified professionals of the Valentin Haüy printing house, whose expertise they applaud.

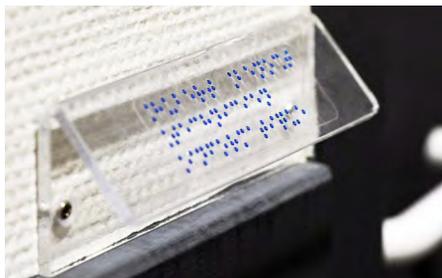
Valentin Haüy Braille printing house of Paris: over a century of expertise

Since its creation in 1910 by Maurice de La Sizeranne, founder of the association, the Valentin Haüy Braille printing house of Paris has constantly developed its expertise and demands for quality, at the service of Braille and visually impaired people.

Delivering expert transcription, adaptation and production of supports accessible to people affected by sight loss, the printing house carries out, depending on print volumes, the traditional or digital Braille embossing, for a smoother and supple touch.

Located at the headquarters of the association Valentin Haüy, the printing house carries out, each year, for its customers, supports accessible to the visually impaired such as:

- various communication media - texts, catalogs, magazines, business cards, kakemonos, etc. -,
- musical scores - referenced in a catalog available on the website of the printing house -,
- labels for all types of packaging - CDs, drugs, cosmetics, etc. -,
- signs for public information - museums, exhibitions, etc.- and for accessibility to premises -elevators, wall signs, etc.-,
- plans, maps and colored and embossed drawings.



Subscription management

Valentin Haüy printing house of Paris also manages subscriptions to publications published by the association Valentin Haüy, as well as magazines for the general public which it provides the transcription and printing in Braille: *Avantage*, *Géo*, *Géo Histoire*, *Que choisir*, *Science et Vie*, etc.

Braille printing house of the comité du Rhône - Rhone Committee

It offers the printing of documents - except school manuals - in A4 format. It publishes certain association Valentin Haüy publications and also intervenes punctually with regional companies as well as local communities wishing to make their documents accessible to the visually impaired.

Braille printing house of Paris :

Imprimerie braille de
l'association Valentin Haüy
5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS

+33 1 44 49 27 27
extension 22 75 ou 25 00

imprimerie@avh.asso.fr

www.imprimeries-braille-avh.com

Braille printing house of Rhone Committee::

Imprimerie braille du comité
Valentin Haüy du Rhône
97 bld des belges
69006 Lyon

+33 4 78 52 42 90

www.lyon.avh.asso.fr



Cultural and leisure activities

The association Valentin Haüy offers to people affected by sight loss various cultural and leisure activities, both in Paris and in the provinces - reading circles, conferences, choirs, concerts, theater performances, audio description movies, museums, etc.

Many regional offices organize their own activities throughout the year: outings to monuments, to museums, to exhibitions, conferences, arts and crafts weaving, basketwork, etc., yoga class, dance class, foreign languages course, etc.

The regional committee of Paris/Île-de-France also offers activities, notably via the La Sizeranne club. Animated by salaried instructors, assisted by numerous volunteers, the club offers its members various practical, cultural and even sport activities, adapted to the visually impaired.

An annual financial contribution is requested from the members.

For further information about the activities organized near you, please contact the regional office closest to you by visiting our website
www.avh.asso.fr

On its website, the association Valentin Haüy is also committed to relay, throughout the year, a selection of cultural events - exhibitions, concerts, theater performances, etc. accessible to people affected by sight loss.

Contact

📍 Comité Valentin Haüy Paris /
Île-de-France
Club de La Sizeranne
3 rue Jacquier 75014 PARIS

☎️ +33 1 40 44 95 94

✉️ club.siz@avh.asso.fr



Sport activities

For many years, the association Valentin Haüy has been working to promote the practice of adapted sports. The objective is to facilitate access of the visually impaired to the practice of recreational or competition level sport activities through the regional offices of the association.

Contact

 Association Valentin Haüy
 Sports department
 5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS
 +33 1 44 49 27 27 - extension 24 63
 sports@avh.asso.fr



Holiday trips offered by the association

Every year, the association Valentin Haüy organizes holidays for the visually impaired.

Several stays are offered throughout the years. Very varied, they enable the sharing of good times filled of conviviality.

The registration form can be downloaded from our website at

www.avh.asso.fr

It can also be sent to you on request by mail or email.

Contact

 Association Valentin Haüy
 Holiday trips
 5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS
 + 33 1 44 49 27 27 extension 22 10
 sejourvacances@avh.asso.fr



Protected sector facilities

Two ESAT (Établissements et Services d'Aide par le Travail) - support through work facilities - in which AVH employs 150 disabled workers.

ESAT / center / SAVS - life aide services - Odette Witkowska

Where is it located? In Sainte-Foy-lès-Lyon (near Lyon).

Who is it for? Mostly people affected by sight loss.

Reception capacities :

- ESAT : 92 places.
- Residence : 52 places.
- A limited number of places are open to people with a disability other than visual impairment.

Activities: routing, shaping, reprography and printing, assembly-mounting, packaging.

ESAT / center / SAVS d'Escolore

Where is it located? near Clermont-Ferrand and Thiers, in the Puy-de-Dôme.

Who is it for? People affected by sight loss.

Reception capacities:

- ESAT : 51 places.
- Residence : 46 places.

Activities: packaging, canning fruit, vegetables and juices, printing, canning and rebotting, market gardening, green spaces.

Contact

📍 ESAT / SAVS / foyer
Odette Witkowska
10 rue Simon Jallade
69110 SAINTE-FOY-LÈS-LYON

☎ Tél. : +33 4 72 16 23 16
Fax : +33 4 78 59 61 72

✉ secretariat.ow@centre-witkowska.org

👉 www.esat-witkowska.fr

Contact

📍 ESAT / foyer / SAVS
d'Escolore,
Les Lasteyras
63160 ÉGLISENEUVE-PRÈS-BILLOM

☎ Tél. : +33 4 73 73 43 43
Fax : +33 4 73 73 38 88

✉ contact@escolore.org

👉 www.cat-escolore.com



Facilities in the adapted sector

Two EA (Entreprises Adaptées) - adapted businesses -

EAs employ at least 80% of disabled workers in production positions. Their main mission is the professional integration of people with disabilities by providing them in a first instance with a job. The aim is to facilitate their integration towards the 'ordinary' working environment through continuous training and temporary secondments in "standard" companies.

The association Valentin Haüy has founded and manages two adapted businesses:

EA - adapted businesses - Atelier de la Villette

Where is it located? In Paris.

Who is it for? Adults affected by sight loss.

Staffing: more or less 40 professionals.

Activities: services to public or private companies - mainly major accounts - in the fields of the office area, secretariat and direct marketing service.

Contact

📍 Atelier de La Villette
61 bis rue d'Hautpoul
75019 PARIS

☎ Tél : +33 1 42 40 98 98
Fax : +33 1 42 40 50 09

✉ direction@ea-villette.com

➤ www.ea-villette.com

EA - adapted businesses - Frère Francès

Where is it located ? In Nantes (West part of France)

Who is it for? Adults affected by sight loss.

Staffing: more than 20 professionals qualified in chair making, working, for the most part, from home. The adapted business "Frère Francès" is a work from home distribution center.

Activities: quality canning and rebottoming.

Contact

📍 EA Frère Francès
46 boulevard Jules Verne
44300 NANTES

☎ Tél. : +33 2 40 52 28 39

✉ cddt.bigey@yahoo.fr

➤ www.paillagecannage-traditionnel.com



Training facilities : Two professional training centers and a SESSAD-Pro DV - special education and professional home care for the visually impaired

Le CFRP (Centre de formation et de rééducation professionnelle) -training and vocational rehabilitation center-

Where is it located? in Paris - at the headquarters of the association -.

Who is it for? Visually impaired adults wishing to acquire a vocational qualification.

Reception capacities: 170 people.

Training courses on offer:

Qualifying professional trainings: massage physiotherapy, wellness practitioners, bicycle and motorbike mechanics, administrative and reception area employees.

Services offered :

- an adaptation pole
- a transcription and documentation service
- a professional integration in businesses service
- a medico-social care service
- three residences in Paris

The Valentin Haüy IMPro (Institut Médico-Professionnel) - Medico-professional institute

Where is it located? In Chilly-Mazarin (close to Paris).

Who is it for? Visually impaired teenagers with associated disorders.

Reception capacities: 36 people in weekly boarding school.

Proposed guidance: Construction of a project for social and professional integration taking into account the disability of the user, in the context of individualized support aimed at integration, if possible, whether into an ordinary working environment or a protective workplace.

Opening of a SESSAD-Pro DV

With more than twenty years of experience, IMPro has founded a SESSAD-Pro DV - special education and professional home care for the visually impaired - Which can welcome 10 visually impaired beneficiaries over 20 years of age with associated disorders. This service is dedicated to ensuring continuity of professional integration taking into account the capacities and difficulties of each person.

Contact

 CFRP
5 rue Duroc
75343 PARIS Cedex 07

 Tél. : +33 1 44 49 27 27
Fax : +33 1 44 49 27 30

 contact@cfrp-avh.fr

 www.cfrp-avh.fr

Contact

 IMPro Valentin Haüy - B.P. 47
30 avenue Mazarin
91380 CHILLY-MAZARIN

 Tél. : +33 1 69 10 10 65
Fax : +33 1 64 48 81 98

 impro-avh-chilly@wanadoo.fr

 impro-avh.monsite-orange.fr

The SAVS-DV of Paris (Service d'accompagnement à la vie sociale pour déficients visuels à Paris) - social support service for the visually impaired in Paris

Where is it located? In Paris

Who is it for? Adults who are visually impaired - aged 20 to 70 years old- with or without associated handicap or handicaps, residing in Paris or in the Val-de-Marne - .

Reception capacities: from 35 to 60 persons.

Personalized support: SAVS-DV Paris is attentive to the expectations of each beneficiary. Depending on their specific needs, activities, led by a multidisciplinary team of professionals - rehabilitation in everyday activities, Braille classes, adapted computer training, locomotion, etc. - . Collective workshops are also offered punctually regarding employment, games, management of administrative documents.



Contact

📍 SAVS-DV Paris
3 rue Jacquier 75014 PARIS

☎ Tél. : +33 1 40 44 95 95

Fax : +33 1 40 44 96 65

✉ savsdvparis@avh.asso.fr

Valentin Haüy residential center of Paris - With two service residences

Where are they located? In Paris

Who is it for ? It houses two independent services residences in the same housing complex: one for visually impaired retirees wishing to live in their own home, in full autonomy, in a framework adapted to their disability ; the other temporary housing students and young visually impaired workers who mostly come from the provinces.



Contact

📍 Centre Résidentiel Valentin Haüy
64 rue Petit 75019 PARIS

☎ Tél. : +33 1 53 38 55 65

Fax : +33 1 53 38 55 60

✉ residences@avh.asso.fr

📌 residences-valentin-hauey.com

Volunteering, a selected time Give meaning to your free time

If the association Valentin Haüy is able to continue to develop all its actions alongside many people with visual impairment, it is mostly thanks to the support of its volunteers.

Almost 3,300 volunteers are involved with the association Valentin Haüy.

Their commitment, on a regular on punctual basis, in the regional offices or at the headquarters of the association, has enabled many blind and partially sighted people to regain confidence in the future.

But the number of people with visual impairments is constantly increasing and the needs are huge. More than ever, the association therefore needs all those who wish to give meaning to their free time.

Would you like to act and help people who are blind or partially sighted to gain autonomy? Do you wish to get involved in projects which serve the cause of visual impairment? So do not hesitate and become a volunteer too.

« It's been 21 years that I am a volunteer at the association Valentin Haüy (...) If I stayed that long, it's because some people need my services. I believe that we only exist through others, and I am convinced that we must help others when we can, as long as possible. It's a bit my philosophy. Furthermore, staying active for as long as possible keeps you in shape and healthy! Volunteering means giving to people in need. And my reward is to have met interesting people, who have a story to tell and to share. I learned a lot about the world of visual disability ! »

Pierre, volunteer

Contact au siège

📍 Association Valentin Haüy
Volunteer development
department
5 rue Duroc 75007 PARIS

☎ +33 1 44 49 27 44

✉ benevolat@avh.asso.fr



Contributions, bequests, donations, life insurance

Give a future to those who lose sight

Our long-term actions are based on the generosity of our volunteers and donors. Donating to the association means giving a future to those who lose their sight.

How to support the association?

Contributions

Whatever the amount, it is essential to the pursuit of our mission. It is tax deductible up to 66% of the donated amount within the limit of 20% of taxable income.

✉ relationdonateurs@avh.asso.fr

☎ +33 1 44 49 27 05

Bequests

The association Valentin Haüy, recognized as a non-profit association registered for public purpose since 1891, is entitled to receive bequests totally exempt from inheritance tax. By will, you can transfer all or part of your property to the association. Your will can be modified at any time.

Life insurance

You can make the association Valentin Haüy the beneficiary of your life insurance policy. Simply indicate the name and address of the association in the beneficiary clause.

✉ d.gravereaux@avh.asso.fr

☎ +33 1 44 49 29 60

Donations

You can donate, during your lifetime, to the association Valentin Haüy a real estate, a securities portfolio, etc. The donation is immediate and irrevocable. A notarial deed is required.

✉ p.gautier@avh.asso.fr

☎ +33 1 44 49 29 54

« I support the association Valentin Haüy, which serves the blind and partially sighted, with my donations because blindness can happen at any age, even mine.

The association offers many services to enable blind and partially sighted people to regain their autonomy and learn again the gestures of everyday life.

Its multimedia library offers over 20,000 downloadable audio books. Everyone is bound to find something entertaining or cultivating ! »

Monique, donor

For more information,
please visit our website:

www.avh.asso.fr



Over 125 years of history with the blind and partially sighted

Two pioneers in the cause of the blind have transformed the lives of people deprived of sight:

Valentin Haüy (1745-1822)

As School Principal, he ran the first school for the blind, opened in 1785, which later became INJA, Institut national des jeunes aveugles de Paris - the National Institute of Blind Youth of Paris -. His writing and reading for the blind method was to emboss the writing of sighted people, it has two draw-

backs: not possible for a blind person to write with this method and difficulties in recognizing the letters with the fingers.

Louis Braille (1809-1852)

When attending that school as a pupil, he designed in 1825 – at the early age of 16 years old – a tactile coding of writing thus giving the blind access to culture. Braille is nowadays universally used.

Yet it is **Maurice de La Sizeranne (1857-1924)**, a blind and former student of INJA, who deserves the credit for taking a new step by implementing the conditions of a true and real social and professional autonomy for blind people. He set up the first such services for the blind and partially sighted: the first periodical in Braille, the first Braille printer, the first Braille library, etc. before founding in 1889, the association Valentin Haüy.

Valentin Haüy museum & heritage library

To learn more about the history of the blind

Founded in 1886, these locations retain the testimonies of the struggle for the recognition of the blind and the road traveled to achieve their autonomy. The museum exhibits through displays and tactile exhibition, a great variety of rare works: books, engravings, and photographs.

The heritage library keeps many documents and records about blindness, some written by blind authors.

Contact



Museum Valentin Haüy
5 rue Duroc 75007 Paris



+33 1 44 49 29 27 extension 22 30



museevalentinhauy@avh.asso.fr

Museum hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 2 h 30 to 5 h 30 pm, excluding annual closing periods -contact the museum-

Free entry.

Groups welcome by appointment outside these days and times.

Heritage library accessible by appointment.

HISTORY OF THE ASSOCIATION VALENTIN HAÛY

1785



Valentin Haüy founded the first school for the blind (which later became INJA, the National Institute of Blind Youth)

1819



Louis Braille attended this school as a pupil

1829



Louis Braille published his Braille alphabet

1889



Maurice de La Sizeranne founded the association Valentin Haüy

1898



Establishment of the association Valentin Haüy first regional office in Lyon

1900



Opening of the first institution for young blind girls

1910



Establishment of the first Valentin Haüy printing house



1937



Establishment of the first audio library

1944



Establishment of the association social services

1989



Emergence of audio description in France - called Audiovision when done by the association Valentin Haüy



2009



Inauguration of Valentin Haüy multimedia library

2013



Launching of Éole, the on-line digital library of Valentin Haüy multimedia library

2014



The association Valentin Haüy celebrates its 125 years of existence



2016



The association launched its new associative project

The association changes its logo

About the association Valentin Haüy

Founded in 1889, the association Valentin Haüy was recognized as a non-profit association registered for public purpose in 1891. Today, it relies on nearly 120 regional offices and over 3,300 volunteers to pursue its goal of closely supporting blind and partially sighted people in order to help them get out of their isolation and return to an active and autonomous life.

The funds entrusted to the association Valentin Haüy, resulting from the generosity of our donors, are managed with rigor and transparency. The accounts are audited and certified by an auditor and can be consulted on the website of the association.

The association Valentin Haüy is a founding member of the Comité de la Charte du don – committee of the charter for trust in fundraising - and is accredited by this body of control of associations and foundations that appeal to the generosity of the public.



The association Valentin Haüy in figures

Thanks to its numerous regional offices, the association Valentin Haüy pursues its mission throughout France, as close as possible to the people who request it.

3300
volunteers



- 2 vocational training centers with accommodation in Paris and Essonne
 - 2 adapted companies in Paris and Nantes
 - 2 ESAT - support through work facilities - close to Lyon and Clermont-Ferrand
 - 2 Braille integrated printing houses in Paris and Lyon
 - 2 service residences for seniors, students and young visually impaired workers in Paris.
- And a range of services dedicated to blind and partially sighted people to help them face together the challenge of their autonomy in everyday life.

5 rue Duroc
75343 PARIS
CEDEX 07

Tél. +33 1 44 49 27 27

Fax +33 1 44 49 27 10

avh@avh.asso.fr

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Valentin
HAÜY

Avec les aveugles et les malvoyants

Agir pour l'autonomie

Find the association Valentin Haüy on social networks

