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FACT SHEET

Mission Statement: The mission of Alphapointe Association for the Blind is to empower people with vision loss to maximize their independence.

History: In 1911, Kansas City Association for the Blind was founded to provide employment for blind individuals in Kansas City. Renamed Alphapointe in 1993, the agency served over 4000 visually impaired individuals in 2009 with employment opportunities, educational, and rehabilitation services.

Employment: Employment of blind individuals is the major focus of Alphapointe. Graduates of **Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services** seek employment in the community, at the Life Skills Campus, the Base Service Centers at Little Rock, Arkansas, and Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, and a switchboard operation within the region. All education and training at Alphapointe centers on promoting self sufficiency through work, life, and social skills training for visually impaired individuals.

Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services: All individualized rehabilitation services are administered by professionally certified and licensed staff. Services include:

- *Adjustment to blindness and counseling needs
- *Independence in orientation, mobility and daily living skills
- *Academic, written and vocational skills
- *Computer aptitudes and interests

Educational services involve Diabetes management, School to Work and College Prep, and Seniors Low Vision Services.

Manufacturing: Alphapointe produces fifteen types of Skilcraft® pens for the United States Government. Blind and low vision employees at Alphapointe manufactured over twelve million pens in 2009. Additionally, Alphapointe is a major supplier to the Veteran's Administration and the Department of Defense, annually producing over 50 million pharmaceutical, prescription and specimen bottles. Alphapointe operates an online supply store at alphapointeonline.com which features 40,000 office supplies, janitorial and sanitation products and furniture.

For more information or a tour call 816-421-5848.

HOUSE AGING & LTC

DATE: 1/25/11

ATTACHMENT 4