

Athina Crawford



Athina's Story:

Athina Crawford was introduced to Cleveland Sight Center in 2020 through a friend. Athina has been living with macular degeneration for the past six years and her left eye is beginning to worsen and fog. Because of this, she has struggled to do the activities that she loves.

Athina worked with NASA on the editing team and she described the decline in her ability to read as a real struggle for her. Additionally, she is a life-long quilter and was frustrated when both of these tasks began to be too hard for her due to her declining vision. This is what brought her to Cleveland Sight Center.

After a visit at CSC's Low Vision Clinic, Athina met with Erin St. Denis, an Occupational Therapist on staff and was introduced to a variety of low vision aids that Athina refers to as "toys." Erin taught her how to use a stand magnifier, CCTV, lamp and bump dots to help her do the daily activities that she loves.

With the help of the stand magnifier and CCTV, she is able to read and quilt again without frustration. She is currently sewing a quilt that she will give to her granddaughter when she graduates high school – a traditional gift she has given each granddaughter upon graduation.

She also uses the bump dots on her kitchen appliances to help her cook, "I can cook now as good as can be!" she said.

The low vision aids and subsequent trainings on the devices have allowed Athina to have hope and continue to do the things she loves.

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