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**Association of Vision Rehabilitation Therapists**

**2025 Annual Professional Training Conference**

**August 5 – 7, 2025**

Brewing up Innovative Services:

The Melting Pot of Rehabilitation.

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

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| Time | Session | Presenter |
| 8:00 – 9:00 | Registration |  |
| 9:00 – 9:30 | Opening | Dr. Linda Fugate |
| 9:30 – 10:30 | Keynote  Inherited Retinal Disease Research and your Families | Steve Sroka |
| 10:30 – 11:30 | AI for the visually impaired. How is it used? Should it be used? | Cory Ballard & Luke Scriven |
| 11:30 – 1:00 | Lunch |  |
| 1:00 – 1:30 | Business Meeting | Dr. Ian Shadrick |
| 1:30 – 3:00 | Forging the Future of VRT: Exciting Advances in the VRT Strategic Five-Year Plan and You | Dan Norris, Jennifer Ottowitz, Ian Shadrick, Linda Fugate, Meghan Fink, Frankie Ann Marcille, Stephanie Welch-Grenier |
| 3:00 – 3:15 | Break |  |
| 3:15 – 4:15 Session A: | Leaving Your Mark: Why Labeling Is More  Than Just a Bump Dot | Grace Anderson, Jennifer Ottowitz |
| 3:15 – 4:15 Session B | Practical tips about lighting, Color, Cotrast, and Filters | Amy Wurf |
| 3:15 – 4:15 Session C | The Badger’s Burrow |  |
| 4:15 – 4:45 | Mentor Registry | Dr. Ian Shadrick, Dr. Linda Fugate, Jennifer Ottowitz |
| 4:45 | Closing | Dr. Ian Shadrick |

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

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| Time | Session | Presenter |
| 8:00 – 8:45 | Registration |  |
| 8:45 – 9:00 | Opening | Dr. Linda Fugate |
| 9:00 – 10:00 | Macular Degeneration – Symptoms, Diagnosis & Treatment | Dr. Sanbrita Mondal |
| 10:00 – 11:00 Session A | Promising Practices in VRT: Blending  Innovation and Effectiveness | Dr. Stephanie Welch-Grenier & Jennifer Ottowitz |
| 10:00 – 11:00 Session B | Review of Getting Started Guide 2.0 Draft | Katie Frederick |
| 10:00 – 11:00 Session C | Poster Showcase |  |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | Lunch |  |
| 12:00 – 1:00 | Awards Ceremony |  |
| 1:00 – 1:30 | Vendor Session | Dr. Linda Fugate |
| 1:30 – 2:30 Session A | Advocacy through Flipping the Script | Dr. Pris Rogers |
| 1:30 – 2:30 Session B | Summary of findings 2025 agency survey | Dr. Linda Fugate, Dr. Ian Shadrick, Caitlin Graham |
| 1:30 – 2:30 Session C | The Badger’s Burrow |  |
| 2:30 – 2:45 | Break |  |
| 2:45 – 3:45 | Seeing the Future: Assistive Technology with Meta Ray-Ban Smart Glasses | Jessica Caswell |
| 3:45 – 4:45 | University Program Panel | Dr. Ian Shadrick |
| 4:45 – 5:00 | Closing | Dr. Ian Shadrick |

Thursday, August 7, 2025

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| 8:00 – 8:45 | Registration |  |
| 8:45 – 9:00 | Opening | Dr. Linda Fugate |
| 9:00 – 10:00 | Every Dish Tells a Story – Understanding Food as a Universal Language | Sue Dalton, Jennifer Ottowitz |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Check-out break |  |
| 10:30 – 12:00 | Apps You Should Know (and Teach) | Eric Boklage |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | Closing/Adjourn | Dr. Ian Shadrick |