



Association of Vision Rehabilitation Therapists

2026 Professional Development Conference

The Alice Raftary Emerging Leader Award

This award was named in honor of Alice Raftary in recognition of her continuous mentoring and support of new professionals to the VRT profession, and her years of dedicated work both within the field and the organization. Alice was a true legend, a wonderful mentor and an inspiration to many professionals. Her story can be found in the APH Hall of Fame Legends and Leaders.

Purpose:

The award shall be presented to an individual who demonstrates potential for exceptional leadership and is expected to provide a unique and lasting contribution to the field of Vision Rehabilitation Therapy.

Criteria:

- *A nominee shall be an ACREVP-certified vision rehabilitation therapist.
- * A nominee should have no more than three years of direct professional VRT service.
- *A nominee should demonstrate outstanding professionalism and service to the field.

Nominating Procedures:

- *All letters of nomination should include biographical information, and a summary of the individual's education and training, employment, leadership qualities, contributions, and achievements.
- *A supervisor or professional mentor should submit the nomination.
- *If possible, a copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae or resume should be included.

*The Awards Committee shall select the award recipient based on nominations provided.

Nomination materials for the Alice Raftary award should be sent via email to John McMahon, Awards Committee Chair, at jspirit211@outlook.com no later than May 31, 2026.