



Work That Matters

Imagine trying to navigate your world blind and alone. For many of Montana's blind children, Monica Saylor makes the difference between independence and welfare.

Monica is an orientation and mobility specialist at the Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind in Great Falls. She helps blind students ages 3 to 21 gain the skills they need to travel self-sufficiently.

"Once they gain confidence," Monica says, "the world isn't scary anymore." Monica's students learn not to let their disability stop them from taking control of their lives. They learn they can ride a bus, shop for groceries, go to school, and get a job.

But Monica wonders who will take over for her when she retires. Montana salaries for specialists in her field are far below the regional average, making these positions tough to fill.

We're asking legislators to make sure vital programs like Monica's continue. We need to keep quality public employees like Monica Saylor doing work that matters for Montana's people.

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