



NEWS RELEASE

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Return to Restaurant Dining Can Present Challenges for the Visually Impaired **- Hadley's Latest Online Learning Series Provides Expert Help -**

WINNETKA, IL (September 2, 2021) -- As restaurants across the country begin safely reopening their doors to dine-in patrons, there remains confusion over the constantly changing rules pertaining to social distancing and masking when returning to your favorite dining establishment, including when to remove your mask, using touchless menus, and other individual restaurant pandemic protocols.

For the 32 million adult Americans with visual impairments, the challenges of eating at a restaurant are compounded by factors such as difficulty reading the menu, navigate the table, cut their meat, or even pay the bill.

Hadley, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and the nation's leader in distance and online learning for visually impaired adults from all 50 states and more than 100 countries, recently added several new workshops to their popular online learning series [Dining Out](#). The series contains useful tips for the visually impaired while eating at a restaurant - such as how to identify what's on your plate, read the menu, and even helpful tutorials on eating soups and salads without a mess.

Hadley has experienced a surge in enrollment for their Dining Out series since restaurants in many states are again welcoming customers inside. All learners are encouraged to provide comments upon completing the workshop tutorials. Many have expressed their gratitude for providing them with renewed confidence that dining out is possible for them, despite losing some vision.

"We rely on our learners' input to develop content for [Hadley.edu](#), our new online learning platform," said Ed Haines, Hadley's Chief Program Officer. "Staying active and participating in social activities is vitally important to everyone, and key to our mental health. Providing useful tips to make their restaurant dining experience as enjoyable as possible is just one of the many ways in which we empower those with visual impairments to remain engaged with others."

About Hadley

The mission of Hadley is to create personalized learning opportunities that empower those with vision loss to thrive --- at home, at work and in their communities. A 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, Hadley relies on contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations to fund its programs. Watch our videos to learn more about our students, programs and donors by visiting www.hadley.edu