Case Study #2

Background:

My name is Aaron. I’m a graduate student at U & U University. I live in income-based housing and commute approximately an hour and a half due to being unable to afford the cost of living in the city. I am in the advanced standing program at my university. My family is proud of me. My mother has a degree; we graduated on the same day, her associate and me with two bachelor degrees. My father is a felon with no GED. He changed his life years ago, and makes a good living as a truck driver and helps me by paying my cell phone bill and putting gas in my car. I just want to be successful, help others, and make my parents proud.

Scenario:

Aaron emails you and asks can you meet on Thursday afternoon at 1:00, it's the only break he has in his 9 hour day. He has had some sort of health scare and needs direction. You agree to meet with Aaron. Aaron explains that he does not like to divulge much of his struggle, but he has had a financial struggle after having to get his engine rebuilt on his car. He now has to pay for an expensive medical treatment for his eyes. Aaron confesses that he is partially blind, after having lost some of his vision in undergrad due to an autoimmune condition. Now Aaron has blood vessels that have burst in his eyes and it must be treated. His vision is distorted. He has problems reading his texts, and can’t see the board and PowerPoints during class. The treatment will require him to miss class for a week. He is in his last semester working on research, papers, projects, and studying for exams. He is totally overwhelmed and looking to you for help.