

Kentucky Commission on the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Deaf-Blind Resources



KCDHH

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Language-ASL)

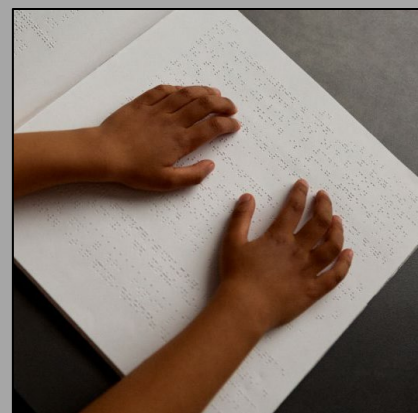
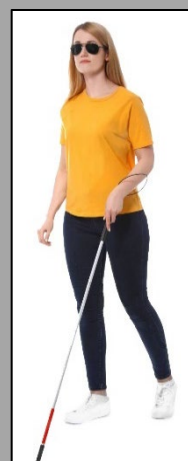
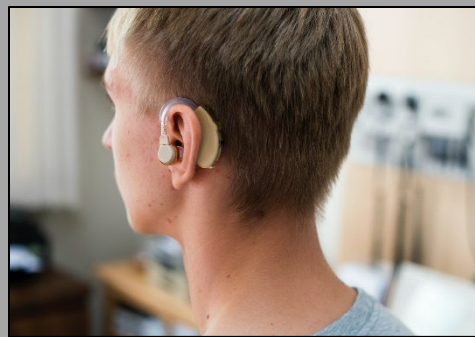
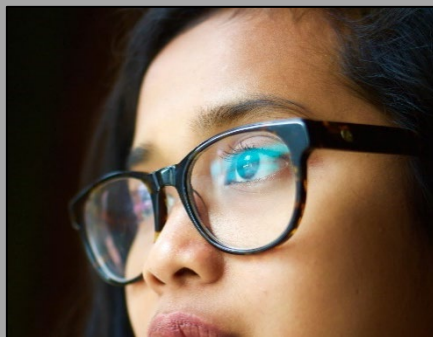
KCDHH Contact:

632 Versailles Road
Frankfort, KY 40601

502-573-2604 V

502-416-0607 VP

800-372-2907 TF



Deaf-Blind Diversity

Individuals who are deaf-blind make up a diverse group. The degrees and kinds of hearing and vision losses vary: hard of hearing and low vision, deaf and tunnel vision, hard of hearing and blind in addition to totally deaf-blind. The age of onset also varies... Despite this diversity in the deaf-blind community, they all have the same needs: to lead productive and independent lives with equal access to the community where they live and work... The lack of available services and resources is often an obstacle to achieving self-sufficiency for individuals who are deaf-blind... [As a result] this low incidence diverse community remains unserved and underserved, [and] the impact on the individual and the service delivery system continues to be a challenge.

These statements have been excerpted from *Trends and Unresolved Issues Impacting Individuals who are Deaf-Blind* developed for the National Council on Disability by American Association of the Deaf-Blind and Helen Keller National Center.



Information listed in this resource guide regarding each organization's mission, vision and services has been taken directly from those organizations' websites.

The Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing assumes no responsibility for the veracity of that information.

The links provided in this guide are meant to be for informational purposes only and are not meant to be all inclusive.

Additional resources will be provided as appropriate, with future revisions.



Welcome to the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing's "Resource Guide: Deaf-Blind Individuals." This manual has been developed to offer resources for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and also have a significant vision loss, or Deaf-Blind individuals.

In fact, Deaf-Blindness affects:

- At least 158 children and youth ages 0-22, which have been identified as deaf-blind by the National Center on Deaf-Blindness; and
- Many more youth and adults go unidentified or under-identified in Kentucky.

Deaf-Blindness is a rare condition in which an individual has combined hearing and vision loss, thus limiting access to both auditory and visual information. It encompasses a wide spectrum of individuals, from those with a mild hearing loss plus a mild visual impairment, to individuals who are totally deaf and blind or suffer from any combination of vision and hearing loss. Many deaf-blind adults lead independent or semi-independent lives and have productive work/social lives. Among the greatest barriers deaf-blind people face are those related to communication and mobility, which can lead to a profound sense of isolation.

As a result, this resource guide has been developed to be used as a manual to learn the resources available for deaf-blind individuals. This resource will hopefully allow you and your family to make well-informed decisions regarding the services this population needs to live equitable lives. Please know that the information in this book is continually being updated, and you may need to refer to the websites to confirm current contact information. This is a fluid document, changing as resources are added, deleted or improved. It is not meant to be all inclusive, and many of the resources listed are the true "experts" when it comes to dealing with both vision and hearing loss.

If you need advocacy for accommodations from the programs listed in this guide, please contact KCDHH. We look forward to assisting you!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Virginia L. Moore", written in a cursive style.

Virginia L. Moore, Executive Director KCDHH

WELCOME

It is with great pride and pleasure that we, the members of the Kentucky Deaf-Blind Community Study Group, share this resource guide created for Deaf-Blind individuals, families, service providers, and professionals.

Identifying state and national resources for the purpose of improving services to the Deaf-Blind community of Kentucky has been our aspiration since the launch of this project. We are optimistic that the use of this guide will allow for faster identification of relevant programs and services, resulting in better support for Kentuckians who live with deaf-blindness. We anticipate that this guide will create a greater awareness of our state's strengths as well as its gaps in serving the Deaf-Blind community.

Finally, we are hopeful that existing services and supports listed in this guide will lend themselves to ensuring that barriers to social, economic, education, cultural, intellectual, and health needs will be reduced or eliminated, resulting in more accessible and inclusive environments for Kentuckians living with deaf-blindness.

The resources contained in this guide have been sorted into three groups – state, national, and international – and are listed alphabetically within each group. You will also find a brief summary of the types of services provided by the agencies and organizations to enable anyone using the guide to quickly determine the appropriateness of each resource. To help the reader locate and retrieve specific resources, a subject index can be found at the end of the Resource Guide.

Because we live in changing times, this guide is considered a "living document;" therefore, it will require review, revision, and updating periodically. We have compiled this document with care and purpose without alteration to the information provided on the websites of each resource listed.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for presenting us with the opportunity to develop this guide.

Respectfully,

Kentucky Deaf-Blind Community Study Group

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Row Holloway
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Rita Troxell
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STATE RESOURCES

American Printing House for the Blind

Since 1858, The American Printing House for the Blind has operated in Louisville, Kentucky as the world's largest nonprofit organization creating accessible learning experiences through educational, workplace, and independent living products and services for people who are blind and visually impaired.

Contact: <https://www.aph.org/contact-us/>

Phone: 800-223-1839

<https://www.aph.org/>

Blind Services Coalition of Kentucky

The Blind Services Coalition of Kentucky (BSCK) consists of agency members who provide services and supports to individuals of all ages who are blind and visually impaired across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Many members also provide support to caregivers and families of individuals who are blind.

Email: bsckinfo@gmail.com

<https://bsckinfo.wixsite.com/bsck>

Bluegrass Council of the Blind, Inc.

BCB seeks to be an engine of opportunity for the persons affected by vision loss in our community. Whether you are blind or visually impaired; a friend or family member of someone who is; a teacher, a service provider or a community member looking for a way to help, Bluegrass Council of the Blind offers something for you. Their main programs are Peer Support and Assistive Technology and Training. Some of the services provided through these two programs include support group meetings, one-on-one peer mentoring, demonstrations and hands-on trials of technology items, community outings, educational seminars, group and individual training of accessibility features on smart phones and tablets, introduction of PC and tablet software and applications for blind and low-vision users and a technology lending library.

Email: info@bcbky.org

Phone: 859-259-1834

<https://bcbky.org/>

First Steps Kentucky

First Steps is a statewide early intervention system that provides services to children with developmental disabilities from birth to age 3 and their families. First Steps offers comprehensive services through a variety of community agencies and service disciplines and is administered by the Department for Public Health in the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. First Steps providers deliver services that actively involve you in visits usually conducted where your child spends time (home, childcare, and playground) and may differ from services provided in a therapy clinic or medical center.

First Steps providers use a coaching approach to help families and other caregivers support your child's learning and development.

Email: chfs.firststeps@ky.gov

Voice: 502-564-3756, Option 1 or Toll free: 877-417-8377 or 1-877-41STEPS

<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dmch/ecdb/Pages/firststeps.aspx>

Helen Keller National Center: Southeastern Region 4B (Kentucky)

The Helen Keller National Center (HKNC) Southeastern Region B encompasses Kentucky, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina and Tennessee. Regional offices bring HKNC resources to states in the Southeastern Region. Regional representatives know all about the programs and services that are available to deaf-blind individuals, their families and service providers in these states and beyond and can help find and access the ones that are right for you.

Email: marilyn.trader@hknc.org

Email: janice.hanvey@hknc.org

Voice: 516-350-1026

VP: 919-585-5428

<https://www.helenkeller.org/hknc/southeastern-region-b>

Helen Keller National Center: National Registry

Email: hkregistry@hknc.org

Phone: 516-944-8900

<https://www.helenkeller.org/hknc/national-registry>

iCanConnect (National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program)

The National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP), also known as iCanConnect, provides equipment needed to make telecommunications, advanced communications, and the Internet accessible to low-income individuals who have both significant vision loss and significant hearing loss. [iCanConnect KY applications](#) are available on their website.

Email: marilyn.trader@hknc.org

Phone: 516-350-1026

Video Phone: 919-585-5428

<http://www.icanconnect.org/>

Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

The Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID) serves as the state mental health authority and contracts with 14 Community Mental Health Centers to provide behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse) and developmental & intellectual disability related services. General information about all programs can be found at the DBHDID website.

Email: michelle.niehaus@ky.gov

Phone: 502-782-6181

<https://dbhdid.ky.gov/kdbhdid/default.aspx>

DBHDID has a Program Administrator for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services. Information about programs and services funded or provided through DHHS is available on their website.

<https://dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/dhhs.aspx>

Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

The Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH) acts as an advocate for deaf and hard of hearing persons on legislative issues as well as a consultant to the governor, General Assembly and various state and local governmental agencies concerning policies and programs that pertain to

people with hearing loss. KCDHH provides information, referral and advocacy services, and an interpreter referral service for state agencies.

Email: kcdhh@kcdhh.ky.gov

Voice: 502-573-2604

VP: 502-416-0607

<https://www.kcdhh.ky.gov/>

Kentucky Council of the Blind

The Kentucky Council of the Blind (KCB) is the statewide affiliate of the American Council of the Blind in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. With 300-plus members, a weekly audio magazine, a bimonthly newsletter, informative email lists, and seven local and special-interest chapters that each offer events, advocacy, information and referral, and peer support, KCB is reaching more and more Kentuckians with its message of equality, opportunity and independence.

Email: kcb@kentucky-acb.org

Phone: 502-895-4598

<https://kentucky-acb.org/>

Kentucky Deaf-Blind Interagency Team (DBIT)

The Kentucky Deaf-Blind Interagency Team (DBIT) is comprised of a variety of representatives of state and national agencies, interrelated professionals, and concerned stakeholders who work collaboratively to improve education, employment, mental health, health, and communication & mobility outcomes for individuals with deaf-blindness. Organizations represented include the following:

- [Eastern Kentucky University - Interpreter Outreach](#);
- [American Sign Language and Interpreter Education Department](#);
- [Kentucky Deaf-Blind Project-University of Kentucky](#);
- [Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation](#);
- [Helen Keller National Center – Southeastern Region B](#);
- [Kentucky CHFS DBHDID Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services](#);
- [Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing](#); and
- [Kentucky Department of Education Office of Special Education and Early Learning](#)

Kentucky Deaf-Blind Project

The Kentucky Deaf-Blind Project (KDBP) provides statewide technical assistance and training to families, school teams, early childhood educators, vocational rehabilitation and state partners who have or work with a child/young adult who is deafblind. Services are offered free of charge to individuals from birth to 22 years of age and to their families and service providers.

Contact: donna.carpenter@uky.edu

Phone: 859-322-1301

<https://education.uky.edu/kydbp/>

Kentucky Deaf-Blind Project: Resources

This section is filled with helpful links leading to additional family, state, and national resources.

<https://education.uky.edu/kydbp/resources/>

Kentucky Department of Education: Exceptional Children Blind-VI and Deaf-HH Services

The Blind/Visual Impairment (Blind/VI) and Deaf/Hard of Hearing (Deaf/HH) Team at the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) provides informational, technical and regulatory support to the Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB) and Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD). Additionally, they provide resources and support to districts, parents and service providers throughout the state in areas regarding students who are Blind/VI, Deaf/HH, or Deaf-Blind. This site includes information in areas specifically related to students with sensory loss.

Email: carol.morrison@education.ky.gov

Phone: 502-564-4970 ext. 4123

<https://education.ky.gov/specialed/blindef/Pages/default.aspx>

Kentucky Hands & Voices

Hands & Voices is a non-profit, parent-driven organization dedicated to supporting families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. They are non-biased about communication methodologies and believe that families can make the best choices for their child if they have access to good information and support. Hands & Voices is a safe place to explore options, get support, learn from one another and share what they have in common. They honor the role of parents and families as the single greatest factor in raising a well-adjusted, successful child. Hands & Voices' activities focus on parent support,

outreach and advocacy. They collaborate with professionals in an effort to impact and improve both the medical and educational systems that serve our children.

Email: info@kyhandsandvoices.org

Phone: 888-398-5030

<https://kyhandsandvoices.org/>

Kentucky Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs

The Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs (OCSHCN), formerly the Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs, provides comprehensive care to children and youth with special health care needs who are Kentucky residents, younger than 21 who meet medical and financial eligibility. Since 1924, the Kentucky Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs has provided care for children with complex medical conditions. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for Kentucky's children with special health care needs through quality service, leadership, advocacy, education and collaboration. Services are provided through on-site clinics, satellite clinics or financial assistance. Services include: medical, therapy, financial assistance based on need, hearing loss and support services.

Email: CCSHCNWebPage@ky.gov

Voice: Toll-free 800-232-1160

<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/ccshcn/Pages/default.aspx>

Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

The Deaf-Blind Program coordinates services to individuals who have been identified as having a combination of hearing and vision loss in varying degrees. Eligible individuals receive services to get a job, return to a job, keep a job, or get a better job. Several staff may work together to provide the services needed by an individual who is deaf-blind. Services may be provided by a rehabilitation counselor for the deaf, communications specialist or rehabilitation counselor for the blind.

Email: WFD.VOCREHAB@ky.gov

Phone: 800-272-7172 (V/TTY)

<https://kcc.ky.gov/Vocational-Rehabilitation/Pages/Kentucky-Office-of-Vocational-Rehabilitation.aspx>

Kentucky Protection & Advocacy

The mission of Kentucky Protection & Advocacy (KPA) is to protect and promote the rights of Kentuckians with disabilities through legally based individual and systemic advocacy and education.

Email: KYPandAinquiry@gmail.com

Phone: 502-564-2967

<http://www.kypa.net/>

Kentucky School for the Blind

The mission of the Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB) is to provide comprehensive educational services to all Kentucky students who are blind or visually impaired, from birth to 21 years old.

Email: peggy.sinclair-morris@ksb.kyschools.us

Phone: 502-897-1583

<https://www.ksb.kyschools.us/>

Kentucky School for the Deaf

The Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD), located in Danville, Kentucky, is a school that provides education to deaf and hard of hearing children from elementary through high school levels. Founded on April 10, 1823 by the Kentucky General Assembly, KSD is the first school for the deaf west of the Allegheny Mountains and the fourth oldest school for the deaf in the United States. KSD strives to provide deaf children with the best education in a fun and caring environment.

Email Directory: <https://www.ksd.k12.ky.us/Content2/10>

Phone: 859-239-7017

<https://www.ksd.k12.ky.us/>

National Federation of the Blind of Kentucky

The purpose of the National Federation of the Blind of Kentucky (NFBK) is to advance the general welfare of the blind of Kentucky and the nation. Serving as a vehicle for collective action by the blind of Kentucky, NFBK operates as a mechanism through which the blind can come together in local chapters and state meetings to plan and carry out programs to improve the quality of life of the blind. The NFBK also promotes the vocational, cultural and social advancement of the blind.

Email: administrator@nfbofky.org

<https://www.nfbofky.org/>

Visually Impaired Preschool Services

The Visually Impaired Preschools Services (VIPS) provides early intervention services to Kentucky and Indiana's youngest children with blindness and low vision. Services include evaluations, in-home visits, and access to resources that help parents and caregivers better understand and support their child with visual impairment.

Visually Impaired Preschool Services (VIPS): Kentucky Resources List

<https://vips.org/kentucky-resources/>

Visually Impaired Preschool Services (VIPS) – Central Kentucky

<https://vips.org/vips-central-kentucky/>

Phone: 888-254-8477

Visually Impaired Preschool Services (VIPS) – Louisville

<https://vips.org/vips-louisville/>

Phone: 888-636-8477

Contact: <https://vips.org/contact/>

<https://vips.org/>

NATIONAL RESOURCES:

American Council of the Blind (ACB)

The American Council of the Blind is a national grassroots consumer organization representing Americans who are blind and visually impaired. With 68 state and special-interest affiliates, ACB works to increase the independence, security, equal opportunity and quality of life for Americans who are blind and visually impaired.

Email: info@acb.org

Phone: 202-467-5081 or 800-424-8666

<https://www.acb.org/>

Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) Multiple Disabilities and Deafblind Division (Division 3)

The Division promotes communication and exchange of ideas among its membership and fosters a sense of unity within the field and cooperation with

regions and chapters; promotes and publicizes specialized services to persons with disabilities and their families; compiles and dispenses information about professional training opportunities; promotes in-service training opportunities; fosters research and writing in the field; assists in developing professional standards; promotes community acceptance and integration of affected individuals; promotes and advocates for legislative issues impacting the quality of life of affected persons and promotes development of assistive and instructional technology needed by affected persons.

Email: aer@aerbvi.org

Phone: 703-671-4500

<https://aerbvi.org/about/divisions/multiple-disabilities-deafblind/>

Center for Parent Information and Resources: Deaf-Blindness

The Center for Parent Information and Resources (CPIR) is a central resource for Parent Training and Information Centers and Community Parent Resource Centers, offering information and products to assist to families of children with disabilities.

Email: debra.jennings@spanadvocacy.org

Phone: 973-642-8100

<https://www.parentcenterhub.org/deafblindness/>

CPIR Resource Library

Email: mrodriguez@spanadvocacy.org

Phone: 973-642-8100

<https://www.parentcenterhub.org/resourcelibrary/>

The CHARGE Syndrome Foundation

CHARGE syndrome is a genetic disorder that affects many areas of the body. CHARGE is an abbreviation for several of the features common in the disorder: coloboma, heart defects, atresia choanae (also known as choanal atresia), growth retardation, genital abnormalities and ear abnormalities. The primary [goals of the Foundation](#) include: growing outreach and support programs; increasing knowledge base; [promoting awareness](#); building networks and partnerships and investing in [leading-edge research](#) and can cause Deaf-Blindness.

Email: info@chargesyndrome.org

Phone: 516-684-4720 or 800-442-7604 Toll Free

<https://www.chargesyndrome.org/>

Communication Matrix

This nonprofit project is devoted to improving outcomes for individuals with complex communication needs around the world. The Communication Matrix has created a free assessment tool to help families and professionals easily understand the communication status, progress, and unique needs of anyone functioning at the early stages of communication or using forms of communication other than speaking or writing. Communication Matrix includes an active forum where SLPs, teachers, families, and researchers can connect, share information, learn from the field, and offer and receive support.

Email: info@communicationmatrix.org

<https://www.communicationmatrix.org/>

Deaf-Blind Resources for Individuals with Dual Sensory Loss (DSL)

The mission of Teaching Students with Visual Impairments is to provide all persons involved in educating students who are blind or visually impaired with the necessary resources to help each student become successful members of their communities and to equip those in the visual impairment field with resources to meet the wide range of needs of the students they serve.

Contact: <https://www.teachingvisuallyimpaired.com/contact.html>

<https://www.teachingvisuallyimpaired.com/deaf-blind-resources.html>

Global Foundation for Peroxisomal Disorders

Peroxisomal Disorder is one of the genetic disorders that can cause Deaf-Blindness. The mission of Global Foundation for Peroxisomal Disorders (GFPD) is to improve the lives of individuals with peroxisomal disorders by funding research, championing scientific collaboration, and empowering families and professionals through educational programs and support services. Through connections with medical and scientific professionals and family support networks, GFPD is a resource for families who have received a diagnosis of a peroxisomal disorder in the Zellweger spectrum and Infantile Refsum Disease

(IRD), as well as single enzyme disorders D-Bifunctional Protein Deficiency (DBPD) and Acyl-CoA Oxidase Deficiency (ACOX deficiency).

Email: contactus@thegfpd.org

Phone: 405-418-6061

<https://www.thegfpd.org/>

Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths & Adults

Operated by Helen Keller Services for the Blind, the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults enables individuals who are deaf-blind and/or have combined hearing-vision loss to live, work and thrive in their community of choice. Established by an Act of Congress in 1967, HKNC operates a residential and training facility at its headquarters in Sands Point, NY. Across the country, regional representatives support youths and adults who are deaf-blind, their families and the professionals who serve them.

Email: hkncinfo@hknc.org

Phone: 516-944-8900

<https://www.helenkeller.org/hknc>

Intervener

This website provides resources for parents of children who have combined vision and hearing losses (or deafblindness) and professionals who are experienced in the use of interveners as individualized supports for these children. A critical component of effective intervention for children who are deafblind is having the support of a trained intervener who provides access to the information needed for learning, communication, and interaction in educational settings.

Intervener Resource: "A Family's Guide to Intervenors"

<http://intervener.org/resources/A-Familys-Guide-to-Intervenors.pdf>

Email: linda.alsop@usu.edu

Phone: 435-797-5598

<https://intervener.org/>

Minnesota Department of Human Services: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Division Learning Center

While this organization is focuses on providing services for Minnesota residents, the Learning Center website offers access to educational videos and online trainings that are not state-specific, such as "[DeafBlind 101](#)," "[Support Service Providers 101](#)," "[Supporting Seniors with Age-Related Hearing & Vision Loss](#)," and "[Using Support Service Providers](#)."

Email: dhs.dhhsd@state.mn.us

Phone: 800-657-3663

V: 651-964-1514

<https://mn.gov/deaf-hard-of-hearing/learning-center/trainings/#/list/appId/1/filterType/Tag/filterValue/Deafblind/page/1/sort//order/>

National Center on Deaf-Blindness

The National Center on Deaf-Blindness (NCDB) works with state deaf-blind projects and other partners to improve educational results and quality of life for children who are deaf-blind and their families.

Email: support@nationaldb.org

Phone: 541-800-0412

For Family <https://www.nationaldb.org/for-families/>

I Wish I Had... Booklet and Video

<https://documents.nationaldb.org/Family/Iwish.pdf>

Information Center <https://www.nationaldb.org/info-center/>

Library <https://nationaldb.org/library>

<https://nationaldb.org/>

National Family Association for Deaf-Blind

The National Family Association for Deaf- Blind (NFADB) is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization that has served families with individuals who are Deaf-Blind since 1994.

Originally started by and for families, NFADB has expanded to include any interested individuals, professionals, organizations, and agencies that wish to empower the voices of families with individuals who are deaf-blind. NFADB believes that individuals who are deaf-blind are valued members of their

communities and should have the same opportunities and choices as others in the community.

Phone: 800-255-0411

<https://nfadb.org/>

National Federation of the Blind: DeafBlind Resources

The National Federation of the Blind (NFB) is the oldest and largest nationwide organization of blind Americans. Founded in 1940 and currently headquartered in Baltimore, the NFB consists of affiliates, chapters and divisions in all fifty states, Washington, DC and Puerto Rico, NFB coordinates many programs, services and resources to defend the rights of blind Americans, provide information and support to blind children and adults and build a community that creates a future full of opportunities. Resources under this link include organizations, communication information, and publications related to deaf-blindness.

Email: nfb@nfb.org

Phone: 410-659-9314

<https://www.nfb.org/resources/deafblind-resources>

National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled at the Library of Congress: Deaf-Blindness Resource Guide

The National Library Service (NLS) is a free braille and talking book library service for people with temporary or permanent low vision, blindness or a physical disability that prevents them from reading or holding the printed page. Through a national network of cooperating libraries, NLS circulates books and magazines in braille or audio formats delivered by postage-free mail or instantly downloadable. This [*Deaf-Blindness Resource Guide*](#) is for deaf-blind individuals, parents of deaf-blind children and educators and other professionals who work with deaf-blind children and adults. It is organized into four parts. Part one contains information resources about topics related to deaf-blindness. Part two suggests keywords to use for an internet search of deaf-blindness. Part three is a bibliography of topics found in the information resources section and part four provides contact information for the organizations listed in this guide.

Email: nls@loc.gov

Phone: 202-707-5100 or 800-424-8567 Toll Free

<https://www.loc.gov/nls/>

Resource Guide Email: nlsref@loc.gov

<https://www.loc.gov/nlsold/reference/guides/deafblind.html>

Open Hands, Open Access (OHOA): Deaf-Blind Intervener Learning Modules

The *Open Hands, Open Access (OHOA): Deaf-Blind Intervener Learning Modules* are a national resource designed to increase awareness, knowledge and skills related to intervention for students (ages two through 21) who are deaf-blind and being served in educational settings.

Email: support@nationaldb.org

Phone: 541-800-0412

<https://www.nationaldb.org/products/modules/ohoa/>

The Outreach Center for Deafness and Blindness

The Outreach Center for Deafness and Blindness increases access, communication and equity for learners who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, or visually impaired. This is done by connecting resources and providing training professionals and fostering relationships to equip communities to support families and learners where they are with what they need when they need it to learn, grow and live their best lives.

Email: outreach_info@ocali.org

Phone: 614-401-2969

<https://deafandblindoutreach.org/>

Learning Module: Promoting Access

<https://deafandblindoutreach.org/promoting-access>

Paths to Literacy Deafblind Resources

This site is an online hub for information related to literacy for students who are blind or visually impaired, including those with additional disabilities or deaf-blindness.

Email: PathsTo.Literacy@perkins.org

<https://www.pathstoliteracy.org/deafblind/resources>

Perkins School for the Blind: Deaf-Blindness Resources

The Perkins School for the Blind teaches children on campus and supports students and teachers in public schools across the U.S., focusing on academic,

social and self-advocacy skill building. The resources on this website include materials for parents and teachers of Deaf-Blind students as well as information and resources for individuals who are, themselves, Deaf-Blind.

Email: info@Perkins.org

Phone: 617-924-3434

<https://www.perkinselearning.org/scout/topics/deafblindness>

Resource Directory <https://www.perkins.org/services/nec/resource-directory#DB>

Usher Syndrome Coalition

Usher syndrome is the most common genetic cause of combined deafness and blindness. The mission of the Usher Syndrome Coalition is to raise awareness and accelerate research while providing information and support to individuals and families affected by Usher syndrome.

Email: info@usher-syndrome.org

Phone: 855-998-7437 Toll Free

VP: 631-533-9621

<https://www.usher-syndrome.org/>

INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES:

Deafblind International

Deafblind International (DBI) is an international not-for-profit membership organization focused on deaf-blindness and supporting deaf-blind and their families, professionals (educators, administrators, researchers and medical specialists) and to raise awareness of deaf-blindness.

Email: dbi-secretariat@sensity.ca

Phone: 877-760-7439 ext. 158

<https://www.deafblindinternational.org/resources/>

World Federation of the Deafblind

WFDB was established in 2001 and consists today of 75 national and associated member organizations from 62 different countries from all corners of the world. Relationships have been established with The World Blind Union (WBU), The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD), Deafblind International

(DbI) and The World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI). WFDB aims to improve the quality of life of people with deafblindness worldwide, with the objective of achieving their equal rights and equal opportunities in all areas of society, to be a worldwide forum for the exchange of knowledge and experiences in the area of deafblindness, and to increase international solidarity among organizations of people with deafblindness.

Email: team@wfdb.eu

Phone: +47 22 93 33 50

<https://www.wfdb.eu/>

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