

NDVS/SB OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

NDVS/SB provides individualized services and resources to infants, children, and adults with visual impairment to empower them in achieving their goals.

Who's Who on Social Media Resources for Parents of Children who are Blind or Low Vision



Hilda Dunford

Mother of 3 with 1 blind child.
Instagram: @ourblindside



Private Facebook Group:

**Parents Who Are Blind Raising
Blind or Low Vision Children**



Kristin Smedley

Mother of 3 with 2 blind adult children.
<https://kristinsmedley.com/>
Weekly Email: Eye Openers



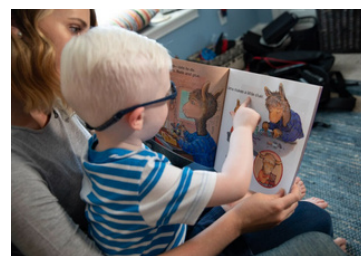
Private Facebook Group:

**Parents of Blind & Visually
Impaired Children**



Presley Forward

Mother of 3 with 2 young blind children.
She's from North Dakota!
Instagram: @prevailandbraillemama



FamilyConnect

A website full of ideas, tips, and
resources for families raising blind
or low vision children.

NFB OF ND & NDAB:

OFFERING FAMILIES INFO AND OPPORTUNITIES

*There are two active consumer groups for people who are blind and low vision in North Dakota, the **North Dakota Association of the Blind (NDAB)**, which is the North Dakota affiliate of the American Council of the Blind (ACB), and the **National Federation of the Blind of North Dakota (NFB of ND)**, the state affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind (NFB). Both groups offer resources and opportunities for parents, families, and friends of individuals who are blind or low vision. In this newsletter, read about the National Federation of the Blind of North Dakota, and read about NDAB in the next newsletter. The questions below about NFB of ND were answered by Sherry Shirek and Angelita Martinez.*

What is the NFB of North Dakota?

The National Federation of the Blind of North Dakota is a state affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind, the oldest and largest nationwide organization of blind Americans. Founded in 1940 and currently headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, the NFB consists of affiliates, chapters, and specific interest divisions in all fifty states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. Through our network of blind members, we coordinate 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.

What services, programs, or opportunities do you offer to parents or families?

On a national level, NFB distributes many different magazines, newspapers, newsletters, speeches, reports, books, and other pieces of literature to inform the public (blind and sighted) about the true nature of blindness and about issues of interest to the blind, including:

- Braille Monitor
- Journal of Blindness Innovation and Research
- Voice of the Nation's Blind
- Imagineering Our Future Email Newsletter
- Future Reflections

Why should a parent or family member become a member of NDAB?

The National Federation of the Blind of North Dakota stands as a powerful ally for us—the parents and family members of blind children. Our organization is not just a group; it's a dynamic community that intimately understands the complexities and victories of raising a blind child in our distinctive setting.

With an array of services, programs, and opportunities, the National Federation of the Blind of North Dakota, in collaboration with the National Federation of the Blind, is here to empower our families. Joining our united community is a simple and welcoming process, offering access to a supportive network and participation in activities designed to foster camaraderie and understanding. Being a member transcends mere affiliation; it's a commitment to breaking down barriers and creating a more inclusive environment for our loved ones.

How old do you have to be to become a member? Can children be members?

There is no age limit for membership, and we actively encourage our children to be part of this united community, nurturing a sense of belonging and empowerment from an early age.

Tell us about the scholarships that NFB offers.

The National Federation of the Blind goes beyond offering support; through our scholarship program, we provide scholarships to blind students, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder academic aspirations.

What other programs should children or teens know about that NFB provides?

We offer a range of tailored programs for blind children and teens—from youth camps promoting independence to leadership training and Braille enrichment programs. To learn more, visit <https://nfb.org/programs-services>.

Who should people contact to learn more about NFB of North Dakota?

Contact National Federation of the Blind of North Dakota President, Angelita Martinez. Call/text 817-709-8587 or email angelamartinez511@yahoo.com.