



## Deaf-Blind Resources

### Missouri Deaf-Blind Technical Assistance Project

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**Email:** [melissa.moore@msb.dese.mo.gov](mailto:melissa.moore@msb.dese.mo.gov)  
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**Title:** School Support Specialist  
**Email:** [mandy.clayton@msb.dese.mo.gov](mailto:mandy.clayton@msb.dese.mo.gov)  
**Phone:** (314) 633-3961

**Website:** <http://www.msb.dese.mo.us>

**Address:**

Missouri School for the Blind  
3815 Magnolia Avenue  
St. Louis MO 63110-4099

**Summary:** The Project, in collaboration with other state and non-profit agencies, provides support, training and technical assistance to families and teams who work with infants, toddlers, and youth with deafblindness throughout the state. The Project operates under the leadership and management of Missouri School for the Blind, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Goals of the Project are achieved through six major objectives:

- Assist local and state agencies in the identification, tracking and referral of infants, children and youth with deafblindness to enhance services.
- Provide an array of technical assistance activities that increase family engagement and leadership, parent education and parent networking.
- Strengthen the capacity of highly qualified personnel through increased training and education of Project personnel, interveners, related service providers, and teachers of the students with deafblindness to increase educational and postsecondary outcomes
- Implement a dissemination plan which ensures access and availability of information about the Project, deafblindness, research, resources and practice to its stakeholders.
- Measure and evaluate needs, outcomes and impact for children and youth with deafblindness, their families and service providers.
- Evaluate and measure impact and benefits to children with deafblindness, their families, and their service providers.

## National Center on Deaf-Blindness

**Address:**

The Teaching Research Institute  
Western Oregon University  
345 North Monmouth Avenue  
Monmouth, Oregon 97361

**Fax:** (503) 838-8150

**TTY:** (800) 854-7013

**Phone:** (800) 438-9376

**Website:** <http://www.nationaldb.org/>

**Summary:** As a national technical assistance center funded by the Federal Department of Education, NCDB works to improve the quality of life for children who are deaf-blind and their families by:

- Creating visibility and direction for identified priorities through a range of practices, activities, supports and partnerships.
- Identifying and encouraging new innovations in local, state, and national practice and policy.
- Promoting opportunity for reflection, debate, and constructive dialogue around ideas and developing practice.
- Maintaining a rich repository of content, history, and knowledge, easily available and shared by all who are part of the community of deaf-blindness.

## Service and Rehabilitation Programs

**Alphapointe Association for the Blind**

**Address:**

7501 Prospect  
Kansas City, Missouri 64132

**Phone:** (816) 421-5848

**Fax:** (816) 237-2019

**Contact:** Clay Berry

**Title:** Director of Education &  
Rehabilitation

**Email:** [cberry@alphapointe.org](mailto:cberry@alphapointe.org)

**Website:** [www.alphapointe.org](http://www.alphapointe.org)

**Summary:** Alphapointe's services are designed to meet the needs of youth, adults, and seniors with all types of vision loss to learn the skills needed for living and working with vision loss.

## Blindness Skills Specialists

### Northeast Region Address:

Northeast Professional Development  
Center Truman State University

Violette Hall 2200

100 East Normal  
Kirksville, MO 63501

**Website:** <http://rpd.truman.edu/>

**Contact:** Jessica Hall

**Phone:** 573-289-9441

**Email:** [jhall@truman.edu](mailto:jhall@truman.edu)

### Southwest Region

#### Address:

Missouri State University  
Southwest Regional Professional  
Development Center  
PCOB #207

901 S. National

Springfield, MO 65807

#### Website:

<http://education.missouristate.edu/bss/>

**Contact:** DJ Butcher

**Phone:** (417) 836-8872

**Email:** [butcher2@missouristate.edu](mailto:butcher2@missouristate.edu)

Missouri State University - PCOB 207

901 S. National Ave.

Springfield, Missouri 65897

Phone: 417-836-5490

Fax: 417-836-5997

Email: [janthonyblades@missouristate.edu](mailto:janthonyblades@missouristate.edu)

**Summary:** Offers professional development, mentoring, demonstration of teaching strategies, agency referrals, coordination of educational programs, acts as a liaison for families and educators, and provides resource information.

## Children's Center for the Visually Impaired (CCVI)

#### Address:

3101 Main  
Kansas City, MO 64111

**Phone:** (816) 841-2284

**Fax:** (816) 753-7836

**Contact:** Nicole Heskett

**Title:** Executive Director

**Website:** [www.ccv.org](http://www.ccv.org)

**Summary:** The mission of CCVI is to prepare children with visual impairments, including those with multiple disabilities; to reach their highest potential in the sighted world. CCVI offers a comprehensive program for visually impaired children and their families, including individualized therapy, consulting services and supportive family education. Services are provided beginning in infancy through our home-based infant program, and continue on with our preschool & Kindergarten classes, preparing children for entry into the public or private school systems.

## The Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments

**Address:**  
1750 South Big Bend  
Saint Louis, MO 63117  
**Phone:** (314) 776-1300

**Contact:** Jan Huneke  
**Title:** Executive Director  
**Email:** [jhuneke@dgckids.org](mailto:jhuneke@dgckids.org)  
**Website:** [www.dgckids.org](http://www.dgckids.org)

**Summary:** The Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments is committed to helping children who are blind or visually impaired reach their full potential through individualized education and therapy services for infants (birth to three years) and their parents and through support services for children of all ages, their families and the community.

## Helen Keller National Center Great Plains Regional Office

**Address:**  
450 E. Park Street  
Olathe KS 66061  
**Fax:** (913) 677-1544  
**TTY:** (913) 677-4562

**Contact:** Beth Jordan  
**Title:** Regional Representative  
**Email:** [beth.jordan@hknc.org](mailto:beth.jordan@hknc.org)  
**Phone:** (913) 677-4562  
**Phone:** (913) 277-4282

**Website:** <https://www.helenkeller.org/hknc/great-plains-region>

**Contact:** Dianna Meier  
**Title:** Administrative Assistant  
**Email:** [dianna.meier@hknc.org](mailto:dianna.meier@hknc.org)  
**Phone:** (913) 677-4562

**Summary:** The mission of the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults is to enable each person who is deaf-blind to live and work in his or her community of choice. HKNC Regional Representatives provide consultation and technical assistance to individuals with deaf-blindness and their families, and to public and private education and adult service agencies in their region. The Regional Representatives are responsible for assessing the needs of individuals, communities and states within their regions; developing strategies of collaboration, coordination and cooperation to help meet those needs; advocating for those who are deaf-blind in local, state, national and international forums.

## Midwestern Braille Volunteers

**Address:**  
104 W. Adams St.  
St. Louis, MO 63122  
**Phone:** (314) 966-5828  
**Fax:** (314) 966-0388

**Email:** [mbvol@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mbvol@sbcglobal.net)  
**Website:** <http://www.mbvoll.org>

**Summary:** This organization provides transcribing services (textbooks) for blind students, and transcription services for businesses, churches and community organizations.

## Rehabilitation Services for the Blind

**Address:** Central Office:                      Contact RSB  
615 Howerton Court                              [askrsb@dss.mo.gov](mailto:askrsb@dss.mo.gov)  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-2320                [1-800-592-6004](tel:1-800-592-6004)  
**Phone:** (573) 751-4249                        **Website:** [www.dss.mo.gov/fsd/rsb/](http://www.dss.mo.gov/fsd/rsb/)  
**Toll free:** (800)-592-6004  
**Fax:** (573)751-4984

**Summary:** Provides advocacy, referrals, parent education and recommendations for services to legally blind individuals in Missouri, including assistance and support for educational and employment opportunities. Assists students and parents in developing transition programs at age 14. RSB is the point of contact for the Center for Braille and Narration Production

## St. Louis Society for the Blind

**Address:**    **Contact:** David Ekin  
8770 Manchester Rd.                              **Email:** [socserv@slsbvi.org](mailto:socserv@slsbvi.org)  
St. Louis, MO 63144                              **Website:** [www.slsbvi.org](http://www.slsbvi.org)  
**Phone:** (314) 968-9000

**Summary:** St Louis for the Blind and Visually Impaired provides the full range of vision rehabilitation and education services to children and adults. Although the majority of individuals served are experiencing age-related vision loss, programs and services are offered to students attending public schools through contractual agreements with local special education entities and summer programs. Other services are provided to individuals of all ages.

## Missouri State Resources

### State Department of Education: Special Education

Dr. Stephen Barr, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Special Education  
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
P.O. Box 480  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 751-4404  
E-mail: [stephen.barr@msb.dese.mo.gov](mailto:stephen.barr@msb.dese.mo.gov)  
Web: <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education>

### **Councils on Developmental Disabilities**

Vicky Davidson, Executive Director  
Missouri Planning Council Developmental Disabilities  
1706 E. Elm  
P.O. Box 687  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 751-8206; (800) 500-7878 (In MO)  
Web: [www.moddcouncil.org](http://www.moddcouncil.org)

### **First Steps: Ages Birth through 2**

Special Education Services  
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Pam Thomas, Coordinator  
Special Education Services  
P.O. Box 480 (573) 522-8762  
Jefferson City, MO 65102 (800) 583-2392

E-mail: [pam.thomas@dese.mo.gov](mailto:pam.thomas@dese.mo.gov)  
Web: <http://dese.mo.gov/special-education/first-steps>

### **Missouri School for the Blind**

Geoffrey Barney, Superintendent  
3815 Magnolia Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63110  
(314) 776-4320; (800) 622-5672  
Web: [www.msb.dese.mo.gov](http://www.msb.dese.mo.gov)

### **Missouri School for the Deaf**

George Stailey, Superintendent  
505 E. 5th Street  
Fulton, MO 65251-1799  
(573) 592-4000  
Web: [www.msddese.mo.gov](http://www.msddese.mo.gov) Email: [George.Stailey@msd.dese.mo.gov](mailto:George.Stailey@msd.dese.mo.gov)

### **Programs for Children and Youth who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

Opeoluwa Sotonwa, Executive Director  
Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
1500 Southridge Dr., Suite 201  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
(573) 526-5205  
(573) 415-0083 (Videophone)  
Web: [www.mcdhh.mo.gov](http://www.mcdhh.mo.gov)

**Programs for Children with Disabilities: Ages 3 through 21**

Special Education Compliance Section  
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
P.O. Box 480  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 751-0699

E-mail: [secompliances@dese.mo.gov](mailto:secompliances@dese.mo.gov)

Web: [www.dese.mo.gov/divspered/](http://www.dese.mo.gov/divspered/)

**Programs for Children with Special Health Care Needs**

Special Health Care Needs  
Department of Health and Senior Services  
P.O. Box 570  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 751-6246; (800) 451-0669

Web: <http://health.mo.gov/living/families/shcn/cyshcn.php>

**Programs for People with Developmental Disabilities**

Division of Mental Retardation and Developmental  
Disabilities 1706 E. Elm  
P.O. Box 687  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 751-8676; (800) 207-9329

Web: [www.dmh.mo.gov](http://www.dmh.mo.gov)

**Protection and Advocacy Agency**

Missouri Protection and Advocacy Services  
925 S. Country Club Drive  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
(573) 893-3333; (866) 777-7199  
Web: [www.moadvocacy.org](http://www.moadvocacy.org)

**Regional ADA & IT Technical Assistance Center**

**Great Plains Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center**

University of Missouri/Columbia  
100 Corporate Lake Drive  
Columbia, MO 65203  
(573) 882-3600 (V/TTY)

Web: <https://www.gpadacenter.org/>

**Special Format Library**

Wolfner Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

P.O. Box 387

Jefferson City, MO 65102-0387

(573) 751-8720; (800) 392-2614 (in MO)

(800) 347-1379 (TDD/ in MO)

E-mail: [wolfner@sos.mo.gov](mailto:wolfner@sos.mo.gov)

Web: [www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner/](http://www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner/)

**State CHIP Program****Children's Health Insurance Program**

*(health care for low-income uninsured children)*

MC+ for Children

Missouri Department of Social Services

(888) 275-5908

Web: [www.dss.mo.gov/mhk/index.htm](http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhk/index.htm)

**State Mental Health Agency**

Department of Mental Health

1706 East Elm

P.O. Box 687

Jefferson City, MO 65102

(573) 751-4122 (800) 364-9687

Web: [www.dmh.mo.gov](http://www.dmh.mo.gov)

State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Department of Education

3024 Dupont Circle

Jefferson City, MO 65109-0525

(573) 751-3251

Web: <http://dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/vocational-rehabilitation/>

**University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities**

UMKC Institute for Human Development

215 W. Pershing Road, 6th floor

Kansas City, MO 64108

(816) 235-1770

(800) 452-1185 (TTY)

Web: [www.ihd.umkc.edu](http://www.ihd.umkc.edu)

## Missouri Assistive Technology



Address: 1501 NW Jefferson Blue Springs, MO 64015

Phone: (816) 655-6706; (816) 655-6700; (800) 647-8557, (816) 655-6711 TTY

Main E-mail: moat1501@att.net

Web: www.at.mo.gov

Programs:

### Equipment Technology Consortium (ETC)

ETC is a short-term assistive device loan program for Missouri schools and agencies. A school or agency can borrow from a pool of over 900 devices including augmentative communication, computer access, environmental controls, hearing devices, telecommunications, visual aids, and learning aids. The program can be utilized free of charge. Equipment can be borrowed for up to six weeks for trial before making a purchasing decision, for use while equipment is in for repair, or for other short-term needs. For more information, please call (816) 655-6708 or review information at <http://at.mo.gov/device-loan/>

Telecommunications Access Program (TAP): <http://at.mo.gov/telecom-access-program/> For more info, contact (800) 647-8557 (voice) or (800) 647-8558 (tty).

**Telephone: TAP for Telephone** provides adaptive telephone equipment for Missourians with disabilities who have telephone service and who have difficulty using standard telephone equipment for voice calling. TAP-T provides adaptive equipment for all disabilities including text telephones and amplified telephones for hearing disabilities, hands free and remote controlled phones for mobility disabilities, voice dialing and Braille dial pads for vision disabilities, and photo phones for cognitive disabilities.

**Internet: The Telecommunication Access Program for Internet (TAP-I)** provides to Missourians with disabilities the adaptive computer equipment needed for basic access to the internet and email. TAP-I provides a range of adaptive equipment including screen reading, enlarging systems, refreshable Braille displays, adaptive software, alternative keyboards and pointing devices. Consumer support is provided throughout the state to assist applicants in determining the adaptive equipment they need and to provide training for consumers after equipment delivery.

### Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (iCanConnect):

<http://at.mo.gov/deaf-blind-equipment-distribution/>

iCanConnect is a program for individuals with both hearing and vision loss. The National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program (NDBEDP) is a direct result of the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 and is funded by the FCC. The goal is to make sure that every person with combined hearing and vision loss has access to modern distance communication tools and the training necessary to use them. Missouri Assistive Technology (MoAT) is certified by the FCC to administer the project in the state of Missouri.

The program covers a variety of equipment based on the individual participant's distance communication needs. Individuals apply for technology such as an iPhone or iPad or computer with magnification software or a screen-reader. Other equipment may include a neckloop, Braille display, or large-print keyboard.

Contact Brenda with questions about the program, [brenda.whitlock@att.net](mailto:brenda.whitlock@att.net) or 816-655-6700.

## National Organizations for Families

National Family Association for Deaf-Blind  
Address:  
141 Middle Neck Road  
Sands Point, New York 11050  
(800) 255-0411

Contact: Clara Berg  
Title: President  
E-mail: NFADBinfo@gmail.com  
Website: <http://nfadb.org/>



**The National Family Association for Deaf-Blind (NFADB)** is the largest national nonprofit organization serving families of individuals who are deaf-blind. We believe that individuals who are deaf-blind are valued members of society and are entitled to the same opportunities and choices as other members of their community. We exist to empower families of individuals who are deaf-blind and to advocate for their unique needs. Through collaboration and partnerships with organizations and agencies in the deaf-blind community, we:

ADVOCATE for all persons who are deaf-blind of any age and cognitive ability

SUPPORT for all families of persons who are deaf-blind

CONNECT families to information, resources and other families for support and learning

NETWORK & provide training opportunities for families and individuals who are deaf-blind COLLABORATE with other organizations to make sure the voices of consumers and families are at the state and national levels Our website, webinars, podcasts, trainings and online resources provide valuable insight and connections to the deaf-blind world. Become an NFADB member and enjoy all the benefits of our community. We look forward to connecting with you!

## Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults (HKNC)

111 Middle Neck Road  
Sands Point, NY 11050-1299  
(516) 944-8900  
Fax: (516)-944-7302,  
TTY: (516) 944-8637  
<http://www.hknc.org/>



HKNC is a national program that provides evaluation, short-term comprehensive vocational rehabilitation training, work experience training and assistance to deaf-blind clients for job and residential placements.

## Perkins School for the Blind

175 N. Beacon Street Watertown, MA 02172 (617) 972-7220  
Fax: (617) 923-8076

<https://www.perkins.org/school/day-residential/deafblind>

The Deafblind Program is built on a tradition of success that began at Perkins as early as 1837 with the admission of Laura Bridgman, and later with Helen Keller in 1886 -- two of the first individuals who were deafblind to be formally educated. Today, our program continues to be one of the few worldwide dedicated specifically to working with students with deafblindness.

We offer comprehensive educational services to students age 3 to 22 who are deafblind or deaf with additional disabilities, taking a developmental approach to language, communication and curriculum. Many students also participate in our residential program, which enhances their overall educational experience and reinforces learning through consistency.

## **National Family Association for Deaf-Blind**

Address: 141 Middle Neck Road, Sand Point, New York 11050

Email: NFADB@gmail.com

Contact: Clara Berg

Title: President

Summary: The National Family Association for Deaf-Blind (NFADB) is a national organization that advocates for all persons who are deaf-blind, supports national policy to benefit people

## **American Association of the Deaf-Blind (AADB)**

President: Mark Gasaway

Email: mark.gasaway@comcast.net

Video Phone: (866) 957-6153; Phone: (770) 492-8646 (TTY)

Web: <http://www.aadb.org/index.html>

The American Association of the Deaf-Blind (AADB) is a national adult consumer advocacy organization for people who have combined hearing and vision impairments. AADB is open to all persons who are deaf-blind and individuals directly concerned with their well being, including spouses, children, friends, and health care professionals.

The American Association of the Deaf-Blind (AADB) is a national adult consumer advocacy organization for people who have combined hearing and vision impairments. AADB is open to all persons who are deaf-blind and individuals directly concerned with their well being, including spouses, children, friends, and health care professionals.

## **Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults (HKNC)**

111 Middle Neck Road

Sands Point, NY 11050-1299

(516) 944-8900

**Fax:** (516)-944-7302,

**TTY:** (516) 944-8637

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

HKNC is a national program that provides evaluation, short-term comprehensive vocational rehabilitation training, work experience training and assistance to deaf-blind clients for job and residential placements.

## Informational Websites

**A to Z DeafBlindness:** This web site has been developed by James Gallagher, who is himself deafblind. It has links to many other sites and includes such interesting sections as poetry page and videos for training.

<http://www.deafblind.com/>

**A Deafblindness Web Resource:** This web site is an extensive listing of internet resources related to deafblindness.

<http://www.deafblind.co.uk/>

**Boys Town Hospital:** National Center for the Treatment and Study of Ushers Syndrome

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

**CHARGE: CHARGE Syndrome Foundation:** Family web site for information about CHARGE Syndrome and related resources

<http://www.chargesyndrome.org>

**The National Center on Deaf-Blindness:** “Information to nurture, empower, and instruct children who are deaf-blind”

<https://nationaldb.org/>

**National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD):** For information about rare syndromes and disabilities

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

**Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired:** A comprehensive site, with information about a wide variety of topics relating to blindness, visual impairment, deafblindness, and children with multiple disabilities.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/>