

IPVI INSIGHTS

Connecting & Supporting Families Whose Children are Visually Impaired, Including Those with Additional Disabilities

**December
2015**



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Lyle Stauder, President

Hey, folks. Below you're going to find the Blind Beatitudes written by a pianist named Duncan Holmes. For this Holiday edition I thought it was befitting. Enjoy your families, loved ones and friends during this blessed season. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Joyous Kwanzaa!

BLIND BEATITUDES

Blessed are they who refrain from shouting when they speak to me.

Blessed are they who talk directly to me and not to someone else.

Blessed are they who say who they are when entering a room and say hello to me.

Blessed are they who say goodbye to me when they leave so I am not left speaking to the air.

Blessed are they who do not hesitate to say **SEE** when talking to me.

Blessed are they who tap my shoulder gently when they approach from behind or from the side when speaking to me.

Blessed are they who wait for me to extend my hand before shaking it.

Blessed are they who place my hand on an object such as the back of a chair when telling me where it is, so I can seat myself.

Blessed are they who do not leave me in a strange environment without orienting me to it.

Blessed are they who offer me their arm so they can serve as my guide, instead of grabbing, pulling or shoving me.

Blessed are they who come up to me in a large crowd and offer to help me when I appear disoriented.

Blessed are they who do not embarrass me in a group of people by openly referring to my blindness in word or action.

Blessed are they who laugh with me when I tell a joke related to blindness.

Blessed are they who read me the menu and its prices and allow me to order my own meal.

Blessed are they who take me to the cashier so I may pay for my own meal.

Blessed are they who do not distract my guide dog from being my active eyes.

Blessed are they who treat me like a human being, for like it or not, I am a human being.

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IPVI

ANNUAL MEETING



Please be advised that IPVI will hold its annual meeting and officer elections at the Frankfort Public Library. The pertinent information is as follows:

WHAT: IPVI Annual Meeting and Officer Elections

WHEN: January 16, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

WHERE: Frankfort Public Library
21119 S. Pfeiffer Road
Frankfort, IL 60423
815-469-2423

All IPVI families with their children are invited. There will be games and books for the children to occupy themselves while the meeting is going on. Refreshments shall be served.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

THE IPVI BOARD

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**THE CHICAGO LIGHTHOUSE AND IPVI
INVITE YOU TO A
HOLIDAY PARTY FOR TODDLERS AND SMALL CHILDREN
(FROM BIRTH THRU 9 YEARS)**

**AT
THE CHICAGO LIGHTHOUSE
1850 W. Roosevelt Road
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH**

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 P.M.

**FEATURING SANTA CLAUS, IPVI ELVES, HOLIDAY CAROLS, FOOD,
ARTS/CRAFTS
HOLIDAY PRESENTS**

**Birth to Three Families, IPVI Members - Welcome
(Thank you IPVI, Lions Clubs & Community Partners)**

R.S.V.P. Gail Patterson – 312-997-3695



MS. VIC'S VOLLEYS
Victoria Juskie, IPVI Treasurer

MS. VIC VOLLEYS

VOLLEY I

No new members have joined us this month.

VOLLEY II

During this upcoming holiday season, be sure to check out our IPVI November 2015's newsletter for the wonderful toys and gifts our editor has put together. Joan does a great job every year collecting these suggestions for families with low vision children. Thanks for doing that, Joan. Enjoy!

VOLLEY III

I will never forget the first IPVI meeting I attended. My son was less than a year old and I was meeting a group of people whose lives were all touched by visual impairment. I met more people who were blind that day than I had in my whole 37 years before. These people I met were wonderfully engaging and inspiring.

One of the first people I met was a seven-year old girl who was blind. I had brought a bunch of toys for the kids to play with. One of these toys was a talking one that would say the word of the picture the arrow pointed to as well as play music, say the alphabet, name colors, etc.

I was trying to explain how the toy was activated and what it would do, but the girl took it from me and began exploring it with her hands. Every time I tried to explain the toy or tell her what it did, she'd stop me. She didn't want my help nor explanation about it. She clearly was letting me know she didn't need me to show how it would work; she'd figure it

out herself.

In hindsight, I owe that girl an apology, so here goes. I'm sorry, sweetie. I tried to guide your hand thinking -- but unknowingly being mistaken -- that you needed someone to help you because you couldn't see. That's why I'd tried to show you how it worked. I did not know how important it was for an adult to back off and let a child be a child. Let you explore in your way. Forgive me.

So my tip of the day is when you're talking to a child with a disability, talk about their accomplishments just as you would with any other child. Say something like "Hey, that's great! You're getting the hang of it. Wow, listen to that sound. You made that noise by hitting the button. I like the music. Do it again." Etc. Etc.

Don't forget to treat the child like a child first. Low vision children need to be spoken to but also allowed to speak. Engage them often and expect them to learn life skills like eating, dressing, personal hygiene and the like. You'll be amazed at how wonderful your child will grow each day with your help and interaction. Just remember, don't treat them as incapable. If you do, they'll expect someone to help them instead of learning to help themselves. It's a fine line to walk, but you'll manage. And if you ever need to have someone who listens and understands, contact IPVI. We always lend an ear.

Happy Holidays to all!





IPVI's Matthew Benedict Juskie Scholarship Fund

For students who are blind or visually impaired

Any individual intending to continue his/her education at a college, university or trade school and is interested in being considered for the MBSJF, must meet the following criteria: Illinois resident, blind or visually impaired, undergraduate or graduate student, and an IPVI member.

The candidate's application is processed free of charge. The student must mail or fax a written request to receive a copy of the application from IPVI. Then the student must complete the MBSJF Application Form, provide 3 completed Reference Forms, submit medical records or a letter from the vision specialist confirming the condition, and mail them to IPVI. The applicant may attach a 1-page resume of clubs, offices held, or any other pertinent information concerning his/her activity record.

The IPVI Board of Directors will review all scholarship applications and select the winners. IPVI reserves the right to announce such awards in its newsletters and marketing materials.

The MBSJF is funded completely from tax-deductible donations from individuals, companies and corporations who support IPVI's goals. Any individuals or groups wishing to donate to this fund, please forward your tax-deductible donations to IPVI. Thank you for your continued support of IPVI.



To request a scholarship application, please contact the Scholarship Program Coordinator, Vicki Juskie at: 815-464-6162 or vajuskie@aol.com

Odds & Ends & Homeschool in Braille

By Susan Harper



The joy of home school is setting your own school time. You also have the flexibility to change the time based on needs and progress. Three to three-and-a-half hours of day in home school translates into a good 5 to 6 hours of public school with arrive times, bells, class change, recess, lunch, and ready to go. That doesn't even include bus time. The bus picks up the senior next door at 6:45 AM and returns at approximately 3:45. That is one heck of a long day. We use our time doing things like listening to a book and playing outside, getting "GASP" exercise. We also have more time to work on ADLS (activities of daily living skills).

Drill and practice, drill and practice... BORING! Pre-teach, review, redo! However, this is a method that works quite well. So how do you keep it from getting boring? Your enthusiasm is important! Mix up the schedule for the day, let the student pick which subject/activity to start with, get up and move, read a book, make it a game, and Vinnie's and my personal favorite is a reward for good work.

I love rewards for a job well done. Make the reward small, so you can give lots of them. We use pennies (we used to use M&Ms), then Vinnie gets to choose and buy his snack. He then can use his left over pennies to buy M&Ms and to put in a bank. Later the extra pennies go to the bank to get deposited. We use a lot of "Atta Boys", like high fives, "Way to go", and "Great job". You want to reward the intrinsic value of hard work through praise. See how that reward grew into a lesson! We all work for something that is pleasurable, be it a paycheck, time to goof off, or a word, "Good Job".

We are finally learning to read. I thought it would never come. Vinnie has been able to write on the braille for 4 years. At first it was my fingers on his, then it was dictating finger positions of braille cells, then it was dictating words for him to spell, then it was dictating sentences for him to

write. However, tactile discrimination is coming a little slower. It seems like we worked on this forever. Vinnie can read! We finish the patterns books by Thanksgiving! Then we start Grade 1. How cool is that?

Some things we had to teach hand over hand, backing out until he was able to do it with little or no physical or verbal cues/prompts. This is the case with much of our teaching. We break it down into the tiniest parts and then bring it all together. Start simple with familiar and known activities. Then increase the expectations and complexity of the learning until you reach the desired goal.

Vinnie and I for the most part are able to do most of his work without my touching his hands. It meant I had to develop a habit of using verbal directions accurately. He had to learn spatial words and relationships. Try blindfolding a friend or spouse and have them maneuver or find something, following your verbal directions. It is not as easy as you think. He can do the same with braille.

Sometimes, people get frustrated with Vinnie because he isn't doing something fast enough. So they will tend to "help" him. Don't do this. You will create dependence and "Learned Helplessness"—not a good thing. I find even the professionals will do this. I too am learning patience and to start again at the beginning, because just like the rest of us, Vinnie can lose his train of thought.

In the end, my enthusiasm and celebrating small accomplishments is important to keep the learning momentum moving forward.

Find ways to make things interactive. We have a wonderful book called, "Jump, Frog, Jump" by Robert Kalan for ages 3 to 8. I print out the sentence, "Jump, frog, jump!" on paper, and he reads this sentence each time it appears in the book. I have him show me how the frog jumps so he can get away. It gets him moving. I also let him finish the sentences filling in the animal sequence, which is great for memory and sequencing of events in a story. This was one of those happy accidents when my friend sent me the book. He just happens to love it and we live on a pond and have all these animals, especially the flies! LOL.

What about technology? I love my iPad for listening to stories. We just started with the auditory books from the library. Vincent loves these. The challenge is to keep enough books so he's not bored while we return others.

I like the Smart Brailer for some things. There are a couple of drawbacks with the Smart Brailer. The speech is not great and Vinnie tends to model the speech from the Brailer. The Smart Brailer makes mistakes sometimes, so even if you are listening, you have to be looking, too. Vinnie has been correct when the Brailer is wrong. The lines are too short to write numbers in rows of 10, thus lining up the ones, twos, etc. is not possible. It is hard to write a long sentence. It lists the dot sequences for punctuation at the end of the sentence, rather than saying the punctuation. The best part is Vinnie loves his Smart Brailer because he is great with cause-and-effect kinds of electronics.

I like my electric dumb braille for really long tasks and writing numbers. I have a better sense of what my son knows because HE has to tell me. I am better able to repeat information, reinforcing learning as well as appropriate speech patterns.

Now that Vinnie has a good foundation of skills, I am able to use the curriculum I used for our sighted children, by Alpha Omega. You can look it up on line at www.aoademy.com. I have to adapt it, but it gives me a great guide for teaching. For parents who are new to home schooling there are teachers' manuals that give explanations, directions, and an answer key. If you have a good relationship with services for the blind, they can adapt materials for you, just as they would the public school. I prefer to do my own because I know how I'm going to use the material and how Vinnie learns. When the books get longer and more complex, then I'll definitely need help with adaptations. My TVI (teacher of students with visual impairments) comes up with suggestions, as well. Now I'm in my comfort area where I can use materials that I am familiar with and Vinnie and I know enough braille that we can accomplish our learning together. It is a great feeling!

We need to advocate and educate regarding the needs of our children. Advocacy is an ongoing job to obtain services. At least with some school, I don't have the added burden of the energy drain that comes from dealing with the public school piece. Whatever you are advocating for, stick with facts and not emotions when advocating. Cite law, regulation, and testing recommendations. Put everything in writing and keep a copy!

Home schooling is not for everyone. It is a choice. We don't have control over others and many times our own situation. We do have control of our attitude. I use a lot of humor and sarcasm to deal with things. However, sometimes my attitude gets the better of me and I just stop and have a rant or a pity party. That is on me and I continue to work on it. I prefer to put my energy into my children. That is my choice, with the support of my family. Each of us has choices and voices, use them!

Letters from Santa Claus in Braille



Because sometimes, “it takes more than *seeing* to believe.”

It's what every visually impaired child already knows...

Of course he does, this year we're just helping Santa out a little by embossing his letters back to kids.

Think about your favorite dish your family makes at Christmas. Maybe it's Green Bean Casserole, Sweet Potato Pie, or Cranberry Stuffing. Does it feel like you can just about smell it, almost taste it? Can you remember the first time you played in snow? Do you remember how cold it felt- like it was sharp in your hands, freezing your fingers- but still you wanted to play in it? Did you immediately make a snowball and throw it at someone, like somehow you were born knowing that was going to be fun? Christmas is a time for memories, a time for friends and family, laughter and love. It doesn't matter if you can see it with your eyes or not, in fact, you didn't need your eyes for any of those memories above, did you? This year we just want to help more kids feel included at Christmas, that's what this is all about.



We're a company called Braille Works, out there trying to make the world a more readable place. We spend most of the year helping other companies reach out to the visually impaired community and offer many alternatives to regular printed paper and visual documents. If you want to reach out to customers with a visual impairment in a meaningful way, we can help.



About Us

Dreaming of a white Christmas and celebrating the birth of Christ.



Our Reasons

The Christmas Season reminds us to be grateful.

Grateful for family and



The Letter

Merry Christmas,

I was just sitting by the

From North America to the North Pole, we are the jolly little elves working to spread goodwill with our reading materials for people who are blind, visually impaired, or reading impaired. Making The World A More Readable Place™ has been our gracious mission from day one. From our snow-covered workshop, we build creative and innovative accessible document solutions for companies of all sizes.

The Braille Works team is a blizzard of festive entrepreneurs with Christ-centered standards and whimsical industry experts using top-notch technology. With 21 years of consistent growth, companies can be cheerfully confident in knowing we help advance independence and promote opportunities for customers with visual impairments in a caring, timely, and secure manner.

Our Vice President and office Santa Claus Lou Fioritto has been blind since birth, giving us a unique perspective on the needs of people living with blindness or low vision.

Santa's helpers, carolers, wise men, skaters, skiers and even scrooges deserve equal access to information. It's everyone's right. If you or a loved one has a visual

friends; grateful for good health; grateful for food and shelter; grateful for the celebration of the birth of Christ.

"Why Braille Letters from Santa?" We simply wanted to do something special for kids at Christmas, that's it. If you have kids of your own, you already know Christmas is magical and everyone deserves to feel it. We'd love to shatter the notion that only 'seeing is believing' and help bring to life the idea that every child deserves a letter from Santa Claus. Everyone can feel the spirit of Christmas and sometimes, it just might take more than seeing to believe.

Here at Braille Works we also understand the fun side of Christmas. Santa and his elves; flying reindeer; stockings hung by the chimney and a host of other traditions. These are wondrous things that bring smiles and laughter to children around the world. In fulfilling our mission toward "Making the World a More Readable Place", we're bringing 'Letters from Santa' to children who are blind or visually impaired.

It's our desire to bring a little more of that Christmas wonder to your child and

fireplace in the elves' workshop, enjoying a nice cup of cocoa after a long day of making toys, when I thought I would write you a letter. You see, it's getting closer to Christmas Eve every day now and everyone is pitching in around here, making sure we're ready for the big day!

We could really use someone like you around here to help out all the hard workers who have lots of imagination and together we can make anything happen. Besides, somebody's got to keep Rudolph out of the cookies, that little rascal is always getting into mischief... Not like you though, right?

I'm really glad to see your name on my "Nice" list again this year. Every now and then we all have tough days, but if I could just teach more kids to be like you! On days like that, when things are the most difficult, we've just got to keep trying and remember to smile more often, like you do. I really believe that if more people did that, I'd have almost no one on the "Naughty" list.

Keep up your grades in

impairment and would like to receive accessible customer communications, contact your utility companies, banks and health insurance providers and tell them to visit BrailleWorks.com to get started.

Warmest wishes to everyone for a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season!



give him, or her, an opportunity to hear from Santa. At the same time; letting them know that Santa reads braille is a great way to encourage them to develop their braille reading skills. We would love to hear from you and send your child a braille Letter from Santa. We are asking that only families who have a child who is blind or visually impaired take part. Teachers of students who read braille are also encouraged to submit requests.

Another reason we want to do this is because we see this as a way for us to express Gods love to you and to your child in a tangible way. Luke 2:10-11 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Thank you for taking part in Santa Reads Braille and have a blessed Christmas Season.



school and remember that what you're learning really does matter.

I can't wait to drop by your neighborhood this year! If you leave me some cookies and a carrot or two for my reindeer, I'll convince the elves to make you something extra special this year!

Merry Christmas from the North Pole, Santa Claus



New Offer by Computers for the Blind and MarvelSoft Connecting Worlds – One Computer at a Time



Computers for the Blind (CFTB) and MarvelSoft have formed a special agreement to provide Talking Typing Teacher for Windows (TTT) to CFTB Consumers, agencies, and schools for \$50 to be used on CFTB computers by persons who are blind or have low vision.

Through this agreement, a license key for MarvelSoft's product, Talking Typing Teacher (TTT) can be purchased from MarvelSoft for \$50 on CFTB computers, not only for consumers who purchase CFTB computers, but for agencies, schools, and lighthouses who purchase it to be used by a person who is blind or has low vision on a CFTB computer.

Procedure for Agencies and Schools

Agencies and schools who wish to obtain a CFTB computer for a consumer can do so with a purchase order. Once the computer is obtained they can activate a license key for the TTT which has already been installed on a CFTB computer by contacting MarvelSoft at 1-800-987-1231. Once payment of \$50 is authorized through a purchase order or credit card, a 6-digit key will be provided which can be passed along to the consumer to activate the key. No physical media will be sent.

Consumers may likewise purchase a computer from CFTB by calling 214-340-6328. After they receive their computer they can call MarvelSoft at 1-800-987-1231 and state they have received a computer from CFTB and that they wish to activate the copy of TTT that has already been installed. They will be asked for a money order or credit card to collect the \$50. Once payment has been received a 6-digit key will be provided to the customer over the phone and they can activate and start using the software immediately. No physical media will be sent. Please note, this software cannot be installed at this price on previously purchased CFTB computers. Consumers and agencies who wish to purchase TTT at the retail price from MarvelSoft on a previously purchased CFTB computer may do so by contacting MarvelSoft.

CFTB is committed to providing fully accessible refurbished computers to persons who could not otherwise afford a new computer and the expensive software that makes them accessible. We are very pleased with this generous agreement with MarvelSoft which we feel will help open up the world of information technology to persons who are blind or have low vision.

(Continued on page 16)



At American Blind Skiing Foundation

www.absf.org

Interested in Finding out more about ABSF?

Come to our "KICK OFF" Pizza Party



Saturday December 5th 4-7pm
Exchequer Restaurant & Pub
226 S. Wabash Avenue
Chicago, IL 60604

**RSVP to Wally at
(773) 581-0976**

Steamboat
WESTERN TRIP 2016
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO
February 28 – March 6, 2016
5 days skiing
7 days lodging
Spots still available!
Hurry! Going FAST!
Contact Nate Magit
847-347-3688

PIG ROAST FUNDRAISER

Our Pig Roast, this June, was a great success. We had an attendance of 308 people who helped us raise \$12,783! The Polkaholics performed fun, high speed polka while guests enjoyed roasted pig and all of the extras.

Please check the ABSF.org website for future announcements! We'll be planning more FUN events soon!

Come to our GUIDE CLINIC on December 27, 2016 - Wilmot Mt. Learn how to guide blind/visually impaired skiers with classroom and "on hill" training. Newcomers Welcome!

For more information, contact Joe Ferrick (312) 718-1040



THE NEW “LOL SQUARED BRAL Contest” IS HERE!

LAND OF LINCOLN/LAND OF LAKES BRAILLE READERS ARE LEADERS CONTEST FOR KIDS

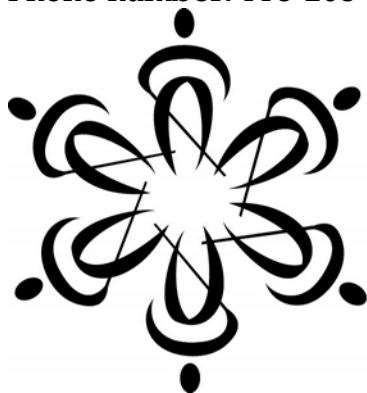
The National Federations of the Blind of Illinois & Minnesota have joined together to offer an annual Illinois/Minnesota Braille Readers Are Leaders contest for kids, grades K-12. Contestants compete to read the most Braille pages, going against other kids in similar grades at school. The contest runs for slightly over 7 weeks, encouraging kids to be proud of their Braille reading ability and to work to improve their skills -- while possibly winning prizes in the process.

A thumbnail sketch of the contest:

- A certifying official (parent, teacher, etc.) should fill out and submit a registration form. This can be done as early as November 1, 2015, and as late as January 22, 2016.
- Kids enter in one of five grade categories: K-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-8, & 9-12.
- Record Braille pages read between December 1, 2015, and January 22, 2016, on a reading log.
- The certifying official should submit the reading log form by February 1, 2016.
- Prizes in each grade category are: first, \$25; second, \$15; third, \$10.
- To get the complete contest rules, registration form, and the reading log form, visit the website, <http://www.nfbfillinois.org>, then go to link “LOL Squared BRAL Contest.”
- Submit the registration form and the reading log as E-mail attachments to ibralcontest@gmail.com.

If you have questions, contact:

Deborah Stein
E-mail: ibralcontest@gmail.com
Phone number: 773-203-1394



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF THE BLIND

Live the life you want.

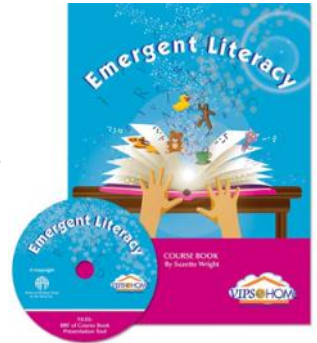
NEW! VIPS@Home: Parent Empowerment Program

Emergent Literacy: [8-00076-00](tel:8-00076-00) — \$19.00

Power At Your Fingertips: [8-00075-00](tel:8-00075-00) — \$19.00

VIPS@Home is a three-model program developed from a partnership between APH and Visually Impaired Preschool Services (VIPS).

Because visual impairment is a low-incidence disability, a family with a young child who is blind may have never known anyone who is blind or visually impaired. **VIPS@Home: Parent Empowerment Program** addresses these needs by offering courses for parents that can be studied in the home, making it possible to get information to families at their convenience. These materials offer opportunities for connecting with professionals and other parents for support.



Course Descriptions (Each course includes a Large Print Course Book and CD-ROM with accessible files including a .brf in Unified English Braille (UEB) and a presentation tool.)

Emergent Literacy

This course helps parents become comfortable reading to their child with a visual impairment as they learn how to make story time come alive. Parents learn how to make a story box, adapt books, and create books of their own.

Power at Your Fingertips

This course provides a concise and family-friendly introduction to braille. Parents can begin to experience the joy of learning braille without the frustration of enormous textbooks. Parents will learn how to bring braille literacy into their everyday routines and discover numerous resources for child-ready braille materials.

COMING SOON! Special Education: Your Journey to a Successful IEP

This course helps demystify conferences and paperwork, and puts parents at ease during the school years ahead.

Recommended ages: Birth to 5 years.

Note: VIPS@Home IS available with Quota funds!

REGISTER FOR YOUR FREE PARENT WORKSHOP TODAY!



Illinois State Board of Education

Gery J. Chico, Chairman
Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent

FRCD's hour long Lunch and Learn Webinars focus on specific aspects of the special education system in Illinois. All webinars are free.

Lunch and Learn Webinar: Navigating the Transition Plan

Tuesday, December 1, 12-1pm

Lunch and Learn Webinar: Transition to Adulthood

Tuesday, December 8, 12-1pm

Six Principles of IDEA

Saturday, December 12, 10am-1pm

The Family Resource Center on Disabilities (FRCD) offers parents of children with disabilities birth to 21 years old, their helpers, relatives, professionals, and interested community members no-cost training and workshops, telephone and e-mail assistance, and resources to help claim their role as the child's most effective and significant advocate.

You are invited to contact FRCD for information, resources, support and training.

1-312-939-3513 | info@frcd.org | www.frcd.org

(Continued from page 12) - New Offer by Computers for the Blind...

Downloadable Fact Sheet About the CFTB offerings

This downloadable fact sheet explains the details about what CFTB offers.

Additional Information

Contact CFTB:

Telephone: 214-340-6328

E-mail: Computers for the Blind

Website: Computers for the Blind

Contact MarvelSoft:

Telephone: 1-800-987-1231

E-mail: MarvelSoft

Website: MarvelSoft.com



It takes a big
heart
to help shape
little
minds.



Physicians

Benjamin H Ticho, MD - Pediatric ROP & Adult Ophthalmology
Jonathan S Buka, MD - Ophthalmology-Glaucoma & Lasik Surgeon
Alexander J Khammar, MD - Pediatric ROP Ophthalmology
Karl Ticho, MD – Ophthalmology
E. Michael Cassidy, MD - Ophthalmology
Roshni A Vasaiwala, MD – Cornea Specialist
Hassan A Shah, MD – Oculofacial Plastic, Orbital and Ophthalmic Surgery
Megan Allen, OD – Optometrist
Birva K Shah, OD – Optometrist

Visit our Locations

10436 Southwest Hwy., Chicago Ridge, IL 60415
P: 708-423-4070 F: 708-423-4216

600 Ravinia Ave., Orland Park, IL 60462
P: 708-873-0088 F: 708-873-5224

333 Chestnut Street, Suite 104, Hinsdale, IL 60521
P: 630-323-4202 F: 630-323-6588

7001 W Archer Ave., Chicago, IL 60638
P: 708-423-4070 F: 708-423-4216

801 Mac Arthur Blvd. Ste. 302, Munster, IN 46321
P: 219-836-7990 F: 219-873-0175

IPVI

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Love
Trust
Laugh
Listen

Be open
Be sincere
Be creative
Be yourself

Be true to yourself
Trust your instincts
Learn from experience
Read between the lines

Don't repeat mistakes
Do things differently!
Don't make assumptions
Don't jump to conclusions
Don't take things personally

Accept what comes to you each day
Open your eyes--beauty surrounds you
Give without expecting anything in return
Ask for advice but make your own decisions

Stuff happens--it's your response that counts
There is a reason for everything that happens
When you feel defensive, examine what you fear
You must do what you think you cannot

Accept change

Keep learning

Friends are precious

Attitude is everything

Life is short--overcome your fears!

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Join **IPVI** or renew your membership today!

The *Illinois Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments* is a state-wide, non-profit organization that enables parents to find information and resources for their children who are blind or visually impaired, including those with additional disabilities.

Your IPVI membership dues or generous contributions help to support all of our ongoing efforts:

- Regular communications which include: workshops, conferences, training seminars, legislative issues, organizational announcements, products, and advice about raising a child who is visually impaired.
- Offers several \$500 college scholarships each year.
- Publishes a resource catalog which includes anything and everything to do with visual impairment.
- Conducts training and support sessions where parents share experiences and ideas.
- Holds fun outings adapted for children with visual impairments at athletic, cultural, educational, and entertainment settings.
- Represents parents of children with visual impairments at conferences, public hearings, and on committees.

What does IPVI do?

- Promotes and provides information through meetings, correspondence, publications, etc., which will help parents meet the special needs of their children with visual impairments.
- Facilitates the sharing of experiences and concerns in order to provide emotional support and relief from feelings of isolation for parents and their families.
- Creates a climate of opportunity for children who are blind in the home, school, and society.
- Fosters communication and coordination of services among federal, state, and local agencies and organizations involved with providing services to people who are visually impaired.
- Advocates on a statewide level for services to children who are visually impaired and their families.
- Keeps members informed about current proposals and actions which impact on children with visual impairments and their families.

Check one:

Parent/Guardian Membership: \$15 per year.

Child(ren)'s Names: _____

Birthdate(s) of my visually impaired child(ren): _____

My child(ren)'s eye condition: _____

I give my permission to release my name to other parents.

Group/Agency Membership \$50 per year.

Extended Family/Friend Assoc. Membership \$15/year.

Medical Specialist \$50 per year.

Scholarship Fund \$10.00

Donation: \$ _____ (tax deductible)

New Membership

Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) - _____

Email: _____

Please enclose this form along with your payment by check to:

IPVI • P.O.Box 316634 • Chicago, IL 60631

Have questions or need more information?

**Call us at
1-815-355-2098**

Illinois Association for Parents of
Children with Visual Impairments
P. O. Box 316634
Chicago, IL 60631

Please contact IPVI to see if you are
up-to-date on your dues at the
address on the left or
1-815-355-2098
Email: ipvi@ipvi.org
www.ipvi.org

IPVI CALENDAR

- ▶ 12/5 **TCL/IPVI Holiday for Small Children and Toddlers** Chicago
- ▶ 12/5 **2015 ABSF Winter Season Kick-Off Party** Chicago
- ▶ 1/16/16 **IPVI Annual Meeting** Frankfort

Please call
1-815-355-2098
for any questions, concerns,
or comments that IPVI can
help you with.

**Newsletter Deadline for
JANUARY 2016 is DECEMBER 2015**



**Check Out
www.ipvi.org**

Calendar of Events!
News and Updates!
Useful Links to Web Sites!
And more...