

IPVI INSIGHTS

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

**February
2016**



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Lyle Stauder, President



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: February 27, 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.

THE IPVI BOARD

MAKING SENSE

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Vision Clarity-Why Does It Change?

Have you ever noticed that on some days your vision is clear and on others it is blurry? A recent **blog post** by Enhanced Vision explains why this happens. Eye strain from long periods of computer use can cause blurry vision. Make sure to take breaks and use the 20/20/20 rule. After viewing a computer screen for 20 minutes, look at something at a distance of 20 feet for 20 seconds to help relieve eye strain. Depending on your particular eye condition, sunshine can have a positive or negative affect on your vision. Make sure to wear blue light-blocking sunglasses and a hat with a visor to protect your eyes. Stress is another factor that can cause blurred vision. When we are under stress, our pupils dilate letting in more light resulting in blurred vision. Exercise, deep breathing and a good diet can help eliminate stress symptoms. Sleep can also have an impact on our vision. If you received less than five hours of sleep in a night, it may be difficult to focus and you may experience spasms, irritation or dryness. Of course, if you have any sudden changes in your vision, consult with your eye care professional immediately.

Reprinted from MAKING SENSE, February 2016, Second Sense, Beyond vision loss, 65 East Wacker Place, Suite 1010, Chicago, IL 60601, 312-236-8569, www.second-sense.org.



MS. VIC'S VOLLEYS
Victoria Juskie, IPVI Treasurer

MS. VIC'S VOLLEYS

VOLLEY I

No new members have joined us this month.

VOLLEY II

As words of encouragement, remember:

*If you fail, never give up because
FAIL
means "First Attempt In Learning."*

*And end is not the end. In fact,
END
means "Effort Never Dies."*

*If you get no as an answer, remember,
NO
means "Next Opportunity"*

So let's be positive.

These words segue into the idea I want to convey to parents with children who are born with an issue, whether it's vision or another medical condition. Your child may not meet the typical developmental milestones. However, it doesn't mean s/he won't eventually. Keep a positive mental attitude in dealing with your situation. Even though it's harder, it is worth the effort. You are the one who molds the way your child reacts to the world. If you stay positive, your child will grow up being positive. That attitude is important because otherwise, s/he might just learn that giving up is the only way, and we all know this is not how one should live. We will all have ups and downs but coming out of it with the right perspective will make your child believe s/he's worth the effort.

So my tip of the day is to keep trying even though it's harder. Don't let the accomplishments of other kids deter you from believing in your child. You may have to adjust the pace but keep them in the race. If you remember that, you will be amazed at just how well they succeed.

Stay warm and realize, next month it will be Spring already!



Every child has...

...the right to be
respected
...the right to **dream**
...the right to be loved and
cared for
...gifts that should be recognized and
valued
...the right to achieve their God-Given
potential
...the need for
unconditional love



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

Tips for Working Effectively with Your Special Education Advocate or Parent Consultant

By Elizabeth Bostic, Parent Consultant

Being the parent of a child with special needs comes with a unique set of challenges, not the least of which is advocating for them in their school. Navigating the special education system, deciphering the law, and interacting with school personnel can be emotionally challenging. Some parents have found help by working with a trained Parent Consultant or Advocate. Hiring a Special Education Parent Consultant can provide you with expertise regarding the law, strategies for working collaboratively with your child's Team, and the ability to address your child's needs based on facts, not emotions. Here are some tips on how to partner with your Parent Consultant most effectively.

Communicate, Communicate, Communicate!

In order to be most effective, your Parent Consultant will need access to all assessments, progress reports, and IEPs that have been generated in the recent past. Prepare a chronology of important school related occurrences with the dates for the last two years to give your Parent Consultant. Write down your concerns and share them with him or her. The more data you provide the better! Keep your Parent Consultant in the loop regarding ongoing relevant events and/or interactions with school personnel. This will enable your Parent Consultant to provide you with the best possible advice and ensure that he or she is not surprised by information raised for the first time during a Team meeting.

As the parent, you are the expert on your child. No one knows your child better than you. Be open, direct, and clear about your goals expectations for your child. Help your Parent Consultant to see your child as you do so he or she can advocate effectively for you.

Always Be Respectful

It is essential that you be respectful toward all mem-

bers of your child's IEP Team. When emotions run high, keep them in check; focus on your child and the important issues and facts. Having a difference of opinion is never an excuse for losing control. Always keep the big picture in view and don't allow your emotions to get in the way of what is in the best interests of your child. Agree to disagree.

Trust Your Parent Consultant's Expertise

Your Parent Consultant will give you a realistic view of what to expect and make recommendations on how to best work with your Team to address your child's unique needs.

At times, your Parent Consultant may tell you something you don't understand. Don't be afraid to ask questions until you are clear about the reasoning behind the recommendations. Thoughtfully consider his or her input when determining your next step. Should you choose a different approach, your Parent Consultant will appreciate being informed so he or she can continue to support you effectively.

Have Realistic Expectations

Your Parent Consultant can assist you to identify the most appropriate accommodations, services and placement based on the data and assessments. He or she will help you work with your Team to ensure your child receives what the law guarantees, a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. While some services or methodologies may be ideal, they may not be necessary to facilitate effective progress. Similarly, what a child could benefit from does not always equate to an essential service. You want what is best for your child and your Parent Consultant can guide you to ensure that your child is positioned for success.

Reprinted from NEWSLINE, Fall 2015, Federation for Children With Special Needs, The Schrafft Cen-

ter, 529 Main Street, Suite 1M3, Boston, MA 02129,
617-236-7210 Voice/TTY,
www.fcsn.org, info@fcsn.org.



FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Informing, Educating, Empowering Families



The American Council of the Blind (ACB) 2016 Scholarship Program

Deadline: March 1, 2016

The American Council of the Blind (ACB) annually awards approximately twenty scholarships ranging in amounts from \$1,000 to \$3,500 to vocational, entering freshmen, undergraduate, and graduate students, as well as full-time employees who are attending college part time (work 32 hours or more per week). Students who are legally blind, maintain a 3.3 GPA and are involved in their school/local community may apply. Applications and all supporting materials must be received by 11:59 pm Central Standard Time on March 1, 2016. To read the scholarship application instructions and complete an on-line application, please visit: www.acb.org/scholarship.



National Federation of the Blind 2016 National Scholarship Program www.nfb.org/scholarships

Deadline: March 31, 2016

Are you a legally blind college student living in the United States or Puerto Rico? This annual program offers 30 scholarships worth from \$3,000 to \$12,000 to eligible students, from high school seniors beginning their freshman year in the fall semester of 2016, up through grad students working on their PhD degrees. These merit scholarships are based on academic excellence, community service, and leadership. In addition to the money, each winner will receive assistance to attend the July 2016 NFB annual convention in Orlando, Florida providing an excellent opportunity for high-level networking with active blind persons in many different professions and occupations. To apply, read the rules and the Submission Checklist, complete the official 2016 Scholarship Application Form (online or in print), supply all required documents, and request and complete one interview by an NFB affiliate president (unless the president requests a later date). Applications are accepted through March 31. Go to www.nfb.org/scholarships for complete rules and requirements.

NFB of Illinois State Scholarships:

Our Illinois Affiliate also awards state scholarships beginning at \$1,250. We awarded over \$10,000 in scholarships in 2015 plus accessible technology to our winners. Please see www.nfbfillinois.org to apply.

"Every day we raise the expectations of blind people in the National Federation of the Blind. Live the Life You Want."

Patti Gregory Chang
National Federation of the Blind of Illinois,
Treasurer
NFB Scholarship Committee Chair
pattischang@gmail.com
NFB of IL: www.nfbfillinois.org
NFB: www.nfb.org



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF THE BLIND

The Chicago Lighthouse 2016 Scholarship Program

Deadline: March 31, 2016

The Scholarship Program awards scholarships to blind, visually impaired and disabled college and graduate students. Since its establishment in 2004, our Scholarship Program has supported more than 400 students with significant scholarships to pursue their dreams of college education. Scholarship funding may be used for education-related expenses, including tuition, technology, readers, books, classroom materials, housing, transportation and other educational items approved by the Scholarship Committee.

Application Submission Materials

1. Application forms (please send as a separate Microsoft Word attachment)
2. Personal essay (please send as a separate Microsoft Word attachment)

3. Eye report (this document **MUST** be mailed)
4. Two letters of recommendation (please have the individuals writing the letters of recommendation send it to the scholarship coordinator's email as a Microsoft Word attachment)
5. Financial statement of need (please send as a separate Microsoft Word attachment)
6. Official transcripts from the school the applicant is currently attending (this document **MUST** be mailed)

Each of these items is discussed in further detail in the Scholarship Application document posted each January. For applicants interested in applying for the 2016-17 school year, please check back in January 2016 for updated application information. The deadline to submit is typically the last week of March.

For more information, please contact:

Maureen Reid
Scholarship Coordinator
(312) 666-1331 ext. 3655

<http://chicagolighthouse.org/program/lighthouse-scholarship/>



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

**American Foundation for the Blind
2016 Scholarships
www.afb.org**

Deadline: April 1, 2016

Helen Keller was a driving force behind the American Foundation for the Blind, which offers around eleven annual scholarships ranging from \$500.00 – \$1,500.00. Interested individuals may use a single application form to apply for one or more scholarships. These prizes differ in specificity, scope, amount, and major requirements.

One AFB award is the Rudolph Dillman Memorial Scholarship. This award is \$2,500 given out to four students who are doing either their undergraduate or graduate studies in rehabilitation or a subject related to education for those with disabilities. Another is the Gladys C. Anderson Memorial Scholarship, which is \$1,000 given to a female student studying classical or religious music. There are several other scholarships given to students studying physical sciences, computer science, literature, and more.

In addition to a completed scholarship application form, proof of US citizenship and legal blindness is required. Also required is a personal essay outlining goals, work experience, how the student proposes to use the funds, etc. Official transcripts, documentation showing proof of acceptance to a post-secondary institution, and two letters of recommendation complete the list of necessary supporting documentation.

To see application, go to
www.afb.org/info/afb-2015-scholarship-application/5



**Blind Service Association's
Scholarship Program**

Deadline: April 1, 2016

It is never too early to plan your application for a Blind Service Association's Scholarship Program. Last year's students received scholarships as high as \$4,000. Applications for all qualified blind and visually impaired college students will be available January 1, 2016. Students must be enrolled or planning to be enrolled in graduate school, undergraduate, community college, or trade school in Fall 2016. In addition to a complete application, students will need two letters of recommendation, official transcripts, personal statement, eye report, and state ID. The deadline is April 1. For an application, call 312-236-0808 or e-mail bgreen@blindserviceassociation.org.

Bill Green
Youth and Senior Programs Coordinator
Blind Service Association
17 N State St. suite 1050
Chicago IL, 60602
(312) 236-0808
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bgreen@blindserviceassociation.org
Like us at:
www.facebook.com/BSAYOUTHCONNECT

www.blindserviceassociation.org





Sweets for SIGHT

LIGHTING UP little lives

Thursday, February 4, 2016

6:00pm-9:00pm

DeLux Bar & Grill

669 N. Milwaukee Ave.

TICKETS \$40 in advance
\$50 at the door
\$350 for a group of 10

Tickets include 2 complimentary drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and sweets.

PURCHASE TICKETS AT: <http://tinyurl.com/S4Stickets>
or call David DeBoer at (312) 997-3668.

Proceeds benefit The Chicago Lighthouse programs for *children* who are blind or profoundly visually impaired.



The Chicago Lighthouse
for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired



STAR NET Region VI and the Lewis University College of Education will hold their ninth annual Early Childhood Today Conference at the Lewis University Romeoville Campus on March 2, 2016. This conference is for parents, caregivers and professionals who shape the lives of children ages birth to 5 years old. Workshops will address six themes of social/emotional, speech and language, accommodations, early literacy, health and wellness and best practices.

Please visit www.lewisu.edu/starnet for details and registration information.

If you have any questions please contact our office at starnet@swcccase.org or at 708-342-5370.

Register soon! Thank You!

STAR NET | (708) 342-5370 | starnet@swcccase.org |

6020 West 151st Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452

ACCESS TO WEBSITES

Donna W. Hill

Can you take a minute to help with one of the biggest problems we blind people deal with in our modern world? It's access to websites. It is adversely impacting our lives in education, employment, financial and healthcare privacy and any other area you can think of. Maybe you already know about this, but it's so vital that I couldn't take the chance and just assume.

The following is a letter to the editor, which I sent to our local papers. It concerns a Whitehouse petition asking President Obama to release the regulations that would make the internet accessible to blind people. The technology has been around for years, and the President promised to do this in 2010. Now, he's pushing it back to

2018, after he leaves office.

The petition is free and simple to sign. The deadline is coming up soon - Feb. 11th. It's at:

<https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/direct-us-department-justice-promptly-release-ada-internet-regulations>

If you could share it with your friends and networks, that would be greatly appreciated. If you want further information, please contact me. There is also a recent post about this issue at:

<http://donnawhill.com/2016/01/22/life-without-accessible-websites-and-easy-fix-sign-petition-wake-up-obama/>



for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT



presented by: The Chicago Lighthouse Associate Board

Wednesday, March 9, 2016
10:30 a.m.

Northmoor Country Club
820 Edgewood Rd., Highland Park

TICKETS

\$75 in advance | \$100 at the door

A light breakfast and lunch will be served.

Please bring your MahJongg set, Canasta cards,
Bridge cards or other games to enjoy!

For questions, please contact Haley Baer at Haleybaer@aol.com

Donations of gently used eyeglasses will be greatly appreciated.





The National Federation of the Blind of Illinois Presents a Seminar for Parents and Teachers

“Curriculum and Beyond”

Friday, April 15, 2016

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. –
Chicago Marriott Midway

On Friday, April 15, 2016, the National Federation of the Blind of Illinois will hold its teachers’ seminar at the Chicago Marriott Midway, 6520 S. Cicero Ave., Chicago, Il. 60638. The seminar will be a day-long event consisting of meetings for teachers of children with visual impairment or blindness. Topics will include teaching children with multiple impairments, learning in and out of the classroom, technology, physical activity, and encouraging others to foster independence.

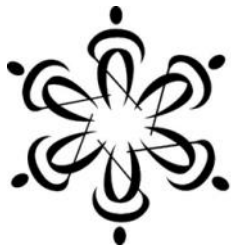
Our keynote speaker will be Carlton Anne Cook Walker, Manager of Braille Education Programs at the NFB Jernigan Institute in Baltimore.

The National Federation of the Blind (NFB) is a 50,000-member organization that works to insure the full participation of blind people in all aspects of society.

For more information about the seminar, please contact Debra Kent Stein at (773)-203-1394 or dkent5817@att.net or Denise R. Avant at (773)-991-8050 or davant1958@gmail.com. Vision impairment can be reduced to a nuisance with proper training. Please come and work with teachers, students, and mentors with a positive outlook on blindness.

For more information on NFB go to www.nfb.org.

For more information on our Illinois Affiliate of NFB, go to www.nfbfillinois.org.



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF THE BLIND

Live the life you want.

The National Federation of the Blind of Illinois Presents a Seminar for Parents and Teachers

“Curriculum and Beyond”

Saturday, April 16, 2016

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. –

Chicago Midway Marriott Midway

On Saturday, April 16, 2016, the National Federation of the Blind of Illinois will hold concurrent annual Spring Seminars for Students and Parents at the Chicago Marriott-Midway Hotel, 6520 S. Cicero Ave., Chicago, Il. 60638. These seminars will be a day-long event consisting of meetings for visually impaired students, teachers and parents of children with visual impairment or blindness. Topics will include socialization, education, assistive technology, development of requisite blindness skills, and much more.

Our keynote speaker is Carlton Anne Cook Walker, Manager of Braille Education Programs at the NFB Jernigan Institute in Baltimore.

Children ages three to twelve are invited to participate in Kids Camp. This all-day program will provide children with the chance to try new activities and to meet other young people who are also visually impaired or blind. Siblings of your visually impaired child are very welcome.

The student seminar is appropriate for anyone age 13 and older who is a student or interested in student issues. This seminar is run by our Illinois Association of Blind Students. We will have demonstrations of adaptive sports opportunities such as yoga and judo. Our guest speaker for the yoga session will be Yarina Liston, a certified yoga, dance, and judo instructor, and teacher at Loyola University.

Cost: \$30 for parents' seminar; \$15 for our student seminar; and \$10 for ages 3 to 12, including box lunches. Online registration is due no later than March 31, 2016. To register online, go to www.nfbfillinois.org. Overnight accommodations are available for \$109 at the Chicago Midway Marriott by calling 708-594-5500. Indicate that you are asking for the National Federation of the Blind rate. Hotel registration is due no later than March 31, 2016. For those traveling from outside the Chicago-metro area, financial assistance may be available. Please apply through the Chappell-Dennis Memorial Awards at www.nfbfillinois.org on or before March 18, 2016.

For more information, please contact Debbie Kent Stein at (773) 203-1394 or dkent5817@att.net. Vision impairment can be reduced to a nuisance with proper training. Please come and learn how.

For more information on NFB go to www.nfb.org.

For more information on our Illinois Affiliate of NFB, go to www.nfbfillinois.org.

EL Vista Early Intervention Program/ Cohort #2

Statewide Illinois TVI's and Orientation and Mobility Specialists,

The Illinois State University EL VISTA program, is currently inviting applicants for it's second of four cohorts. The one year, five-course sequence of study is aimed at increasing the number of professionals qualified to provide Early Intervention for young children who are blind or visually impaired. Coursework will begin with 13 classes over the summer of 2016, beginning late June and throughout July, with locations on the ISU campus in Normal, and in Naperville. After the summer semester, there are 6 Saturday classes from September to May, and another series of summer classes during the summer of 2017. The program is designed to allow professionals to maintain their current teaching job while attending classes and completing the practicum experiences. Upon completion of the coursework and practicum, candidates would receive a Graduate Specialization Certificate: Early Intervention Vision Specialist from Illinois State University, and will have the core knowledge competency needed to apply for the early intervention credentials in Illinois.

We hope that you are interested in applying. Information about minimum admissions criteria, the courses and practicum, are all located on our website at https://education.illinoisstate.edu/cert_vision/admissions/. The EL VISTA brochure is also located there, along with a link to "APPLY NOW".

Mindy Ely, the Program Coordinator, and I will both be at the IAER conference February 17-19 in Schaumburg. We will have a one day preconference on CVI with Dr. Amanda Lueck, will have a table in the exhibit hall, and will conduct a session about EL VISTA where attendees can hear directly from the EL VISTA students of the first Cohort. We hope that you might be able to join us at these IAER events. Go to il.aerbiv.org to register for the preconference and/or conference.

Let us know if you have any questions, and we hope that you will consider applying for EL VISTA, Cohort #2.

Gail Olson, Project Co-Coordinator
EL VISTA
Illinois State University, Department of Special Education
gcolson@ilstu.edu
http://education.illinoisstate.edu/cert_vision/

EL VISTA is supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education (H325K140108).



**FREE SPECIAL EDUCATION
TRAINING FOR PARENTS**

FRCD



Family Resource Center on Disabilities
Providing parents of children with disabilities with information, training, assistance, and support.

Knowledge is power. Learn how to navigate the special education system through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This the law that protects students with disabilities utilizing special education services. As a parent, you are your child's best advocate and an equal member of the IEP Team. The more you know about IDEA, the better equipped you are to advocate for your child's right to a free appropriate public education.

Navigating the IEP Process
Saturday, February 13, 10am-1pm

Skills for Effective Parent Advocacy
Saturday, February 20, 10am-1pm

Transition to Post Secondary Education
(Preparing for your child for life after High School)
Saturday, February 27, 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
20 East Jackson Blvd., Room 300
Chicago, IL 60604

**ODLSS PARENT
EMPOWERMENT EXPO**



ODLSS

Office of **DIVERSE LEARNER**
SUPPORTS + SERVICES

ODLSS upcoming event - please save the date

Saturday, March 19, 2016

National Teachers Elementary Academy
55 W. Cermak Rd., Chicago, Illinois 60616
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

This annual event is for parents of diverse learners to learn about ODLSS special education supports and services, and receive information about local and community resources.

NEXT STEPS Training Series

How to Advocate for Your Child with Special Needs Transitioning to Adulthood

Free trainings that will help you prepare for your child's next steps after high school

Do you know your child's goals after high school? Is your child's transition plan in alignment with their post secondary school goals? Are you aware of the types of services available to your child once he/she completes high school?

NEXT STEPS: This transition series consists of trainings for families to provide for a young person's transition from school to adult life in the community. This training series will focus on skills and information you will need to work with your child's school and post secondary service providers.

Saturday, Feb 27, 2016

2:00PM - 4:00PM

Special Education:

What Parents Need to Know

Waukegan Library, Classroom A
128 North County Street
Waukegan, IL 60085

Saturday, March 19, 2016

2:00PM - 4:00PM

NEXT STEPS: Making it in the Real
World/ Roadmaps to the Future
Waukegan Library, Classroom A
128 North County Street
Waukegan, IL 60085

Saturday, April 23, 2016

2:00PM - 4:00PM

NEXT STEPS: Planning Ahead:
Future Finances and Supports
Waukegan Library, Classroom A
128 North County Street
Waukegan, IL 60085

Saturday, May 11, 2016

2:00PM - 4:00PM

NEXT STEPS: Adult Life
Accessing Services
Waukegan Library, (TBA)
128 North County Street
Waukegan, IL 60085

Register online at www.frcd.org or call Family Resource Center on Disabilities at (312)939-3513.



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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SPANISH TRANSLATOR

Noelia Gamino
708-655-2747





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**

IPVI CALENDAR

- ▶ **2/4** **Sweets for Sight** **Chicago**
- ▶ **2/27** **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
MARCH is FEBRUARY 15**



**Check Out
www.ipvi.org**

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