

IPVI INSIGHTS

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

**January
2014**



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 MBJSF, 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 MBJSF 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 MBJSF 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: 1-815-355-2098 or vajuskie@aol.com

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Sweets for SIGHT

LIGHTING UP little lives

The Chicago Lighthouse Junior Board and PricewaterhouseCoopers presents:

Sweets for Sight

Thursday, February 6, 2014 | 6:00pm-10:00pm
DeLux Bar & Grill, 669 N. Milwaukee Ave.

\$40 per ticket in advance
\$50 at the door,
\$350 for 10 tickets

Ticket includes 2 drinks, appetizers and sweets

Proceeds from the evening will directly benefit Lighthouse programs for children who are blind or visually impaired. The Chicago Lighthouse has a comprehensive set of programs for children including child development, a preschool, the Birth to Three Early Intervention program, and Youth Transition services.

The Chicago Lighthouse Junior Board (JB) is a diverse group of young professionals who share a passion for helping people who are blind or visually impaired. Through fundraising events, volunteer service, advocacy, community outreach and education, the JB impacts the lives of both those with and without visual disabilities.

Contact: Jeremy Ruthstein
312-997-3662 ext. 3663
Dominic.Calabrese@chicagolighthouse.org

MS. VIC'S VOLLEYS

Victoria Juskie, IPVI Treasurer

VOLLEY I

Since our last publication, the following families, individuals, and/or organizations became members:

No new members have joined this month.

VOLLEY II

I spent two hours crying the other day and I could not have been happier. Why was I crying you ask? Well, we were invited to Matthew's Fall Sports Award Ceremony, which will be his last one for high school. He ended up being called on stage three times during the ceremony. The first one was for having a 4.0 average during golf season – highest on his team; the second, for being a 3-year varsity athlete; and the third for having made All Conference, one of only two from his school during that golf season.

After the ceremony, we then went into break-out sessions where each sports team, their parents and coaches had a small meeting to pass out their school letters for their jackets, receive their plaques and certificates, etc. During this session, the coach also showed Matthew's video from the WGN Channel 9 Cover Story about his golfing to these other parents and reiterated how proud the school was of his accomplishments. So, as I said, for two hours I cried tears of joy. They just came streaming out as I sat there. This all came from the boy whose original prognosis was less than less than stellar.

So my tip of the day is for new parents especially, don't get discouraged. Yes, it is a shock when you realize your child is differently abled. It makes you feel like your world is crashing around you. I lived in a fog for three

years before I came out of my nosedive. All during that time, we did everything we could to find out about Aniridia. We researched and spoke to different doctors. While we went every six months for ultrasounds of his kidneys to ensure he didn't have cancer also. Physical therapy for fine and gross motor skills then occurred. The Chicago Lighthouse gave us services to teach us how to teach our son. Then Apraxia came about and more services and training were required.

Once pre-school started at three, he began receiving daily visits from a vision itinerant. We began Braille training and the years rolled on.

Fast forward to today and we are now embarking on the trip through college. It appears I have my first Redbird, so ISU here we come. The bottom line here is that time will fly quickly, and there will be times you don't get to catch your breath. Keep good notes of your research, doctors' and therapists' visits, learn about what it is your child needs so you can do your best to get it for him/her, and then remember to treat your child like any other.

As a final note, make sure to take lots of pictures and videos so that when it comes time to watch your child graduate, you'll have lots of memories stored up for future reviews. In the interim, enjoy.



ASK M@



ASK M@

Happy New Year everyone!

I hope everyone had a Holly Jolly Christmas (or other holiday season) and New Year celebration; hopefully, receiving all the

toys and gifts that were asked for. I know I had a wonderful Christmas. The thing that I cannot believe is the fact that this was my last high school Christmas. As I am going through senior year, time just seems to be going by so fast. I took my last high school finals already. One may say, "Well, you still have one more semester, right?" This is true, however, Lincoln-Way allows you to opt out of your senior year second-semester finals, which is really nice. This is contingent though on the fact that you have to maintain an A or a B in that class. In addition to all of that, the bowling season is coming to an end quickly, which is very sad. But at least this semester I am doing a version of a work program with school where I get out early to go work, which is a very nice perk. Also, I have pretty much decided on Illinois State University as my college choice. I really fell in love with the campus and also the business major curriculum that I plan to take. It almost seems that it was written specifically for me. This month's being the time of the famed New Year Resolution's, I would really like to discuss a topic in which I am trying to get better.

Personal discipline is a very important thing to have. This is essential for me now that I have a little bit more independence with my school-work program. However, with taking this option, I was not able to fit in a workout class during school. This means that after school, I must find time to get to the gym on a religious

basis to try to stay healthy. This has always been a struggle for me. I am now though starting to understand the importance of building these routines, especially in light of the fact that in just a few months I will be at college with no class forcing me to get to the gym. I will have to be able to have that self-motivation to keep at it, even when I do not feel up to the task. On another topic, I am currently searching for a more rigorous job.

I would like one that has more of a definite work schedule. With my current job, as nice as it is to have a flex schedule, it becomes too easy to say, "I'm not feeling up to it today," and then end up not going. Unfortunately, in the real world, it does not work that way. So this is my reasoning behind getting a different job.

So, basically, in this last semester I am really working hard on preparing myself for "after high school life." I want to be confident when heading off on my own that I am independent and will be able to manage well by myself.

With all this being said, I am challenging each and every one of you to put your New Year's Resolution into action and force yourself to keep it going. We all know how hard it is to do that but challenge yourself to make you a better person because of it.

"I look forward to talking to you next month and hope that 2014 is treating you well".

M@

THIS YEAR

I will make a genuine and dedicated effort to





PARENTS' NIGHT

at

**The Chicago Lighthouse North
222 Waukegan Road
Glenview Illinois 60025**

- 3rd Tuesday of each month, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm
- Parents of children ages Birth-6
- Grandparents, other adult family members and friends are welcome
- Child care will be provided

January 21, 2014

The Doctor is In: Dr. Kara Crumbliss, Director of Low Vision Services at The Chicago Lighthouse

- The role of the Low Vision Optometrist
- Low vision devices
- Various eye conditions will be discussed
- Time for questions

February 18, 2014

How To Be An Effective Advocate For Your Child

A trained Parent Advocate from Family Resource Center On Disabilities (FRCD) will be the presenter. FRCD provides parents of children with disabilities with information, training, assistance and support.



Don't miss these informative, supportive, and bonding evenings!

RSVP TO:

**Pam Stern, Manager of Youth and Adult Enrichment Programs 847.510.2054 or
847.510.6200**

pam.stern@chicagolighthouse.org



**The Chicago Lighthouse Vision Rehabilitation Center at
222 Waukegan Road Glenview, IL 60025**

Offers Early Childhood Enrichment Programs led by a Teacher of the Visually Impaired



Food Explorers Group

**Mondays, January 27 – March 10, 2014 (six weeks) – no class on February 17
10:00am – 11:00am
Ages: 1-6 years old
Fee: \$48**

Sensory activities with a focus on food exploration are the basis for this series of classes, targeted at all five senses. Our rich environment will focus on developing skills through taste, touch, movement, listening and functional vision. This program offers a well-rounded appreciation of the arts through sensory experiences.



Social Group

**Wednesdays, January 22 – February 26, 2014 (six weeks)
11:00am – 12:30pm
Ages: 2-6 years old
Fee: \$48**

Children will have the opportunity to build long-lasting friendships through organized play that aims for positive group interaction. This lively group will also eat a small meal together to further enhance social development and maximize each child's potential. Families are asked to bring their own lunch. An interesting sensory food item will be provided.



Literacy Group

**Thursdays, January 23 – February 27, 2014 (six weeks)
1:00pm – 2:00pm
Ages: 2-6 years old
Fee: \$48**

Are you looking for ways to incorporate literacy into your child's world? This program will provide activities for children to access the world of literature through tactile and auditory books, puppets, songs, dance and exposure to Braille.

**** Please visit the [Toy and Book Lending Library](#) before or after each class. ****

**** Parents/caregiver, siblings, and peer friends are welcome to participate in any of the groups. ****

**** Scholarships are available -- please inquire for more information. ****

To register, please contact:

Marla Garstka, Director of Children's Programs at The Chicago Lighthouse North

T: 847.510.2053 or 847.510.6200

marla.garstka@chicagolighthouse.org



Join Us!

2014 IAER Vision Conference
February 13-14, 2014

Hyatt Regency Schaumburg Chicago
1800 East Golf Road
Schaumburg, IL 60173

The 2014 IAER Vision Conference Registration form is **NOW AVAILABLE**. Please download the form and submit it and payment to: IAER Vision Conference, Illinois School for the Visually Impaired, Cindy Miller, 658 East State St, Jacksonville, IL 62650

Please direct any questions to George Abbott
Conference Chair, at gabbott@afb.net

Hotel reservations can be made at
<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ILAER2014>



You're Invited

Conferences for Illinois Parents of Children with Vision Loss

Parents of children ages birth through twenty-one are encouraged to join us for in-depth discussions of useful topics. Learn from experts in the field as well as from fellow parents.

The Conference Program

- **Friendship**

In this session we will explore how children with vision loss deal with friendships and socialization. What are the challenges and how can we as parents help?

- **Adapting the Home Environment**

This session will take us on a tour of a typical family home. During that tour the presenter will show different adaptations that can be done to prompt independent living skills for your child and make life easier for a child with vision loss. Sometimes the smallest change can make the biggest impact.

- **ISVI at a Glance**

Illinois School for the Visually Impaired

A representative from ISVI will present on what they have to offer for the entire state of IL. You don't need to attend Illinois School for the Visually Impaired to take advantage of all their wonderful events. Information will include academics, extra curricular, Summer camp information, Opening Doors and many other opportunities provided at ISVI.

- **Panel of Students with Vision Loss**

We will have a panel of students who have vision loss along with one of their parents. We will hear what the biggest challenges are and how they overcame those challenges. This is a great opportunity for you to ask those questions you've been wondering about.

Southern Illinois Vision Conference

Saturday, March 8, 2014

Mt. Vernon Primary Center

401 N 30th Street

Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

Northern Illinois Vision Conference

Saturday, April 12, 2014

Center for Sight & Hearing

8038 MacIntosh Lane

Rockford, IL 61107

Time: 9:00 Check-in, 9:30 – 3:15 Conference Program

Planning committee: Center for Sight & Hearing; Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments; Hearing and Vision Early Intervention Outreach; Franklin-Jefferson Special Education; Illinois School for the Visually Impaired; Northwestern Illinois Association; Rockford Public Schools; Illinois Machine Sublending Agency (Illinois Heartland Library System); StarNET Regions I & III; StarNET Region IV; TransVision; Illinois Talking Book Outreach Center (Reaching Across Illinois Library System); Project Reach: IL Deaf-Blind Services and Parents of children with vision impairment.



Functional Hearing and Vision Screening Training

Free HVEIO Opportunities

March 18, 2014

Brookens Administration Center, Champaign
Trainers Jane Redmon and Nancy Scott

March 19, 2014

Advanced Medical Transport, Peoria
Trainers Nancy Scott and Jane Redmon

March 24, 2014

ISRC, Northbrook
Trainers Laura Chesky and Mindy Ely

(All training times are 9:00 – 3:00 unless otherwise noted)

Please register online at www.illinoisdeaf.org/Outreach
(Click on HVEIO, then Events)

CPDU 5 credit hours

EI 5 credit hours Assessment

Description:

In vision, participants will learn how and who to screen as well as who is at risk of vision impairments, warning signs, types of screening tools, and when/how to refer for further assessment/services. In hearing, participants will learn the types and causes of hearing loss, its impact on development, communication and language use of a screening questionnaire, when/how to screen, and when/how to refer for further assessments and services.

Hearing and Vision Early Intervention Outreach
Illinois School for the Deaf and Illinois School for the Visually Impaired
125 Webster Avenue
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650

bit.ly/HVEIO



1-312-939-3513 | info@frcd.org |
www.frcd.org
20 East Jackson Blvd., Room 300
Chicago, IL 60604

REGISTER FOR YOUR FREE PARENT WORKSHOP TODAY!

Space is limited; registration is mandatory. Please visit www.frcd.org or call 312-939-3513 for registration and workshop location.

Skills for Effective Parent Advocacy
Saturday, January 11, 10am-1pm

Navigating the IEP Process
Saturday, January 18, 10am-1pm

Transition Series: Making It in the Real World
Saturday, January 25, 10am-1pm

Reaching Our Dreams
Tuesday, December 17, 4pm

(A.Y.L.P.) Advance Youth Leadership Power Meeting
Thursday, December 19, 4pm
Friday, December 27, 4:30pm

The Empowered FE-FE's
Tuesday, December 24, 4pm

The Family Resource Center on Disabilities (FRCO) 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 FRCO for information, resources, support and training.

5 Things You Should Know About Families Dealing With Disability

*Written by Jaimie Davis Smith
(This story is from the Huffington Post)*

Disability is part of my family's daily life and it has been since my oldest daughter was born with a chromosomal abnormality over seven years ago. My daughter's genetic disorder resulted in a variety of disabilities, both cognitive and physical, that impact nearly every aspect of our lives. Usually we go along with our routine, but sometimes I am struck by how little others know about disability and what life is like for us. I have been reminded of this recently and wanted to share five things I wish everyone knew about disability.

1. We really, really dislike the word "retarded." Please stop using it. Now. The r-word is loaded. It is pejorative. It is hurtful. For those of us with loved ones with cognitive disabilities, the use of the r-word turns them into lesser beings not worthy of the same dignity and rights of those not struggling with the same difficulties. Not everyone has thought about how using the r-word impacts those of us dealing with disability. I get that. But if we try to explain it to you please listen to why it is not okay to use the r-word even if, as I was told recently you "didn't mean it that way" by a woman who then stormed off somehow angry with me for trying to explain to her how her use of this hateful term impacts my daughter and my family.

2. Some disabilities are invisible. It would be

convenient if everyone that disability made it obvious to the rest of the world in some way. Individuals who have visual impairments often use white canes or seeing eye dogs to help them navigate the world. Everyone knows that a wheelchair indicates that someone does not have full use of their legs. But, the person dealing with muscle weakness who can walk, albeit with difficulty, may look completely capable to a casual observer. The child who has autism and deals with sensory issues may look like a typically developing child having a bad day or a brat to you. A child with no obvious differences may have an oxygen monitor or feeding tube tucked away under clothing. But, these disabilities are real. They make life difficult, often on a level unimaginable to most. Remember that the next time you think someone is “faking” a disability for some perceived advantage, whether it’s a parking spot closer to the door or skipping the line at Disney World. Most individuals with disabilities you cannot immediately recognize would gladly give up the small accommodations for which you may resent them if they could also give up the disability that entitles them to these accommodations in the first place.

3. It’s okay to ask questions when disabilities are visible. My daughter uses an adorable wheelchair. Not all wheelchairs are cute, but hers is sky blue with a rainbow embroidered on the seat and has front wheels that light up if you push it fast enough. To other children it looks like a fun ride. Kids point at it on the street. They ask for rides. Usually, their parents try to shush them and pull them away. Well, guess what? I know that my daughter is in a wheelchair. She’s been using it for years. When she’s in it, it’s clear to everyone that she has a disability. I don’t mind questions. In fact, I encourage them, especially from other children whom I often allow to push my daughter’s wheelchair a short distance to remove the mystery surrounding disability. I welcome the opportunity to explain to children that

some people are just born differently. I don’t mind discussing disability with adults who may wonder about our circumstances. It is only through open dialogue and communication that we can educate others about disabilities of all types and promote acceptance.

4. We are not heroes. Families that include a loved one with a disability often hear that they are amazing or that others don’t know how they handle it all. But, the thing is, backing out is not an option. We did not take on a burden out of altruism. We deal with the circumstances we have been dealt because we have to, because we have no other choice. We deserve no special credit for this. I have no doubt that most of the people who make these statements to me would do the same if they were in my shoes. They wouldn’t have a choice.

5. Be considerate. You can try to step into our shoes and not impose your own rules on us. It’s not difficult to figure out some things that might make life easier for people with disabilities. But, sadly, most businesses and even schools and churches do not take the steps needed to welcome individuals with disabilities, such as installing ramps or elevators, until they are legally required to. If you want to be better, you can take small steps even when they are not legally required. You could open the door for a mother pushing a wheelchair even if it will delay you by a few seconds. You could ask your child to let a child with disabilities take a turn on the swing since it may be the only piece of playground equipment she could use. You can respect measures that have been put into place to help those with disabilities and their families by not sitting in clearly marked movie theater seats that have been especially designed to accommodate adaptive equipment. You can let the individual in the wheelchair on the elevator first, even if you have been waiting longer. The mother at my son’s school was certainly not considerate when she told me recently that a handi-

capped parking space could only be used by a family with a child with disabilities who attended that school — and not by a parent with disabilities or a family who may need to bring along a sibling with disabilities to drop-off. Imposing arbitrary, uninformed opinions about who “really” has a disability or need for accommodation is hurtful and harmful, especially when expressed in front of children who are still forming their opinions about disability and may be unsure how to react themselves.

Reprinted from the FRCD website.

MAKING SENSE

Non-optical Devices for Low Vision Webinar: Sometimes a person can accomplish a visual task without using a magnification device. The American Foundation of the Blind’s (AFB) eLearning Center has a new webinar - Low Vision Non-optical Devices: Improving Visibility for People with Low Vision. The webinar explores a variety of devices including lighting options, reading stands and writing guides as well as provides strategies for matching the right tool with the individual and the task. This webinar is designed for people with low vision and service providers. To order, visit www.afb.org and click on the Bookstore link.

New Source for Audio Books: Inkstone Mobile’s Audiobooks HQ is the most popular app in the iTunes App Store for free audio books for iOS devices, with over 7,800 titles. Voice-Over support has now been added and makes this \$1.99 app another source for human-read audio books. VoiceOver support allows users to navigate the book catalog, create bookmarks, speed up or slow down speech and use other controls. You can find Audiobooks

HQ in the App Store in the Books category.

New Courses at Hadley: Hadley School has four new courses now open for enrollment. Subject areas include Managing Personal Finances, Braille and Your Baby or Toddler, Marketing, and Independent Living. These distance education courses are free of charge for people with vision loss. To learn more, visit www.hadley.edu or call 800-323-4238.

Downhill Skiing Opportunities: Get your winter exercise with American Blind Skiing Foundation! Experience the thrill of downhill and alpine skiing with a guide trained to assist people of all ages with vision loss. Day outings to Devil’s Head, Wilmot and Alpine Valley in Wisconsin and weekend trips to Michigan and Colorado are scheduled throughout January, February, and March. You must be a member to participate. Beginners welcome! To learn more, visit www.absf.org or 312-409-1605.

Reprinted from MAKING SENSE, January 2014, Second Sense, Beyond vision loss, 65 East Wacker Place, Suite 1010, Chicago, IL 60601, 312-236-8569, www.second-sense.org.



Transportation Services are available throughout Chicago and the suburbs

We offer non-emergency transit for people with disabilities and seniors in wheelchair accessible vehicles throughout Chicago and the suburbs 24 hours a day, 365 days a year..

Our drivers and customer service staff will

(Continued on page 14)

Watch hours of captivating speaker recordings on the AER Knowledge Center.

FEATURED SESSION

[A Distance Orientation to Vision Loss](#)



Since 1992 the Moran Eye Center in Salt Lake City (SLC) has offered a monthly Orientation to Vision Loss (OVL) for newly visually impaired individuals and their families. Goals include education and encouraging use of: 1) rehab services, and 2) basic blind skills. Evaluations have been overwhelmingly positive, but there has been concern that rural residents were being missed. Lack of OVL information and transportation to SLC were challenges to inclusion.

Watch This Session for FREE!

<http://aerbvi.sclivelearningcenter.com/index.aspx>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



[Pedagogical Strategies for Teaching Street Crossings](#)

As a follow up to an experimental instructional intervention study, the author recently conducted a nationwide survey with ACVREP certified orientation and mobility specialists to determine which pedagogical strategies are currently being used to teach street crossings.

MORE: [Same website](#)



[Universal Design for Learning \(UDL\)](#)

In this presentation, the UDL framework is used to address the education learners with multiple disabilities, including visual impairments and deaf-blindness. The UDL framework has the potential to improve the educational outcomes for this population, especially those learners with visual impairments and blindness who are marginalized by educational reform initiatives.

MORE: [Same website](#)



[Improving Employment Outcomes for Individuals Who are Blind or Visually Impaired: An Overview of Six Research Projects](#)

We will present an overview of six early-stage research projects, funded by a 5-year NIDRR-RRTC grant, that focus on improving employment outcomes for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Training and technical assistance components will also be discussed.

MORE: [Same website](#)

AER Education Brief

Scott Bennett, Partner Relations Analyst, Multibriefs, 972-373-2091

AER Education Brief is a monthly e-newsletter from the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, with highlights from courses and educational programs from past conferences.

Subscribe — it's free!

<http://multibriefs.com/optin.php?AERBVI>

ease knowing that one of the dozens of details regarding their loved one's care is in good hands.



Special Needs Chicago, Inc.
www.specialneedschicago.org

Michelle Dacy
phone 630-668-9999
fax 630-839-6000
cell 708-710-2770
michelle@specialneedschicago.org

(Continued from page 12) - Transportation Services

happily provide you with the necessary assistance for a relaxing ride, door-to-door assistance, and a simple reservation process. Specially equipped mediacars, handicapped vans, mini-buses and sedans will get you, loved ones, patients or clients around Chicagoland with ease.

Anyone with a disability or a circumstance that require special assistance is welcome to use our paratransit service. We can easily coordinate standing orders (regularly scheduled rides), group outings or transports for medical, business or personal reasons.

“Quality of service” is the number one reason our corporate clients and private riders cite as the reason for choosing Special Needs Chicago repeatedly. We always treat our passengers with courtesy and respect while providing prompt and safe transportation.

Our services include additional steps such as multiple levels of communication, confirmation calls and written correspondence. These extra steps have a significant impact on decreasing no-shows and increasing customer service. We take very good care of our passengers and put them and their families at



2014 NFB Writers' Division Writing Contest

The annual youth and adult writing contests sponsored by the NFB Writers' Division will open January 1st and will close April 1st.

Adult contests, poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and stories for youth are open to all entrants eighteen years and over.

The Youth Writing Contest, poetry and fiction, is to promote Braille literacy and excellence in creative writing. Entries will be judged on creativity and quality of Braille. The contest is divided into three groups, determined by grade level – elementary, middle, and high school.

Prizes for contest winners range up to \$100 for adult categories and up to \$30 for youth.

All contest winners will be announced the first week in July, at the Writers' Division business meeting during the NFB national convention, held in Orlando, Florida. In addition, shortly after convention, a list of winners will appear on the Writers' Division's Website, <http://writers.nfb.org>

First, second, and third place winners in each category will be considered for publication in the Writers' Division magazine, "Slate & Style."

For additional contest details and submission guidelines, go to our website, <http://writers.nfb.org>

Chelsea Cook astrochem119@gmail.com

Nfbnet-members-list mailing list

Nfbnet-members-list@nfbnet.org

List archives: http://www.nfbnet.org/pipermail/nfbnet-members-list_nfbnet.org

Patti Gregory Chang

NFBI President

NFB Scholarship Committee Chair

- What is ToAD?
- What are the parts of ToAD?
- Why use ToAD?
- How do I use the components?
- How should I prepare my child/student to use ToAD?
- How does the vision team use ToAD?

So, pull up a comfy chair in Squire ToAD's living room, and discover how the tools, toys, and puzzles in the ToAD Kit can play an essential part in your student's vision curriculum, activities, and development. Bonus Homegrown musical number, starring Squire ToAD, included!

Runs approximately 16 minutes.
Closed Captioned and Subtitled

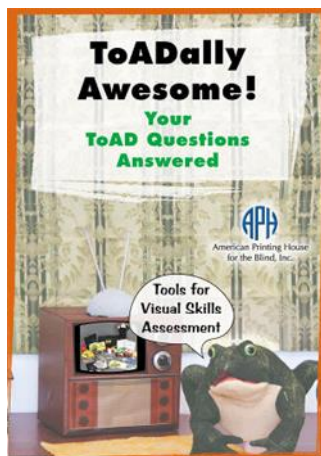
APH NEWS

NEW! ToADaily Awesome: Your ToAD Questions Answered DVD

1-30023-DVD -- \$10.00

In this entertaining and informative Homegrown Series DVD, APH Low Vision Project Leader Elaine Kitchel discusses APH's ToAD Kit: Tools for Assessment and Development of Visual Skills.

The one-and-only APH ToAD Kit mascot, Squire ToAD, invites viewers to learn about APH's versatile ToAD Kit. Squire is especially excited because APH Low Vision Project Leader Elaine Kitchel answers your questions!



Lights! Camera! Unforgettable APH Star!

Although the next Unforgettable APH Star Contest deadline is yet to be announced, we are now accepting entries for Winter 2014! What a great indoor project for these cold days! It's fun and easy, too! Just grab your favorite APH product, get somebody to shoot some footage of you raving about it, send us the video, and BAM! The next contest winner could be YOU! As always, the Unforgettable APH Star Contest is open to individuals and groups of all ages.

Go to www.aph.org/contest for more information. Are you ready for your close-up?



Davis Square Park

*Programs for individuals with visual and physical disabilities
4430 S Marshfield Chicago Il 60609*

Adaptive Recreation

Saturday Classes

2014 Winter Session

January 11 - March 22

(Fee include all 10 weeks of session)

Fitness

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Ages 15 to 26

Co-Rec \$5.00



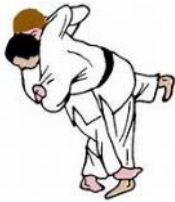
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Judo

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Ages 15 and up

Co-Rec \$10.00



Leisure Education

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Ages 15 and up

Co-Rec \$5.00



Social Club

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Ages 15-26

Free



For registration and questions contact:

Christina Moy,

Special Recreation Coordinator

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Registration begins December 7th

City of Chicago, Rahm Emanuel, Mayor

Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners

Chicago Park District, Michael P. Kelly, General Superintendent & CEO

For more information about your Chicago Park District, visit

www.chicagoparkdistrict.com or call 312.742.PLAY, 312-747-2001 (TTY)





[LOW VISION IN THE NEWS]



Low Vision In The News is a collection of the latest hand picked news articles from our staff about low vision. They range from technology advances to human interest stories.

The First Smartphone Specially Developed for the Blind & Visually Impaired



RAY is the world's only smartphone developed specially for the blind, from its unique operating system & eye-free operation to specialized built-in apps and content featuring: Multiple built-in communication services within one powerful device, Advanced communication and lifestyle services, One common, simple user interface across all system functions, applications and services, Unique operating system and user interface specially developed for eye-free operation.... Read more... <http://project-ray.blogspot.co.il/2013/11/project-ray-product-one-pager.html#!>

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**THIS PUBLICATION IS SUPPORTED
(IN PART) BY THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION FOR
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HILTON/PERKINS
PROGRAM AND (IN PART) FROM A
GRANT FROM THE FAMILY RE-
SOURCE CENTER ON DISABILITIES**



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

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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 2947
Naperville, IL 60567-2947

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

▶ 1/11 - 3/22	Adaptive Recreation Saturday Classes/Davis Square Park	Chicago
▶ 1/21,	Lighthouse North Parents' Night	Glenview
▶ 2/18, 3/18		
▶ 2/6	Sweets for Sight	Chicago
▶ 2/13	2014 IAER Vision Conference	Schaumburg
▶ 3/8	Southern Illinois Vision Conference	Mt. Vernon
▶ 4/12	Northern Illinois Vision Conference	Rockford

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

**Newsletter Deadline for
JANUARY 2014 is DECEMBER 15th**



**Check Out
www.ipvi.org**

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