



Spring 2024

MN DeafBlind Project News

Happy Spring!

It's been a beautiful spring and we're quickly moving into summer! This school year has flown by. I'm hoping your children have had a school year filled with friendships, new experiences, and lots of growth.

As you start thinking about summer with the kids home, you may find the need to revisit or start new routines, continue building on communication, and help your child find ways to remember their fun summertime experiences (i.e. experience books!). I'm just an email or call away to brainstorm with you and share resources!

-Brandy

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Find and follow us on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube

P.S. Did anyone else catch the incredible Northern Lights? This is at Duck Lake, MN.

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MNDBP Highlights



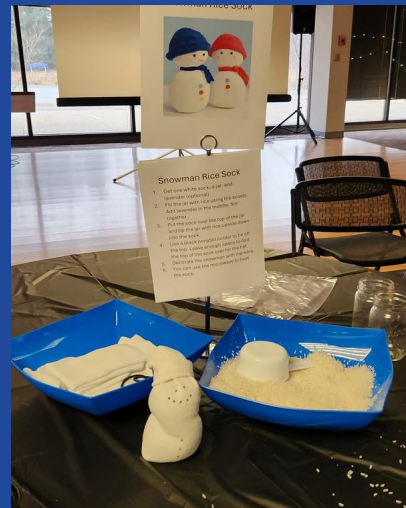
Winter Party

DeafBlind Services Minnesota and the MN DeafBlind Project co-hosted a fun winter party this past January.

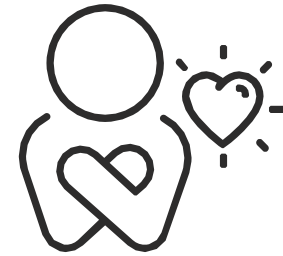
Here are a few of the highlights!

Fun photo booth, sensory activities, a hot chocolate bar, crafts, friendships and connections!

This is an annual event (usually in January) and all families are welcome!



MNDBP Highlights



Moms' Retreat

We were so happy to host the Moms' Retreat this past March! We had a wonderful time.

Highlights included: Charting the LifeCourse, Happiness and the Dignity of Risk, Movement session, From Hovering in the Shadows to Being Supported by Genuine Friends and Fostering Joy.

We played Bingo, ate delicious food, reconnected with old friends and built new friendships throughout the weekend!

We hope you'll consider joining us the next time we are able to offer this!





Upcoming Events

Family Learning Community (virtual):

**Online Deaf Blind Learning Modules & more! Lunchtime
11:30 - 12 :30 or evening 6 :30 - 7:30**

Join us for this great opportunity to connect without her Minnesota parents who have children with combined hearing and vision loss. Deaf Blind resources and tools will also be shared!

All registered families will receive a unique Family Learning Community mug to fill with their favorite beverage and bring to the meeting.

Coming this fall... virtual Intervener Training for Families!

[Register here](#)



Family and Intervener Appreciation Picnic (in- person)

June 1, 2024

Come to beautiful Island Lake in Shoreview and enjoy a catered meal and many fun activities like a caricature artist, face painting, a photo booth, yard games and more! This is a great opportunity to meet other MN families who have children with combined hearing and vision loss. Host ed in collaboration with DBSM.

Register by May 17, 2024





HopeKids (Minnesota)

HopeKids is an organization that provides ongoing events, activities and a powerful, unique support community for families who have a child with a life-threatening medical condition - a progressive, degenerative, or malignant condition that may jeopardize the child's life.

These events and activities focus on the whole family and provide opportunities that look forward to the future. HopeKids helps to alleviate financial burdens by providing events that are pre-organized and available free of charge to the whole family.

Go to this [Become a HopeKid](#) webpage to learn more today.

Fostering Joy, Hands and Voices

Fostering Joy is founded on the belief that fostering joy is important to all families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing (and can also be used with DeafBlind children) across cultures and backgrounds.

Fostering Joy should be easy, fun, and something you can do as you go about your everyday activities. Hands and Voices has developed [Fostering Joy Tip Sheets](#) available for download on their [webpage](#) in several different languages.

Here are a few highlights:

- Find something to be grateful for everyday.
- Carve out a few minutes each day to breathe deeply, enjoy a laugh, and snuggle closely with your child.
- Document your family's journey together through pictures, video, social media, or journaling.
- Appreciate yourself and all you are doing to support and advocate for your child!

