Dear Connecticut Blind Students,

Would you like to be founders of the Connecticut Association of Blind Students? You’re getting this email because you are blind/low vision individuals from, or living in, Connecticut, and you are currently, recently were, or are anticipated to become a student. This is Trevor Attenberg writing to you now because members of the National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut—including myself—have many times desired to form a student division. Some of you have, in fact, gotten such an email from me before; in which case, please continue to read/listen to what I’m saying. I think we can do it.

What does a student division of the National Federation of the Blind of CT entail? Good question, stranger! It can mean a lot of things depending on how members shape the situation. In many other states, Associations of Blind Students, as they are called, function as social networks for the blind and the studious. Members are kept up to date on news pertaining to and presented opportunities to get deeply connected with social events, technology, legal and political action, scholarship and training opportunities and the like. Perhaps the best part is you can easily reach out to other dynamic people that are in the same boat as you. Some of you may have some experience with our NFB of CT mailing list, or some of the NFBCT’s local divisions. If you hesitate to connect with such cats, a Connecticut Association of Blind Students (CTABS) would be a mighty fine way to reach out to new friends and sources of wisdom to help you on your merry way.

What do we need to do to get a blind students’ group going? It’s very simple. You just contact me at this email of mine ([tattenberg@gmail.com](mailto:tattenberg@gmail.com)), or call me at (508)963-7708 to express some kind of interest. This way, I’ll know who is interested and who should be on a contact list. We’ll get a listserv and Facebook group going for communication purposes. If we can get some interest going in CT about an Association of Blind Students, we can get recognition from the National Federation of the Blind, which would allow us to share resources with the Federation and the National Association of Blind Students. Such Connections would be good for all of us. Dig? In July, I attended the NFB’s national convention in Dallas, which is a totally awesome event if you’ve not been. Did you know you can get money to attend this and other such nationwide gatherings?

We’d love to get something going in CT. We have so many students, including those attending some of the finest universities in the land; what an opportunity! We can start out small, talk a bit, plan some social events, and see where we want to go from there. Several years ago, I helped found the Massachusetts association of Blind Students (MassABS), which is doing quite well, with information sharing, newly formed friendships, and frequent social events. A CTABS would allow us to do the same here and could also give us a chance to join forces with such other student organizations as MassABS.

Please view the attached flyer with information about our founding meeting. You may also contact Justin Salisbury at [ctabs.founders@gmail.com](mailto:ctabs.founders@gmail.com). We hope to see you at the state convention!

Sincerely,

Trevor Attenberg