

Parent Resource List

Education

<http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/> - Missouri Department of Education Special Services webpage

<http://www.msb.k12.mo.us/> -webpage for Missouri School for the Blind (resource site as well)

<http://www.kssb.net/> - webpage for Kansas School for the Blind

Services

www.alphapointe.org - AlphaPointe Association for the Blind Offers rehabilitation services, including assessment, adjustment to blindness counseling, instruction in daily living skills, occupational therapy, orientation and mobility skills, academics, technology, vocational skills and job exploration. (Kansas City metro area)

www.ccvl.org - Children's Center for the Visually Impaired serves children who have disabilities (infant thru kindergarten) providing classroom instruction, therapy services and Braille. (Kansas City metro area)

www.dgckids.org - Delta Gamma Center offers early intervention services for children birth to age three, including assessment, educational and therapy services. (St. Louis Area)

<http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/firststeps/> - Missouri's early intervention program for children with disabilities birth to age three. Offers therapy services, special instruction, assistive technology and other supportive services outlined in IDEA. Services intended to support the child and family in home environments and the community.

www.lhbindustries.com - Light House for the Blind offers summer employment to students that are blind. Provides a number of financial support programs, "See the Future" to purchase computer equipment and funding for summer camps and activities for blind students. (St. Louis Area)

www.dss.mo.gov/fsd/rsb/index.htm - Rehabilitation Services for the Blind (RSB) provides advocacy, referrals, parent education and recommendations for services to legally blind individuals in Missouri, including assistance and support for educational and employment opportunities. RSB can assist students and parents in developing transition programs at age 14.

www.sos.mo.gov/wolfner - Wolfner Library provides talking tapes, Braille materials and other materials for students and adults, who are unable to use standard print or are classified with reading disabilities, must be registered members. (Free services)

<http://www.slsbvi.org/> - St Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired provides the full range of vision rehabilitation and education services to children and adults. Although the majority of individuals served are experiencing age-related vision loss, programs and services are offered to students attending

public schools through contractual agreements with local special education entities. Other services are provided to individuals of all ages. (St. Louis Metro Area)

<http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/Blind/BlindSkillsSpec.html> - List of Blind Skills Specialists in Missouri. A BSS provides assistance and information to school personnel and parents regarding blind/visually-impaired children.

<http://www.msb.k12.mo.us/Resource%20Guide%20Info/moSPIN.html> - Missouri Statewide Parent Involvement Network (MoSPIN). Missouri School for the Blind provides this statewide outreach service. It is a home-based parent training program provided free of charge to families of blind and visually impaired children, ages birth through 5.

<http://ptimpact.org/> - MPACT - Provides parent training and information for parents of children with disabilities.

Community Involvement

http://www.kc-campfire.org/htdocs/programs_fitness.html - Adventure Fitness, in association with Campfire USA, provides children with special needs opportunities to get involved with various activities. (KC metro area)

<http://www.scouting.org/> - The Boy Scouts of America provides a program for young people that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness.

<http://www.nscd.org/> - The National Sports Center for the Disabled provides therapeutic recreation and competitive opportunities for children and adults with disabilities. (Kansas City)

<http://www.usaba.org/> - The US Association for blind athletes enhances the lives of blind and visually impaired people by providing the opportunity for participation in sports and physical activity.

<http://www.dasasports.org/> - Cognitively age appropriate children who are physically disabled, visually impaired, deaf, or hard of hearing discover the ABILITY within their disability. (St. Louis)

Visual Skills Camps

<http://www.blindinc.org/> - BLIND Incorporated is a blindness skills training center. They teach the skills that blind people need to become independent and employable such as Braille, home management, the use of the white cane, and computers with screen reading software, etc. But just as importantly, they instill in students the confidence to put these skills into practice. Two camps- Buddy and Life 101 (Minnesota)

<http://www.campbarnabas.org/> - Camp Barnabas exists to provide life-changing opportunities to people with special needs in a Christian camp setting. Located in the southwest corner of Missouri, each

summer we offer acceptance and love to more than 1,300 campers with special needs. Through adaptive activities, people with physical, mental, and/or medical challenges become participants, not observers, in the world around them.

<http://www.campt.org> - Camp Tuhsmebeta is a traditional summer camp in Western Michigan for children and young adults who are blind/visually impaired.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/space/> - Space Camp for Interested Visually Impaired Students in Huntsville, Alabama. (SCIVIS)

<http://www.cocenter.org/> - Training center in Colorado sponsored by the NFB, is based on the philosophy that "with proper training and techniques, blind people can compete on terms of equality with their sighted peers". (not a camp)

<http://www.lcb-ruston.com/aboutus/> - The Louisiana Center for the blind is a residential training facility. (not a camp)

<http://www.blindscience.org/ncbys/Programs.asp?SnID=1721137042> - List of Jernigan Institute Programs sponsored by the NFB, such as Junior Science Academy and Space Camp.

<http://www.lhbindustries.com/seethefuture/step.asp> - Programs to enrich the lives of children who are blind and legally blind.

Blind/VI Affiliations

<http://www.missouricounciloftheblind.org/> - The Missouri Council of the Blind is a support group that can provide information and help for scholarships, summer camps, special services program, adaptive technology information, health benefits, employment and legislation issues and public awareness programs.

<http://www.nfbmo.org/> - The National Federation of the Blind of Missouri can provide information and assistances for services, training, programs, employment, publications, and legal services for blind/visually impaired individuals. A quarterly magazine, Future Reflections, is published for parents and teachers of blind children. http://www.nfb.org/nfb/Future_Reflections.asp

<http://www.spedex.com/napvi/> - The National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments enables parents to find information and resources for their children who are blind and visually impaired including those with additional disabilities.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MOPVI/> Or contact dcfraappier@yahoo.com, or stephanie@ilrcjcmo.org, - The Missouri Parents for Children with Visual Impairments (MOPVI) is a parent support group for emotional support, education, knowledge of IDEA, advocacy skill development, family events, and training workshops. Meets quarterly. NAPVI State Affiliate.

http://www.nfb.org/nfb/Parents_and_Teachers.asp -The National Organization of Parents of Blind Children provides reliable information and positive attitudes about blindness and the abilities of blind people.

<http://www.afb.org> - The American Foundation for the Blind expands possibilities for people with vision loss, by broadening access to technology, information and tools to professionals, and promoting independent, healthy living for people with vision loss.

State Advisory Committees

<http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/Blind/literacy.html> - the Governor's Blind Task Force (BTF) was created by House Bill 401 to serve as an advisory panel for the MO Dept of Education.

<http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/FirstSteps/SICCpage.html> -the role of the State Interagency Coordinating Counsel (SICC) is to advise and assist the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in the performance of responsibilities as stated in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C Program for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

<http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/Administration/AdvisoryPanel/94142mainpage.html> - The Missouri Special Education Advisory Panel members shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Education to serve at his discretion. The majority of members appointed shall be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities. The panel membership shall be composed of individuals involved in, or concerned with the education of children with disabilities.

Resources

<http://idea.ed.gov/> - The Individuals with Disabilities Act website. (IDEA)

<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html> - The Family Educational Rights Privacy Act.

<http://www.nei.nih.gov/lowvision/content/resources2.asp> - National Eye Institute list of resources for the visually impaired. This is a comprehensive list of resources and national organizations including American Council of the Blind, American Foundation of the Blind, American Association of Deaf/Blind, American Printinghouse for the Blind, Guide Dogs, NAPVI, NFB, Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic, and many more.

<http://mbvol.org/> - Midwestern Braille Volunteers provide transcribing services (textbooks) for blind students, transcription services for businesses, churches and community organizations.

<http://www.at.mo.gov/> - Missouri Assistive Technology offers a variety of assistive technology programs and services.

<http://www.tsbvi.edu/> - Webpage for Texas School for the Blind, an excellent information resource.

<http://dese.mo.gov/divspeced/Compliance/specedguidance.html> -Parents Guide to Special Education Booklet contains parent information on the identification process and provision of educational services for children with disabilities in a user-friendly format.

<http://www.moadvocacy.org/SpecialEducation.htm> - Missouri Protection and Advocacy Services offers online presentations for parents of students with disabilities.

http://www.dese.mo.gov/divspeced/Compliance/Proc_Safe/ - Link to a copy of the Procedural Safeguards in English and Spanish for IEP meetings and information on compliance and the complaint system, laws and regulations.

http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0078614589/student_view0/disability_resource_links.html - A disability resource link offering recorded books for students.

<http://www.familyconnect.org/parentsitehome.asp> - Online multimedia community of resources, and 24 hour support for parents and guardians of children with visual impairments.

<http://www.wonderbaby.org/> - Resource, advice and encouragement for parents of blind/vi children.

<http://www.childrensdisabilities.info/vision/groups-vision-child.html> - List of support groups and listservs and mailing lists for parents of children with vision impairments.

<http://www.hadley.edu/> - Hadley School for the Blind promotes independent living through lifelong, distance education programs for people who are blind/visually impaired, their families, and blindness service providers.

http://www.partnerstx.org/SpecialEducation_Definitions.htm - Partners Resource Network Special Education Definitions.

Missouri-Parents-Network@nfbnet.org - The Missouri NFB offers an online statewide parent network to provide information, resources, and support to families of blind children.

richarddad1@yahoo.com - Contact Richard Willis for the NE Missouri Visually Impaired Support Group.

<http://www.growingstrong.org/bvi/index.html> - Resources for parents of blind children.

<http://www.seedlings.org/> - Offers free braille books for blind/vi children.

<http://www.nbp.org/> - National Braille Press promotes literacy and offers braille books, magazines, texts, tests, embossing services, and children's book clubs.

<http://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/readbooks/index.html> - Readbooks program has braille books for young children up to age 7 to foster love of books at an early age.

<http://www.disabilityresources.org/MISSOURI.html> - Regional disability resource directory for Missouri.

<http://www.wrightslaw.com/> -Wrights Law has accurate, reliable information about special education law, and advocacy for children with disabilities.

<http://www.seeingeye.org/> - Our mission is to enhance the independence, self-dignity and self-confidence of blind people through Seeing Eye Dogs.

<http://www.disabilityinfo.mo.gov/directory/directory1.shtml> - The Governors Council on Disabilities Directory of Resources for the Disabled.

<http://www.specialeducationrights.com> - the iep center. com (KC) Special Education Parent's Advocacy Link (SEPAL) are advocates in the public schools for parents who have children with special needs and parents with children with disabilities.

<http://www.unco.edu/ncssd/bviIEP/index.shtml> - Pop up IEP for parents/advocates offers respectful and effective responses and what the law says about educating children with disabilities.

<http://www.blindchildren.org/> - The Blind Children's Resource Center is dedicated to the idea that blind/visually impaired children can grow up to become productive, fully functioning, independent members of society. This organization provides ideas, assistance and information that will help blind/vi children with developmental delays and additional disabilities reach their potential.

http://www.nfbnet.org/mailman/listinfo/blindkid_nfbnet.org - The BLIND KID e-mail list is a sharing of information for people interested in the welfare and development of blind children, and a means of communication between members and supporters of the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BVI-Parents/> - This is a list where parents of blind or visually impaired children can discuss topics related to raising their children, dealing with concerns about the educational system, public attitudes about blindness, etc. Professionals and others who wish to take an active part in providing positive support to those they serve are welcome but are also encouraged to realize that this is a forum where parents must feel safe in venting about aspects of their life which may include dealing with professionals.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MOPVI/> - An online parent support group for parents and families of blind and visually impaired children living in Missouri that offers positive support, problem solving, information, education, and resources. Professionals who wish to provide positive support are welcome, however, personal information shared is confidential to allow families to feel comfortable with communication in this venue.