Greetings:

Happy New Year Federationists!

The National Federation of the Blind is a community of members and friends who believe in the hopes and dreams of the nation’s blind. Every day we work together to help blind people live the lives they want.

Excited!  Excited! The 2018 National Federation of the Blind of California State Convention

will be held at the Marriot Hotel LAX, 5855 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, California.  The dates are October 25-28, 2018.  The room rate will be $129 per night.  More information will follow.

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The 2018 Washington Seminar, was held January 29 – February 1st. Thanks to all of the delegates who spend tireless hours walking the halls of Congress. The delegates were: Ever Lee Hairston, Robert Stigile, Tiffany Manosh, Brooklyn Rodden, Rochelle Houston, Charlotte Carroll, Christina Daniels, Juanita Herrera, Cheryl Thurston, Carla Scroggins, Karen Steel, Brittney Mejico, Veronica Martinez, Ed Davis, Cathy Gaten, Sara Hadsell.

A special thanks to the volunteers who participated at the Washington Seminar: Courtney Mazzola, Tim Elder, and Angela Goff.

The following issues were discussed with our representatives:

Accessible Instructional Materials in Higher Education Act (S. 2138/H.R. 1772)

Oppose the ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017 (H.R. 620)

Access Technology Affordability Act (S. 732/H.R. 1734)

The Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled (Marrakesh Treaty[[1]](https://nfb.org/marrakeshfactsheet" \l "One" \t "_blank)

Let’s make this an extraordinary year!

Sincerely, Ever Lee Hairston

President, National Federation of the Blind of California

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You Can Live The Life You Want

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The Pathfinder Chapter of Los Angeles will hold its 7th Annual Chapter Development reception.  Come join them as they enjoy great food, drinks and door prizes while listening to awesome speakers who will give the attendees informed information about this wonderful organization.  The reception will be held on Thursday, February 15th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, located at the WLCAC Freedom Hall building.  The address is 10950 S. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, cross street 109th.  If you have any questions please contact Michael Richardson, Chapter Development Chairperson at 323.898.3223 or email at:  [michaeljr66@yahoo.com](mailto:michaeljr66@yahoo.com)

Rochelle Houston, President Pathfinder Chapter, Los Angeles

Treasurer, National Federation of the Blind of California

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On February 6, members from the San Francisco Chapter will be holding a phone bank for outreach to people who are on the White Cane Monthly Report lists.  The members calling will inform them about the February 13 San Francisco Chapter meeting and to spread the message of the National Federation of the Blind.

Christina Daniels, President, San Francisco Chapter

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The California Association of Guide Dog Users meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 13 at 7:30 p.m.  The call-in information is as follows:  605.475.4700.

The access code: 405682# (pound sign)

The callers will be discussing the Delta Airlines new regulations for Service Animals, which starts March 1, 2018, as well as Assembly Bill 1865. The bill concerns Guide, Signal and Service Dogs, injury or death from dog attacks.

Hope all will attend.

Tina Thomas, President, California Association of Guide Dog Users

Joy Stigile, Editor