

**The NJ Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
invites you to call in to:**

**The October 2025
Community Connection Call**

***“Celebrating Value and Talent Statewide” Observing NDEAM AND
BAM”***

**Wednesday, October 15, 2025
10:30am to 12:00pm**

Hosted by Krystle Allen, CBVI Community Outreach Specialist

Did you know each year Blindness Awareness Month (BAM) is observed nationwide in October? Blindness Awareness Month began in NJ back in October 2009. Today, it is observed nationwide with events, programs, and services that include all who identify with vision loss alongside their peers and loved ones. During Blindness Awareness Month there are other observances such as World Sight day, and White Cane Safety Day.

In conjunction with this, October also shares the observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). Did you know that the theme of National Disability Employment Awareness Month recognizes the ongoing and historical contributions of American workers with disabilities, highlighting the significant talents brought to workplaces and the economy?

Join NJ CBVI to experience shared presentations about Orientation and Mobility (O&M) and the Human Resources unit at CBVI. Find out how skillful practices related to independent travel with limited to no eyesight align with preparing for the workforce and learn tips on succeeding with securing work experiences as a volunteer, intern, and employment at CBVI.

Keynote Presenters:

- **Keesha Hauser, Principal Community Program Specialist – Northern Region**
- **Kenya Whitehurst-Percell, Human Resources Supervisor – NJ CBVI, CICRF, and DD Council**

The benefits of networking and sharing information are the primary focus of the Community Connection Calls. This month’s ***“In Our Own Voices”*** panelists will share their stories. All are members of New Jersey’s blind, deafblind, and visually impaired community.

“In Our Own Voices” Panelists:

- Mac Biggers
- Rhea Hood
- Rose Santiago
- Brandon Scott

Here are the simple directions for participating in the CBVI Community Connections Call:

Option 1: Join via Zoom

1. Either Click the Zoom meeting link here: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
2. Or Open the Zoom App and Enter the Meeting ID and Passcode

Meeting ID: 161 116 2134

Passcode: 1910

Option 2: Join on the phone via One Tap Mobile (click the following link from your mobile device)

- [+16468287666,,1611162134#,,, *1910#](#) (New York)

Option 3: Dial-in via Phone

1. Dial the conference phone number: **1-646-828-7666**.
2. Enter the Meeting ID: **161 116 2134** when prompted
3. When asked for a participant ID, simply press the pound key (#).
4. Enter the Passcode: **1910**

That's it! You're all set to join the meeting.

Relay Captioning Link for individuals who are Deaf or Hearing Impaired:

(At the start time of the event, please login by clicking on the link below)

<https://www.captionedtext.com/client/event.aspx?EventID=6051523&CustomerID=477>

If you have any questions, or would like to be a Community Connections Call panelist, please don't hesitate to email: Krystle.Allen@dhs.nj.gov or call: 973-648-4497