**A logo with text and colorful hands

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National Federation of the Blind of West Virginia 2024 State Convention  
Holiday Inn-University Area, 1188 Pineview Dr.  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
  
AGENDA**

**Thursday, October 31, 2024**3:00 PM Hotel Check-in  
3:30 PM Drop off auction items and door prizes  
 presidential suite #215  
  
5:00 PM Dinner on your own (Bourbon Room)  
  
7:30 PM NFBWV Board of Directors Meeting  
 (Bourbon Room): Sheri Koch, Chair

**Friday, November 1, 2024**BLIND COMMUNITY UNITY DAY:  
8:000 AM Vendor Booths Setup (Liberi Section)  
  
  
  
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8:30 AM Welcome (Montani Semper Section): Sheri  
 Koch, NFBWV President  
   
 A Moment of Silence for those we’ve lost  
  
 Vendor mini presentations: 10 minutes   
 each   
  
 WV Library Commission: Donna   
 Calvert  
  
 WV Assistive Technology System   
 (WVATS): Doug Cumpston  
  
 Jehovah’s Witness (JW.org) Robert &  
 Geraldine Johnson, Ron & Diane Barnett  
  
 VISIONS: Amanda Udell   
  
 American Printing House for the Blind   
 (APH): Lee Huffman   
   
 Jim Sullivan Monarch)  
  
 LiveAbility Center for Independent   
 Living: Annetta Johnson   
   
   
  
  
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This & That Gadgets Table: Sheri Koch  
 Demonstrations provided by blind  
 equipment owners: NFBWV members,   
 other interested gadget users   
  
10:00 AM BREAK  
  
10:15 AM Vendor booths (Liberi Section)

11:30 PM BOX LUNCH (Montani Semper Section)

12:30 PM GENERAL SESSION ORGANIZATION &   
 AGENCY REPORTS: (Montani Semper   
 Section)  
   
 National Federation of the Blind, A  
 National Rverview of our Mission and   
 Impact: Jesse Sherik, National   
 Representative   
  
12:50 PM National Federation of the Blind of West  
 Virginia, A State and Grassroots   
 Perspective on our Mission and Impact:   
 Sheri Koch, NFBWV President  
  
1:00 PM WV School for the Deaf and the Blind:   
 Melanie Hesse, WVSDB Dean of Students  
   
  
  
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1:20 PM Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind:  
 Toni Walls, Executive Director  
  
1:40 PM Seeing Hand Association for the Blind:  
 Karen Haught, Executive Director   
   
2:00 PM LiveAbility Center for Independent Living,   
 Morgantown: Annetta Johnson,   
 Administrative Director  
  
2:20 PM American Foundation for the Blind,  
 Huntington: Aaron Preece, AccessWorld   
 Editor in Chief  
  
2:40 PM American Printing House for the Blind,  
 Huntington: Lee Huffman, Low Vision   
 Product Manager, Product Development   
 and Jim Sullivan, Director, Social Enterprise  
  
3:00 PM BREAK  
  
3:15 PM LET’S TALK: West Virginia Division of   
 Rehabilitation Services (WVDRS); Services   
 and Policies; a Pannel Discussion: Pisnu   
 Bus-Iam, Director; (Blind Services   
 Staff) Candice Ward, Assistant Director,   
 Rachel Hatfield, Rehabilitation Services   
   
  
  
   
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 Manager 1, Gentry Cline, Deputy Director,   
 Kevin Maynus, Rehabilitation Specialist for   
 the Blind, Tammy Murdock, VISIONS   
 Manager, NFBWV members, Jesse Sherik,   
 NFB National Representative, and other   
 interested blind sstakeholders  
  
5:00 PM Wrap-up and Adjourn  
  
6:15 PM DINNER (Montani Semper Section)  
  
8:00 PM AUCTION (Montani Semper Section)  
 All Things West Virginia Auction: Marcus   
 Soulsby, Auctioneer

**Saturday, November 2, 2024**8:30 AM GENERAL SESSION: (Montani Semper  
 Section)  
 Call to order, remarks, & announcements:   
 Sheri Koch, NFBWV President  
 Pledge of Allegiance, Harold ThomasHH   
  
  
   
  
  
   
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 NFB Pledge, Lead by Karen McDonald  
 “I pledge to participate actively in the   
 efforts of the National Federation of the   
 Blind; to achieve equality, opportunity,  
 and security for the blind; to support  
 the policies and programs of the   
 Federation; and to abide by its   
 constitution.”  
  
8:35 AM WHAT’S GOING ON AT THE NATIONAL   
 LEVEL, NFB Report: Jesse Sherik, National   
 Representative   
  
9:00 AM WHAT’S GOING ON AT THE STATE LEVEL,   
 NFBWV Report: Sheri Koch, NFBWV   
 President  
  
9:15 AM FUNDAMENTALS OF SELF-ADVOCACY:   
 Jesse Shirek, National Representative  
  
10:15 AM BREAK  
  
10:30 AM TRAINING FOR LIFE AT AN NFB CENTER:  
 My Experience at the Louisiana Center for   
 the Blind: Ahmad Shafi, NFBWV Member   
 Sat Large  
  
  
  
   
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11:00 AM CHALLENGING INACCESSIBILITY AT THE  
 UNIVERSITY LEVEL: Miranda Lacy &  
 Harold Rogers, WVU Students and NFBWV   
 Members at Large, and Sheri Koch  
  
11:45 AM MY EXPERIENCE AS A TEACHER OF   
 TOMORROW: Wendy Bailey  
   
12:00 PM LUNCH (On your own) hotel restaurant  
  
1:30 PM GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION (Montani  
 Semper Section)  
  
 BUILDING OUR AFFILIATE: A ROADMAP   
 FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW; Final Report  
 of the Committee of the Whole on   
 Membership Building): Review & Progress   
 Report: Ed McDonald, 1st Vice-president  
 and President Members at Large  
  
      RESOLUTIONS & POLICY STATEMENTS: Ed   
 McDonald, Sheri Koch  
  
 FINANCIAL MATTERS: Garrett Harris,   
 Interim Treasurer  
  
  
          
  
   
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 ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
   
 CHAPTER REPORTS: Sightless Workers Guild   
 President, Jack Yahnke; and Members at   
 Large President, Ed McDonald   
  
 OEN DISCUSSION: Review of Blind   
 Community Unity Day; Initiatives &   
 Priorities for the Coming Year  
  
4:30 PM WRAP-UP AND ADJOURN  
  
6:30 PM BANQUET  
 Master of Ceremonies: Ed McDonald  
 Keynote Speaker: Jesse Sherik

**Sunday, November 3, 2024**9:00 AM IN MEMORIUM, Remembering those we’ve   
 loved and lost: Marla Sewell (Montani   
 Semper Section)  
  
10:00 AM WRAP-UP AND ADJOURN  
  
**THANKS YOU FOR SHARING YOUR TIME, SPIRIT, AND GREAT IDEA! THE FELLOWSHIP WAS WONDERFUL. BE SAFE GOING HOME**.