**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

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 **Friday, November 1, 2024**BLIND COMMUNITY UNITY DAY:  
8:000 AM Vendor Booths Setup (Liberi Section)  
  
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   
  
 VISIONS: Amanda Udell   
  
 WV Assistive Technology System   
 (WVATS): Doug Cumpston  
  
 Jehovah’s Witness (JW.org) Robert &  
 Geraldine Johnson, Ron & Diane   
 Barnett  
  
 WV Library Commission: Susan Ward   
  
   
   
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 American Printing House for the Blind   
 (APH): Lee Huffman   
   
 Jim Sullivan Monarch)  
  
 LiveAbility Center for Independent   
 Living: Annetta Johnson   
   
 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)  
   
   
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 National Federation of the Blind, A  
 National Rerview 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 and Wendy Bailey, Statewide   
 Outreach Specialist for WVDE  
   
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  
  
  
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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 Bua-Iam, Director;   
 (Blind Services Staff) Candice Ward,   
 Assistant Director, Rachel Hatfield,  
 Rehabilitation Services Manager 1,   
 Gentry Cline, Deputy Director,   
 Kevin Maynus, Rehabilitation Specialist  
 for the Blind, Tammy Murdock,   
 VISIONS Manager, NFBWV members,  
   
  
  
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 Jesse Sherik, NFB National   
 Representative, and other interested   
 blind stakeholders  
  
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  
 Thomas  
HH   
  
  
   
  
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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  
  
  
  
  
  
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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   
 at Large

11:00 AM CHALLENGING INACCESSIBILITY AT  
 THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL: Miranda Lacy  
 & Harold Rogers, WVU MSW Students  
 and NFBWV Members at Large, and   
 Sheri Koch facilitating  
  
11:30 AM MY EXPERIENCE AS A TEACHER OF   
 TOMORROW: Wendy Bailey  
   
12:00 PM LUNCH   
  
1:30 PM NFBWV GENERAL SESSION;   
 Convention Business (Montani Semper  
 Section)

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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 Chapter  
  
      RESOLUTIONS: Ed McDonald  
  
 FINANCIAL MATTERS: Garrett Harris,   
 Interim Treasurer   
   
 ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
   
 CHAPTER REPORTS: Sightless Workers   
 Guild President, Jack Yahnke & Members   
 at Large President, Ed McDonald   
  
  
   
  
  
  
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 OPEN 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,   
 Members at Large (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**.