# Updated National Federation of the Blind COVID-19 Policy Relating to Public Events June 1, 2020

This document updates previous policy issued and then extended by the National Federation of the Blind Board of Directors. Effective June 1, 2020, the organization requests that all plans for in-person meetings, gatherings, and events be conducted in accordance with the policies and guidance of local and state authorities. However, those planning events at the chapter, state, and national level should recognize that some of our members will not feel safe attending an in-person meeting at this time and, rather than risk exposure to the coronavirus, those members may decide to forego the event. Therefore, to encourage the highest level of inclusivity possible, every effort should be made to organize on-line, remote access to all meetings, gatherings, and events.

Additionally, health officials have made it clear that despite some restrictions having been lifted in some geographic areas, wearing a mask and social distancing are still highly advisable any time a person is in close proximity to nonfamily members, especially when they are indoors.

The National Federation of the Blind will continue to follow the situation with respect to the novel coronavirus and its associated illness known as COVID-19. And if it becomes necessary to do so, we will issue further guidance. We are re-issuing this directive to align with the best available public health advice as well as with multiple state and local directives, and to carry out our general obligation to protect the health and safety of everyone in our Federation family. We wish everyone the best as together we meet the challenges and make the sacrifices required by this public health emergency.