I am sure that you have been celebrating as I have the passing of our parental rights bill which protects the rights of blind parents in several ways so, please talk about it in your chapter and divisions.

This week end I have been traveling and visiting the Akron and Cuyahoga chapters as they celebrated the holiday season and the year’s accomplishments both chapters were filled with several activities and a tremendous amount of Federation spirit including representation from four different chapters. This continues to confirm that the affiliate is still very strong and will do its part to change what it means to be blind.

the deadline for you to notify me that you wish to serve on the 2023 state committees will be on January 3,2023 at 6pm

The NFB was founded on the guiding principles that blind people have an inalienable right to independence, that blind people have equal capacity, and that only blind people themselves can legitimately speak for the blind community. These principles have continually permeated the membership and structure of our ever-growing organization.

Today, the NFB is the largest organization of blind people in the United States.

National, state, and local officers are elected by our members to ensure a representative form of government. This ensures that, as blind people, we can drive our own collective action and determine our own future, rather than relying on others to advocate for us.

The main components of our structure are listed in our [constitution](https://nfb.org/about-us/history-and-governance/constitution) (i.e., "Article V. Powers and Duties of the Convention, the Board of Directors, and the President"). In short, the [national Convention](https://nfb.org/get-involved/national-convention) is the central and foundational element of our organization. It is the Convention that elects our [board of directors](https://nfb.org/about-us/leadership/board-directors) and our [President](https://nfb.org/about-us/leadership/presidents-corner).

This structure at the national level is reflected in our [state affiliates](https://nfb.org/about-us/state-affiliates), where conventions of blind people set state policies and elect state leaders, including presidents. While the state affiliates must follow the policies and practices of the national organization, blind people in each state make independent decisions about the programmatic priorities and concerns in their local area.

Since 1940, we have worked collectively in a unified national organization, improving the lives of blind people throughout the country, and in some cases, the world. Along with high expectations and strong values, our structure continues to empower members of the National Federation of the Blind to live the lives we want.

2023 NFBO Committee Appointments

You will find the 2023 committees with the committee charges: Please remember that even if you were the chair or served on a committee this year it does not mean that you will be serving in that capacity in the new year. We have a growing and changing culture as it pertains to the membership and the committee structure will reflect that.

1: AWARDS COMMITTEE

Details

Charge: To oversee the awards process, to provide information and feedback when necessary, and to make reasonable judgments about NFBO awards.

2: BELL Committee

Details

Charge: To communicate and help with planning the inhouse bell program and to organize the bell Academy and plan efficient ways to promote and execute the important program.

3: CONSTITUTION  Committee

Details

Charge: To make sure that all NFBO constitutions follow the state and national constitutions, both philosophically and rhetorically.

4: RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Details

Charge: To oversee the submission process and to write and distribute clearly articulated and philosophically sound resolutions.

5: DEAF-BLIND Committee

Details

Charge: To aid and provide information to those who are in this unique community and to serve as a vehicle to foster a positive relationship for the deaf-blind community.

6: EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Details

Charge: To inform the president about policies, legislation, strategies, and initiatives in which NFBO should be engaged to improve educational opportunities for blind youth throughout the state.

7: FINANCING THE MOVEMENT COMMITTEE including (SUN coordinator, Jernigan Fund coordinator, PAC coordinator)

Details

Charge: To make members aware of these specific organizational fundraising opportunities and to implement strategies to increase participation.

8: FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Details

Charge: To investigate added opportunities to increase NFB-O resources and to implement effective fundraising strategies and programming.

9: LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Details

Charge: To increase the organization’s visibility and effectiveness in the state legislature and to continue to support our efforts in Washington throughout the year.

10: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Details

Charge: To implement effective strategies to recruit and retain members and   to reinvigorate the chapters and divisions of NFBO.

11: NEWSLINE Coordinator

Details

Charge: To assist the state president with updating the content on  the Newsline service, as well as, promoting and advertising NEWSLINE.

12: PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY Committee

Details

Charge: To develop content and suggest creative ways to promote NFBO branding. Responsibilities include but are not limited to research, audience preferences and discover current trends, create engaging text, image and video content, design posts to sustain readers’ curiosity and create buzz around current issues, stay up to date with changes in all social platforms ensuring maximum effectiveness, train leaders how to use social media in a cohesive/beneficial way, and oversee social media accounts. Members on this committee should be proficient computer users.

13: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Details

Charge: To conduct the affiliate scholarship program and to develop and implement effective strategies to increase the visibility of the program and increase participation.

14: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee

Detail

Charge: to provide education and training, guidance and advocacy where needed. Our diverse community includes, but is not limited to, the intersectionality of ability, age, religion, race, ethnicity, culture, gender identity or expression, and sexual orientation.

15: Employment Committee

Detail

Charge: To inform the president about policies, legislation, strategies, and initiatives on why NFBO should be involved to improve employment opportunities for blind persons throughout the state and beyond; the importance of holding various platforms on accessible technology, socializations skills, resume writing, career exploration and preparing employers for interviewing and hiring blind people; also prepare members for the National and various Career Fairs through, Learning about new employment resources. Networking and interviewing techniques; finally educating members on the significance on how to advocate for reasonable accommodations, rehabilitation services and other vital resources to aid one in being productive and successful in obtaining and maintaining a career.

16: National Federation of the Blind of Ohio, Affiliate Website Committee

Detail

Charge: to suggest and assist the president with the redesigned of the web page.

 the purpose of this committee, will be to modernize and unify the NFBO’s webpage.