

# National Federation of the Blind of Ohio

**77th Annual State Convention**

**November 17, 18, and 19, 2023**

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Columbus-Worthington

175 Hutchinson Ave, Columbus, OH 43235

(614) 885-3334

Richard Payne, Affiliate President

Suzanne Turner, Convention Arrangements Co-Chair

Tracy Soforenko, National Representative

Hosted by the Capital Chapter, Annette Lutz, President

## **Stronger Together!**

Welcome to the National Federation of the Blind of Ohio’s 77th Annual State Convention. Our theme “Stronger Together” reflects the knowledge that our members are the power behind the nation’s oldest and largest blind people’s movement.

as a founding affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind, we have a strong legacy of working together as a community in order to protect and advocate for our civil rights as blind people from its very beginning.

Through our vast network of blind members and friends, we coordinate programs, services, and resources to defend the rights of blind people, provide information and support to blind children and adults, and build a community that creates unlimited opportunities.

We believe in the ability of blind people to organize and advocate on our own behalf and reflect this belief from our democratically elected leaders to our diverse nationwide membership.

We respect and are inclusive of blind people of all backgrounds and abilities. It is our uniqueness as individuals and our collective dedication to our mission as blind people that is at the core of our strength as an organization.

Working together, we are an unstoppable force in our pursuit of civil rights for the blind in Ohio and beyond.

## **One Minute Message**

The National Federation of the Blind knows that blindness is not the characteristic that defines you or your future. Every day we raise the expectations of blind people, because low expectations create obstacles between blind people and our dreams. You can live the life you want; blindness is not what holds you back.

## **NFB Pledge**

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.

## **Code of Conduct**

The National Federation of the Blind of Ohio State Convention is a family friendly event. We are committed to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment dedicated to positive experiences for blind people. We hold ourselves and our attendees to strict adherence to the National Federation of the Blind Code of Conduct found at:

https://nfb.org/about-us/history-and-governance/code-conduct/code

## **Privacy Notice**

“This is a public event. You may be filmed on video or captured in photos that may be published in media outlets, including Twitter, Facebook, or other social media sites. Some sessions and activities at the 2023 National Federation of the Blind of Ohio State Convention may be photographed or videotaped. By participating in the State Convention, registrants agree that The National Federation of the Blind of Ohio has the right to use their image, likeness and/or voice or sound recording taken in connection to the State Convention in all Media.”

## **Convention Arrangements**

If you have any questions about convention arrangements, contact Suzanne Turner, Convention Arrangements, Co-Chair, at (216) 990-6199 or [SMTurner.234@gmail.com](mailto:SMTurner.234@gmail.com).

## **Hotel Navigation Guide**

To check into the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Columbus-Worthington, enter from the north side of the building. There are two entrances about 30 feet apart. The check-in desk is centered between both entrances about 15 feet away from the doors.

As you enter the hotel, angle toward the other door while moving forward to the check-in desk. There are three pillars that run from east to west halfway across the space between the doors and the desk.

After check-in, turn to place the desk on your right side then begin traveling east along the east/west hall toward the sleeping rooms. Just past the check-in desk is an option to make a right turn to head south toward the convention meeting rooms. Ignore the urge to change direction for now and continue east toward the sleeping rooms.

Continuing east, we will pass the work-out room and the pool on the right (south) wall. Next, we will pass an exit to the courtyard on the right (south) wall. The hotel surrounds this outdoor space with multiple points of entry.

On the left (north) side of this hall across from the courtyard exit is one of two designated exits to the dog relief areas (details provided in dog relief Section).

Moving east past the exits to the courtyard and the dog relief area are the elevators to the sleeping rooms. Two elevators are located on the right (south) side of the hall, and one is located on the left (north) side. If you hit the carpet, you have gone about 30 feet too far.

The carpeted area indicates that we have entered the corridor for the sleeping rooms on the main floor. There are six floors of sleeping rooms, including the main floor. The rooms all have Braille and raised print signs.

Returning back to the front entrance, traveling south away from the doors, turn to the right (west) almost immediately. Travel west until locating the wall that leads to a set of restrooms as well as the Franklin and Fairfield Rooms, which is where hospitality will be held.

At the carpeted area, turn right (north) . Continue traveling north to locate a set of restrooms on the west wall.

Turn completely around here to place the west wall on the right side then begin traveling south. At the next opening on the right, turn right (west) to enter the short east/west hallway containing the hospitality rooms. The Franklin Room is at the beginning of this hallway and the Fairfield Room is at its far north end.

Returning to the front door and facing south, begin traveling south passing the west end of the check-in desk and past the hall entrance leading to the hospitality rooms on the right (west) side.

Continuing on our journey south, we will find the Crosswoods Bar & Grille on our right (west) side.

Across from the Crosswoods Bar & Grille is the Upper Terrace. This large, rectangular, elevated space is open on all sides surrounded by railing. This meeting space extends from the back of the check-in desk to the ballroom spaces at the south end of the hotel. Traveling around all sides of the terrace, we will find one ramp access point and several access points using stairs. This space has plenty of seating options for meeting up with others to snack and chat.

Back in the space between the Crosswoods Bar and Grille on the west and the Upper Terrace on the east of us, we continue traveling south away from the front entrance of the hotel. After moving a short distance, the path takes a hard left (east) turn.

Following along the wall on our right (south wall( as we head eastward, we will locate two large ballrooms. The Alder Room is our general session meeting room. It is the easternmost of these two rooms. When you have reached the carpet, you will find the convention registration tables.

Now return back to the main entrance at the front of the hotel. Place the entrance doors at our backs then travel south moving past the check-in desk at its eastern end. A set of restrooms are on the left (east) side of the hall. On the right (west) is the Upper Terrace.

Continue traveling south to the end of the north/south hall to head directly into the Alder Room located on the south wall. Turn left (east) before entering the Alder room to take the east/west hall leading to the registration area. The Polaris 1 and 2 Rooms are located on the left (north) wall.

Traveling east past the rooms on the left and the registration area, on our left (north) is another exit to the courtyard. On our right is an opening to travel south to the break-out rooms and the south exit to the dog relief area at the back of the hotel (details in the dog relief section).

Turn to move south into this open area. On your left (east) are the German Village, the Arena District, and the Short North Rooms. On the right (west) are the Oak 1, 2, and 3 Rooms. Straight ahead at the southernmost end of the hotel is the exit to the dog relief area.

## **Dog Relief Areas**

There are two centrally located designated dog relief areas, the first is on the front (north) side and the other is on the back (south) side of the hotel. Please use only the designated dog relief areas and always clean- up after your dog. Don’t embarrass your canine companion by leaving their waste behind for others to find. Pick-up all of the waste and dispose of it in the trash can next to the doors before re-entering the hotel.

The north side dog relief area is located at the front of the hotel. To get there, follow the east/west hallway between the hotel’s check-in desk and the sleeping rooms. The exit to the designated area is on the north side of the tiled hallway across from the exit to the courtyard, which is in-between the pool/gym area and the elevators to the sleeping rooms. Dogs will enjoy the soft grass found just steps away from the exit and before the parking area.

The south side dog relief area is located at the back of the hotel. To get there, travel south between the German Village, the Arena District, and the Short North Rooms on the east wall and the Oak 1, 2, and 3 Rooms on the west wall to the exit at the back of the hotel. Exit into the parking area along the building, cross the driveway, and another line of parking spaces to get to a grassy island designed to please our favorite working companions.

For assistance with dog guides, please contact, Luann Bowers, President, Ohio Guide Dog Users Division at (419) 822-6828 or [luannbowers4@gmail.com](mailto:luannbowers4@gmail.com).

## **Registration**

The registration Area is located on the carpeted space just east of the Alder Room in the east/west hallway in the back (south) of the hotel. It is open on Fri, Nov 17 from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 1:45 PM and on Sat, Nov 18 from 8:00 AM to 8:45 AM.

Skip the lines and go to the Pre-Registration Table for a speedy process for all those who completed their registration ahead of convention. Pick up your prepared registration packets and be on your way to enjoying an action-packed agenda without delay.

To register for convention or to purchase additional ticketed options, please form a line at the general registration table. We look forward to helping you register as quickly as possible so you can be on your way to enjoying a great weekend of events.

For more information about registration, please contact Suzanne Turner, Convention Arrangements, Co-Chair at (216) 990-6199 or [SMTurner.234@gmail.com](mailto:SMTurner.234@gmail.com).

## **NFB Literature**

NFB literature will be available throughout the convention next to the registration area. Feel free to take as much as you like; and share it with your friends and family.

## **Annual Auction**

Help our affiliate to continue its legacy of advocacy by and for the blind by bringing your positive energy and generously giving in support of a great cause during our annual auction held at the Banquet on Saturday evening.

It promises to be fun for the entire family with many valuable items up for bid. Our chapters, divisions, and many friends contribute a wide range of items including electronics, gift certificates, food baskets, and more.

Please contact Annette Lutz at (614) 288-4323 to make arrangements to get auction items to her immediately upon arrival to the hotel. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## **Door Prizes**

Door prizes will be drawn periodically throughout convention sessions on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and during our banquet. To be eligible to win a door prize, you must be registered for the convention and present in the meeting space when your name is called.

All donated items should be labeled clearly in print and Braille with the donor's name, the amount of the gift, and the type of gift being contributed.

Deliver prizes directly to Annette Lutz or leave them with a representative at the Convention Registration table along with its print/Braille label.

## **Hospitality**

You are invited to the hospitality suites during the hours of 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM on Fri, Nov 17, for snacks and beverages. The Cincinnati Chapter has graciously volunteered to be on hand to welcome attendees. Pick-up refreshments in the Franklin Room and proceed to the Fairfield Room to eat, talk, and enjoy each other’s company.

## **Exhibit Hall**

Whether you are an information seeker or a new gadget shopper, you will find everything that you need to help you live the life you want at the 2023 Exhibit Hall.

Visit Exhibit Hall in the Cedar-Buckeye Room on Sat, Nov 18 from Noon to 4:30 PM to explore the latest technology and to get answers to the questions that race through your mind about employment, healthcare, services for the blind, and so much more.

For questions, please reach out to Suzanne Turner, Convention Arrangements, Co-Chair at (216) 990-6199 or [SMTurner.234@gmail.com](mailto:SMTurner.234@gmail.com).

## **Meet Tracy Soforenko, National Representative**

Tracy Soforenko grew up in Rhode Island as the youngest child of a high school teacher. He attended the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1991 with degrees in finance and psychology.

Each summer, Tracy worked long hours to pay for college tuition and expenses. He noticed difficulty with driving and scheduled an eye exam only to find out he was experiencing rapid vision loss due to retinitis pigmentosa.

After college graduation, Tracy moved from Philadelphia to Washington, DC and started a career in technology and business consulting, serving financial services, retail, and publishing industry customers across North America.

Tracy’s career evolved from consulting to becoming a project manager for the federal government, where he managed large customer service and financial technology projects for the Corporation for National & Community Service and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

Tracy and his wife Sharon married in 1995 and moved to Arlington, Virginia in 1997. As his career progressed and family responsibilities expanded with two daughters, Tracy desperately needed to learn alternative nonvisual techniques to do his job, raise his children, and be involved in the community.

Tracy needed positive blind role models, a new mindset on blindness, and a way to contribute to the community. He found his local National Federation of the Blind chapter and was immediately put to work.

Through the Potomac Chapter of Virginia, Tracy ran fundraising activities, was involved in mentoring students, and attended his first NFB National Convention in 2005. The experience was transformative.

The experience led Tracy to start developing youth programming, running the Virginia program to help first time convention attendees, directing legislative advocacy in Richmond, and taking on other leadership roles.

Tracy served as president of his local chapter and as a vice president of the Virginia affiliate before being elected president of the Virginia affiliate in 2016. His enthusiasm for the national convention led him to serve as Chair of the Kenneth Jernigan Fund.

Tracy expanded programs for youth in the Virginia affiliate, leading to the creation of Project Resilience, Independence, Self-Advocacy, and Employment (Project RISE) in 2017. This thriving program now serves thirty-five students with a team of thirteen staff and mentors.

For the past 2 years, the Virginia affiliate has conducted weekend long senior empowerment programs to share alternative techniques and Federation philosophy with sixty blind and low-vision seniors through the Virginia Silver Bells program.

Finally, Tracy has expanded engagement in legislative advocacy at the state and national level, with nearly one hundred members participating in legislative advocacy in Richmond and forty participants in Washington Seminar. In 2021, Tracy was elected to serve as a member of the National Federation of the Blind Board of Directors.

Tracy, Sharon, and their two daughters still live in Arlington, Virginia. He loves to hike, participate in his local Toastmasters Club, and cook.

## **CONVENTION AGENDA**

### **Friday, November 17, 2023**

**9:00 AM to 10:30 AM** -- Pre-Registration Packet Pick-up and Convention Registration: Outside of the Alder Room

**10:30 am to Noon** -- Ohio Board of Directors Meeting :Alder Room

**12:15 PM to 1:30 PM** -- Meet and Greet with light refreshments: Buckeye I and II Rooms

Please join this welcome event to get to know leaders and fellow conventioneers.

**12:30 PM to 1:45 PM** -- Pre-Registration Packet Pick-up and Convention Registration: Outside of the Alder Room

#### **GENERAL SESSION : Alder Room**

**2:00 PM** -- Call to Order

Richard Payne, President, NFB of Ohio

**2:05 PM** – Invocation

Rev., Dr. Carolyn Peters, President, Ohio Communities of Faith Division, and Vice President, NFB of Ohio

**2:10 PM** -- Opening ceremonies: Color Guard Presentation

**2:25 PM** -- Welcome and Opening Remarks by the Host Chapter

Annette Lutz, President, NFB Capitol Chapter, and Secretary, NFB of Ohio

**2:35 pm** -- Convention Announcements

Suzanne Turner, Co-Chair, Convention Arrangements, President, NFB Cleveland Chapter, and Board of Directors Member, NFB of Ohio

**2:40 pm** -- National Report

Tracy Soforenko, Board of Directors Member, NFB, and President, NFB of Virginia

**3:15 PM** -- What’s New with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD)

Kevin Miller, Director

**3:40 PM** -- Disability Rights Ohio (DRO)

Aileen Brock, CAP Attorney Coordinator

Learn about your rights and protections related to vocational rehabilitation services, accommodations in employment, and how the Client Assistance program can help.

**4:05 PM** -- HIMS Inc.

Earle Harrison, National Account Manager

**4:25 PM** -- Braille or No Braille: A Panel Discussion

Marianne Denning, Facilitator, Board of Directors Member, NFB of Ohio

**4:40 PM** -- Stroke and Vision Loss

Shirley Patterson, Secretary, NFB of Cleveland Chapter, and Board Member, Cleveland Stroke Club

**4:55 PM** -- Announcements

**5:00 PM** -- Adjourn: General Session resumes at 9:00 AM Saturday.

**5:30 PM to 8:30 PM** -- Hospitality Night: Food Pick-Up in Franklin Room and Eat/Fellowship in Fairfield Room

Join in the fun and fellowship on hospitality night. Visit the Franklin Room to pick-up food then move on over to the Fairfield Room to eat and socialize.

**5:30 PM to 7:00 PM** -- Ohio Community Service Division Meeting: Alder Room

Patricia McPherson, President

**5:30 PM to 7:00 PM** -- Ohio Association of Blind Students Meeting: Arena District Room

Shane Popplestone, President

**7:00 PM to 8:00 PM** -- Ohio Association of Guide Dog Users Division Meeting: Madison Room

Luanne Bowers, President

**7:30PM to 8:30 PM** -- Ohio At-Large Chapter Meeting: Buckeye I and II Rooms

Colleen Roth, President

**7:30 PM to 8:30 PM** -- Introducing the Virginia Silver Bells: German Village Room

Tracy Soforenko, President, NFB of Virginia

**7:30 PM to 8:15 PM** -- Resolutions Committee Meeting: Alder Room

Frank Bragassa, Chair

All are welcome to attend. Resolutions adopted by the convention become the policy of the organization.

**7:30 PM to 9:00 PM** -- Ohio Communities of Faith Division Meeting: Arena District Room

Rev., Dr. Carolyn Peters, President

Our doors are always open! We are a diverse group of blind members representing various religions. Join our business meeting, elections and learn about resources.

**8:30 PM** -- Nominating Committee Meeting: Union Room- This is a closed meeting

**9:00 PM** -- You Got Talent: Alder Room

Perhaps you have a talent you would like to share. We will feature YOU in an NFB of Ohio You Got Talent show.

Contact Wilbert Turner, Facilitator, at (216) 212-4959 to sign up and learn more.

### **Saturday, November 18, 2023**

**7:00 AM to 8:45 AM** -- Blind Parent’s Meeting

Members meet for breakfast in the Crosswoods Bar & Grille followed by a business meeting in Buckeye Rooms I and II.

Suzanne Turner, Chair, Ohio Membership Committee

**7:00 AM to 8:45 AM** -- Ohio Diabetes Action Network (DAN)

Members will have breakfast in the Crosswoods Bar & Grille followed by a business meeting in the Arena District Room.

Walter Mitchel, President, Ohio Diabetic Action Network

**7:00 AM to 8:45 AM** -- Scholarship Breakfast Meeting

Invited guests will meet in the Crosswoods Bar & Grille.

Kinshuk Tella and Kristin Coen, Co-Chairs, Scholarship Committee

**8:00 AM to 8:45 AM** -- Final Pre-Registration Packet Pick-up and Registration: Outside of the Alder Room

#### **GENERAL SESSION: Alder Room**

**9:00 AM** -- Call to Order

Richard Payne, President, NFB of Ohio

**9:05 AM** – Invocation

Christopher Sabine, Member, Ohio Communities of Faith Division, and Board of Directors Member, NFB of Ohio

**9:10 AM** -- Convention Announcements

Suzanne Turner, Convention Arrangements, Co-Chair, and Board of Directors Member, NFB of Ohio

**9:15 AM** -- Non-24

Maggie Felton, Nurse Educator, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

**9:35 AM** -- Braille Production & Accessible Innovation

Samuel Foulkes, Director of Braille Production & Accessible Innovation, Clover nook Center for the Blind

**9:55 AM** -- Update from the State Library of Ohio

Tracy Grimm, Head of Circulation & Special Services, State Library of Ohio

**10:15 AM** -- STEM2U 2023

Caroline Karbowski, Certified Braille Transcriber, pursuing an MA in Sensory Impairments and Inclusion with Certification in Orientation and Mobility (O&M), Chief Community Officer: A Cubed Design, CEO and Founder: See3D, Inc.

**10:35 AM** -- What’s new with Aira

Marty Watts, VP Sales, Aira Tech Corp.

Jenine Stanley, Director Customer Success & Engagement, Aira Tech Corp.

**11:00 AM** -- How to Advocate in Front of Elected Officials and the Importance of Articulating Your Message

Peter Lawson Jones, Attorney, Business Consultant, and former elected official, who served as a Ranking Member of the House Finance and Appropriations 11 Committee, was a Member of the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners and 2nd Vice President of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus.

**11:25 AM** -- A Style/Fashion Breakdown

Kinshuk Tella, Board of Directors Member, NFB Miami Valley Chapter

A presentation surrounding style and fashion. Focusing on keeping up with trends and where to go to get information, which is a powerful tool to advocate for oneself, and can change lives.

**11:40 AM** -- President’s Report

Richard Payne, President, NFB of Ohio

**Noon** -- Adjourn: General Session resumes at 9:00 AM Sunday.

**Noon** -- Boxed Lunch Pick-Up (Tickets Required) : Outside Alder Room , Upper Terrace Area

**Noon to 4:30 PM** -- Exhibit Hall : Cedar-Buckeye Rooms

**12:30 PM to 2:30 PM** -- Ohio Senior Division Meeting: Alder Room

Suzanne Turner, President

**2:00 PM to 3:30 PM** -- Starting a Business 101: Arena District Room

Demetrius Williams, Facilitator, Beat the Street LLC.

**3:00 PM to 4:30 PM** -- Come and Learn About Art with a Live Demonstration: Buckeye I and II Room

Molly Brockman, Founder, Beyond Vision Art

Create your very own Holiday noise makers, called Maracas.

**3:00 PM to 5:00 PM --** American Heart Association, CPR Training (Pre-Registration Required): German Village Room

**5:30 PM to 6:30 PM** -- Pre-Banquet Social Hour, cash bar: Upper Terrace

**6:30 PM** -- NFB of Ohio Banquet (Tickets Required): Alder Room

**Event Highlights:**

Master of Ceremonies: Richard Payne, President, NFB of Ohio

Invocation: Rev., Dr. Carolyn Peters, Vice President, NFB of Ohio

Keynote Speaker: Tracy Soforenko, National Representative

Awards presentation: Annette Lutz, Awards Committee Chair

Scholarship Awards: Kinshuk Tella and Kristin Coen-Mishlan, Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs

Not-So-Silent Auction: Annette Lutz, Secretary, NFB of Ohio, and President, NFB Capital Chapter

Money for the Movement: Kathy Legg, Treasurer, NFB of Ohio

9:00 PM -- After Party: Alder Room

Stick around after the Banquet to socialize and celebrate with your NFB of Ohio community. Enjoy live music and a cash bar.

### **Sunday, November 19, 2023**

**7:45 AM to 8:45 AM** -- Faith meeting

Rev., Dr. Carolyn Peters, President, Communities of Faith Division

#### **GENERAL SESSION : Alder Room**

**9:00 AM** -- Call to Order

Richard Payne, President, NFB of Ohio

**9:05 AM** -- Remembering Federation Members who are No Longer with Us.

**9:10AM** -- Leadership Presentation Panel

Richard Payne, President, NFB of Ohio

Rev., Dr. Carolyn Peters, Vice President, NFB of Ohio

Tracy Soforenko, National Representative

**9:45 AM** -- Financial Report

Kathy Legg, Treasurer, NFB of Ohio

**9:55 AM** -- Nominating Committee Report

**10:00 AM** -- Affiliate Elections

**10:20 AM** -- Why am I a Federationist?

Suzanne Turner, Membership Committee Chair, and Board of Directors Member, NFB of Ohio

**10:40 AM** – Resolutions

Frank Bragassa, Chair

**11:05 AM** -- My Journey! New to the Community but Running the Race!

Kathy Legg, President, NFB Greater Akron Chapter

Tomeika Hurt, Member, NFB Cleveland Chapter

**11:30 AM** -- Touring Cross Country Blind with Accessible Apps and More

Renee Arrington-Johnson, Member, NFB Cleveland Chapter

**11:50 AM** -- Closing Remarks

Richard Payne, President, NFB of Ohio

Tracy Soforenko, National Representative

**Noon** -- Adjournment

## **National Federation of the Blind of Ohio**

## 2023 Board of Directors

Richard Payne, President

Phone: 937-829-3368

Email: [rchpay7@gmail.com](mailto:rchpay7@gmail.com)

PO Box 20544, Dayton, OH 45420

Rev., Dr. Carolyn Peters, Vice President

Phone: 937-657-5134

Email: [dr.carolyn.peters@gmail.com](mailto:dr.carolyn.peters@gmail.com)

411 Elmhurst Road, Dayton, OH 45417

Annette Lutz, Secretary

Phone: 614-288-4323

Email: [President.capital.nfboh@gmail.com](mailto:President.capital.nfboh@gmail.com)

77 W. Jeffrey Place, Columbus, OH 43214

Kathy Legg, Treasurer

Phone: 330-212-5118

Email: [treasurer@nfbohio.org](mailto:treasurer@nfbohio.org)

1916 15th Street SW, Akron, Oh 44314

Christopher Sabine, Member

Phone: 513-403-9601

Email: [info@onhconsulting.com](mailto:info@onhconsulting.com)

6756 Tarawa Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45224

Suzanne Hartfield-Turner, Member

Phone: 216-9906199

Email: [President.NFB.ClevelandOhio@gmail.com](mailto:President.NFB.ClevelandOhio@gmail.com)

1127 Euclid Ave., Suite 210, Cleveland, OH 44115

Marianne Denning, Member

Phone: 513-607-6053

Email: [Marianne@Denningweb.com](mailto:Marianne@Denningweb.com)

835 Carini Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45218

William Turner, Member

Phone: 330-328-9860

Email: [TurnerW794@gmail.com](mailto:TurnerW794@gmail.com)

1064 East 167th Street, Cleveland, OH 44110

Kinshuk Tella, Member

Phone: 937-708-9930

Email: [Kinshuk.Tella@gmail.com](mailto:Kinshuk.Tella@gmail.com)

2614 Rockcastle Ct., Miamisburg, Oh 45432

Shawn Martin, Member

Phone: 216-288-1243

Email: [smartin494@roadrunner.com](mailto:smartin494@roadrunner.com)

11406 Clifton Blvd., Apt. 409, Cleveland, Oh 44102

Andra Stover, Member

Phone: 440-204-9244

Email: [andra.stover@outlook.com](mailto:andra.stover@outlook.com)

3282 Baird Rd., Stow, OH 44224

## **Funding Our Movement**

### **Dream Makers Circle**

Leave a legacy that ensures a future of opportunity for the blind by becoming a member of our Dream Makers Circle. It’s easier than you think.

List the National Federation of the Blind or the National Federation of the Blind of Ohio as a beneficiary in any of the following meaningful ways and our transformative work will continue thanks to your thoughtful plan for the future.

* Convert your banking account to a Payable on Death (POD) bank account listing our organization as the designated beneficiary.
* Name our organization in your final Wil or Trust.
* Donate an income -generating gift by listing our organization as the beneficiary of a retirement plan, IRA, pension, or a life insurance policy.
* Specify a specific amount, a percentage, or list us as one of several beneficiaries in your legacy plans.

For additional information, please contact Patti Chang at 410-659-9314 extension 2422 or [pchang@nfb.org](mailto:pchang@nfb.org). Thank you in advance for securing the future of our movement.

### **Vehicle Donation**

The National Federation of the Blind uses car donations to improve the education of blind children, distribute free white canes, help veterans, and so much more. We have partnered with Vehicles for Charity to process donated vehicles. Please call toll-free 855-659-9314, and a representative can make arrangements, or you can donate online by visiting www.nfb.org/vehicledonations.

### **Pre-Authorized Contributions (PAC) Plan**

Can you help the National Federation of the Blind on a regular basis? Please consider joining our pre-authorized contribution plan. Starting at $5 monthly, you can help us turn dreams into reality and raise expectations for blind people. Visit nfb.org/pac to fill out the online form or email pac@nfb.org for additional information.

## **77th Annual State Convention Sponsors**

We are thankful to the following community partners for their commitment to the transformative work of the blind in Ohio. Their support enables the blindness community to be even stronger.

**Vanda Pharmaceuticals**

Dedicated to raising awareness of Non-24-Hour Sleep Wake Disorder (Non-24) and supporting the blindness community. Non-24 is a rare circadian rhythm disorder affecting people who are totally blind. People living with non-24 experience excessive daytime sleepiness and nighttime sleeplessness, which leads to impaired social and occupational function.

**Disability Rights Ohio**

A non-profit corporation with a mission to advocate for the human, civil, and legal rights of people with disabilities in Ohio.

**Cincinnati Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired**

A private, not-for-profit organization offering comprehensive services and job opportunities for people of all ages who are blind or visually impaired. Every day we work to ensure full lives and community inclusion for those we serve.

**HIMS Inc.**

A global leader in the development and manufacturing of assistive technology for the blind and visually impaired since 1999. Committed to providing affordable, high-quality products that meet the needs of customers at work, at school, and at home.

**Ohio Legal Services for Seniors-Pro Seniors**

We help Ohio seniors resolve legal & long-term care problems & fight Medicare and financial fraud. Our Legal Helpline Provides free legal information, advice, and referral for residents of Ohio age 60 and over, regardless of income or resources. The Mid-America Pension Rights Project provides information and guidance related to pensions and retirement benefits. The Senior Financial Exploitation Project provides advice about preventing financial exploitation and helps resolve the legal problems caused by financial exploitation.