



# NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

IOWA

*Live the life you want.*

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF IOWA  
2019 STATE CONVENTION  
October 25–October 27, 2019

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Des Moines Northwest  
4800 Merle Hay Road, Urbandale, IA 50322

Scott Van Gorp, President  
E-Mail: [svangorp@nfbi.org](mailto:svangorp@nfbi.org)  
Cell: (515)720-5282  
Website: [www.nfbi.org](http://www.nfbi.org)

If you have questions or need assistance with the hotel during the convention, contact  
Convention Coordinator Cindy Ray (Cell: 515-208-2351)

## WELCOME

The members of the planning committee welcome you to the 2018 National Federation of the Blind of Iowa state convention!

Scott Van Gorp, President, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa

Cindy Ray, Convention Coordinator, Des Moines Chapter; Secretary, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa

Joe Goode, Des Moines Chapter; National Federation of the Blind of Iowa

Sharonda Goode, Des Moines Chapter; National Federation of the Blind of Iowa

Helen Stevens, Des Moines Chapter; National Federation of the Blind of Iowa

### Committee Chairs

Bob Ray, Nominating

Michael Barber, Resolutions

Helen Stevens, Registration

Karen Clayton, Auditing

Chelsea Page, Door Prizes

Katy Olsen, Outreach

### 2018-2019 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Scott Van Gorp, President, Des Moines, [svangorp@nfbi.org](mailto:svangorp@nfbi.org)

Vacant, First Vice President,

Katy Olsen, Second Vice President, Des Moines, [president.iabs@gmail.com](mailto:president.iabs@gmail.com)

Cindy Ray, Secretary, Des Moines, [cindray@gmail.com](mailto:cindray@gmail.com)

David Hammel, Treasurer, Urbandale, [dhammelia@aol.com](mailto:dhammelia@aol.com)

Tai Tomasi, Board Member, Birmingham, AL [tai.tomasi8@gmail.com](mailto:tai.tomasi8@gmail.com)

Sam Claassen, Board Member, Cedar Rapids, [blindsoul93@gmail.com](mailto:blindsoul93@gmail.com)

Karen Clayton, Board Member, Sioux City, [kjeanette1978@gmail.com](mailto:kjeanette1978@gmail.com)

Michael Barber, Board Member, Des Moines, [m.barber817@gmail.com](mailto:m.barber817@gmail.com)

Stay connected with the National Federation of the Blind of Iowa!

Use the hashtag: #NFBIA19

Like us on Facebook: National Federation of the Blind of Iowa

Follow us on Twitter: @NFB\_Iowa

Sign up for the Tall-Corn mailing list to get our latest information

## AGENDA

### **Friday, October 25, 2019**

10:00 a.m.-Noon    Technology Showcase  
Location: Wisconsin Room

Staff from the Iowa Department for the Blind and others will have various pieces of technology on display. You will also have the opportunity to get your technology questions answered and troubleshoot any problems.

1:00-3:00 p.m.    Iowa Diabetes Action Network                      Mike Barber, President  
Location: Wisconsin Room

The Iowa Diabetes Action Network will hold our annual meeting with registration beginning at 12:30 P.M. outside the Wisconsin room. Our main speakers will be Laurie and Hannah from the Iowa Diabetes Research Foundation. They will provide us with any updates in Diabetes research since the last time they visited. We will also have our annual business meeting.

3:00-5:00 p.m.    At Large Chapter Meeting                      April Enderton, President  
Location: Wisconsin Room

We will hear from Dolores Reisinger about her activities with “Meet the Blind Month”. We will also hold our annual chapter elections and much more. Registration begins at 2:45.    Registration/dues: \$5

3:00-5:00 p.m.    Iowa Association of Blind Students                      Katy Olsen, President  
Location: Nebraska Room

See separate agenda for details on the student meeting  
Registration begins at 2:30 / Dues: \$5

3:00-6:45 p.m.    Convention Registration Pick Up                      Helen Stevens, Chair  
Location: Lobby between Salons B and C

5:15-6:45 p.m.    Welcome Reception  
Location: Salon B

Come reconnect with friends you have not seen for a year and make new friends at this event. Hors d'oeuvres will be served to those who have registered for the event and are wearing the appropriate wrist band for the event.

7:00-8:00 p.m.      Resolutions Committee Meeting      Michael Barber, Chair  
Location: Wisconsin Room

Open to all. Hear the resolutions before they come to the  
Convention floor for a vote.

8:00pm-Midnight: Hospitality  
Location: Salon B

Iowa Association of Blind Students host hospitality night. Cash Bar  
available . Come join in on the fun as the student division provides the  
entertainment for our first night of the convention.

### **Saturday, October 26, 2019**

7:00-8:00 a.m.      Convention Registration  
Location: Lobby between Salons B and C

7:00-8:00 a.m.      President's Buffet Breakfast  
Location: Salon B

8:00-8:45 a.m.      Affiliate Board Meeting      Scott Van Gorp, President  
Location: Salon B  
Open to all

### **GENERAL SESSION (Salon C)**

9:00 a.m.      Call to Order: Scott Van Gorp, President, National Federation of the Blind  
of Iowa

9:05 a.m.      **Opening Ceremonies**  
Invocation: Cindy Ray, Secretary, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa  
Pledge of Allegiance

National Anthem: Terri Wilcox, Secretary, Des Moines Chapter; David  
Hammel, Treasurer, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa; Cindy Ray,  
Secretary, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa

National Federation of the Blind Pledge

Welcome to Urbandale: State Senator Brad Zaun R Iowa Senate district 20,  
Urbandale, Iowa

- 9:20 A.M. Convention Arrangements: Cindy Ray, Convention Coordinator and Secretary, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa
- 9:25 a.m. National Report: What's Happening in the Federation?  
Julie Deden, National representative; Director, Colorado Center for the Blind
- 9:55 a.m. Report on Student Legislative Initiatives  
Beth Rouse, Student at Central College and board member, National Association of Blind Students (NABS)
- 10:10 A.M. Self-Confidence Levels in Sequential Learning Versus Structured Discovery Cane Travel, Post Orientation and Mobility Instruction: A Comparison Study Dr. Merry-Noel Chamberlain
- 11:15 a.m. Report from Iowa Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (IESBVI)  
Steve Gettel, Superintendent, IESBVI and Staff
- 12:00 P.M. Recess
- 12:15-1:45 p.m. Networking Lunch  
Location: Salon B  
Come reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and be a part of a relaxing lunch with your federation family
- 2:00 p.m. General Session  
Location: Salon C
- 2:05 p.m. Presidential Report: The Promise of the Future: where we have been and where we are going, Scott Van Gorp, President, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa
- 2:35 p.m. Iowa Department for the Blind Director's report: Emily Wharton, Director, Iowa Department for the Blind
- 3:15 p.m. An update from the I Can Connect program, what it is, and how it works.  
Laurie McBride, Iowa Representative for *I Can Connect*, Helen Keller National Center (HKNC)
- 3:45 p.m. Developing Accessible Technologies to Enhance Quality of Life,  
Kyle Rector, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Computer Science, University of Iowa

- 4:00 p.m. NABS Report: What has NABS been up to this year?  
Dustin Cather, Treasurer, National Association of Blind Students
- 4:20 p.m. Legislative Updates: What have we been working on and how can you get involved?  
  
Michael Barber, board member, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa
- 4:40 P.M. How the Federation Philosophy Affects my Life and Influences My Work:  
Chelsea Page, Teacher of the Blind and Visually Impaired, IESBVI
- 5:00 p.m. Recess
- 6:00-6:45 p.m. Pre-Banquet Reception and Cash Bar  
Lobby between Salons B and C
- 7:00p.m. Annual Banquet  
Location: Salon B
- Master of Ceremonies: Mike Harvey – President, Des Moines Chapter, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa
  - Invocation: Cindy Ray – Secretary, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa
  - Banquet Address: Julie Deden, – National Representative
  - Membership Ceremony: Scott Van Gorp – President, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa
- PAC Plan: Julie Deden, – National Representative
- Awards – Scott Van Gorp, President, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa
  - Michael Barber – Board Member, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa
  - Auction and Raffles: Scott Van Gorp, President, National Federation of the Blind of Iowa and Julie Deden, National Representative
- Following Banquet until Midnight:  
Convention Planning Committee host hospitality  
Location: Salon B  
After the banquet, stop by and continue the networking with old and new friends!

## **Sunday, October 27, 2019**

8:00-8:45 a.m.      Morning Devotions      Joe and Sharonda Goode  
Location: Salon B

Start your morning off right. Rise and shine with great music, faith, and Federation family! Everyone is welcome!

### **BUSINESS SESSION**

Location: Salon C

9:00 a.m.      Call to Order

9:05:      Remarks – Julie Deden, National Representative

9:15 a.m.      Business Meeting

- 2018 Meeting Minutes – Cindy Ray, Secretary
- Treasurer's Report – David Hammel, Treasurer
- Auditing Committee Report – Karen Clayton, Chair
- Resolutions Committee Report – Michael Barber, Chair

10:30 a.m.      Chapter, Division, and Committee Reports

10:45 a.m.      Elections – Bob Ray, Nominating Committee Chair

Election of two 2-year board terms, one 1-year board term, and first Vice-President for a 1-year term. Election of Delegate and Alternate to the 2020 National Convention

- Old Business
- New Business
- Fundraising

11:30 a.m.      Final Remarks –Scott Van Gorp, President

Noon      Adjourn

## Convention Notes:

We will have exhibits this year in Salon D throughout Friday and possibly Saturday. Patrick Fischer from Nanopac and Laurie McBride from the Helen Keller National Center will be there to answer questions and let you know what they have to offer. Thank you NanoPac and HKNC!

We will once again have free access to Aira at this year's convention. The hotel will be an Aira access location. For more information on Aira, please visit [www.aira.io](http://www.aira.io).

For those who need it, there is a dog relief area at the hotel. As you exit the west entrance, turn north and go about 50 paces until you are along the fence. Bags and a waste receptacle are available.

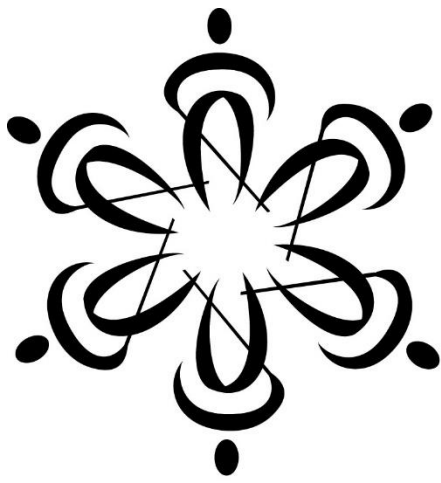
## MISSION OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF IOWA

The National Federation of the Blind of Iowa 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.

## THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND 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.





# NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

## IOWA

*Live the life you want.* **Free**

### **Aira Access at National Federation of the Blind State Conventions**

The National Federation of the Blind has partnered with Aira to provide free Aira Access during our 2019 state convention. Aira subscribers can use the service at our convention for free without having minutes deducted from their plans. In addition, those interested in Aira have the unique opportunity to try out the service for free while at our convention. This convention-wide, free site access is available only at NFB state conventions, giving an exclusive opportunity to test-drive Aira in a convention setting.

To download the Aira app go here: [www.aira.io/app](http://www.aira.io/app) you will see a banner at the top of the app that says, "Tap to use Aira as a Guest for Free." Aira allows blind individuals to connect via live video to a trained agent through a mobile app or wearable glasses to get real-time visual information or assistance. Learn more about **Aira at [www.aira.io](http://www.aira.io)**.

**How it Works** - Before you head to convention or as soon as you get there, download the free Aira app from the App Store, and create a guest account if you are not already an Aira subscriber. Also, make sure your phone's GPS feature is enabled. When you enter the convention Aira Access Location, your phone will receive a notification letting you know that the space you are in is part of the Aira Network. When you connect with an agent, he or she will also confirm that you are now covered by the network, and no minutes will be deducted from your account.

When you leave or enter convention areas that are covered by the Aira Access network, you will be informed by the Aira agent. The first five minutes of every Aira call are now free, so even when you leave the convention, Aira can go with you!