



# The Arizona Deafblind Project

## NEWSLETTER

May 1, 2020



Image: A close up view of blue, rippling swimming pool water

### **Educating Learners with Combined Vision and Hearing Loss during COVID-19**

The field of deafblind education places a high value on interaction, closeness and hands-on learning. During a time of school closures, distance and virtual learning can seem like a mismatch for our unique and diverse group of learners.

#### **The Arizona Deafblind Project acknowledges**

- Most of us are dealing with an overwhelming amount of incoming information
- New formats for learning will take time and patience
- We can try and do a little when we feel ready

# Tip of the Week **Interveners**

[Intervener.org](http://Intervener.org) describes an Intervener as a person who works consistently one-to-one with an individual who is deafblind and has training\* and specialized skills in deafblindness. The Intervener fills a specialized role in educational settings across our state, helping students gather information, learn concepts and skills, develop communication and language, and establish relationships that lead to greater independence. Have you ever heard of the Intervener Motto?



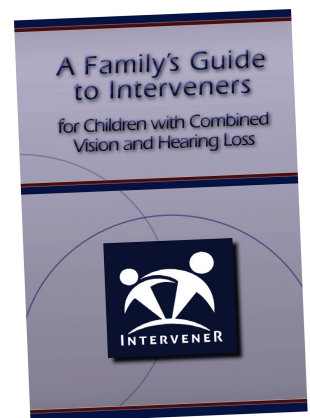
## “Do With, Not For”

Image: An outstretched hand holds a Monarch Butterfly just under a child's cheek. The child's hand grasps the fingers of the person holding the butterfly.

Image Credit: <https://moodle.nationaldb.org/>

If you are a family interested in learning more about Interveners, make sure you have access to a [Family's Guide to Interveners for Children with Combined Vision and Hearing Loss](#). This guide is available for free download.

You may also be interested in learning more about the [Characteristics of students who benefit from Interveners, Paraprofessionals, and Interpreters](#).



\*The Arizona Deafblind Project offers high quality Intervener Training to interested educational team members. Our next Cohort starts up in the Fall of 2020. Arizona participates in the Open Hands Open Access [\(OHOA\) Intervener Training Modules](#). Contact [megan.mogan@asdb.az.gov](mailto:megan.mogan@asdb.az.gov) if you know of a person interested in registering for next Fall's Cohort.

Parents and Guardians

**Our next Drop-In Zoom\* is  
Wednesday, May 6th @ 3pm (AZ time)**

Family Engagement Coordinator Heather Joy Magdelano will once again facilitate a shared space of support for families of children and youth with combined vision and hearing loss.

\*Spanish Interpretation Provided by request. Please email [megan.mogan@asdb.arizona.gov](mailto:megan.mogan@asdb.arizona.gov) if you would like to participate in Spanish

zoom.us/join  
Meeting ID: 990-2687-0010  
Password: 017825



## Drop-In Zoom May 6th

Image: Text against a Yellow Background, ASDB and Arizona Deafblind Project logos in lower corner along with the photo image of the pads of a prickly pear cactus: "Parents and Guardians; Our next Drop-In Zoom\* is Wednesday, May 6th @ 3pm (AZ time); Family Engagement Coordinator Heather Joy Magdelano will once again facilitate a shared space of support for parents and guardians of children and youth with combined vision and hearing loss; Spanish Interpretation provided by request. Please email [megan.mogan@asdb.arizona.gov](mailto:megan.mogan@asdb.arizona.gov) if you would like to participate in Spanish. zoom.us/join Meeting ID: 990-2687-0010; Password: 017825"

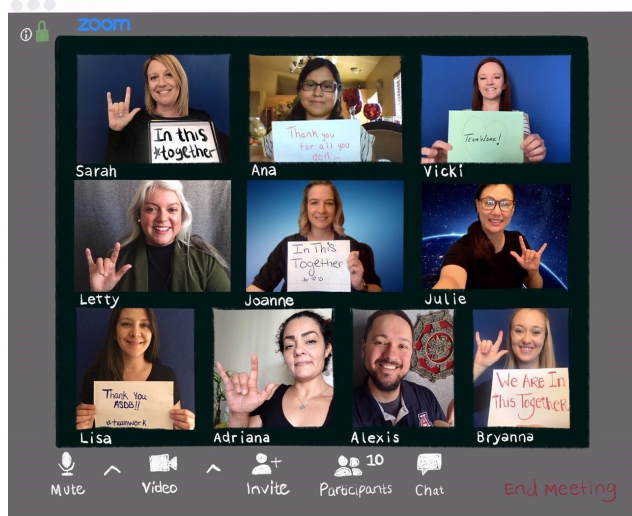
## Journey into Joy

**Saturday May 2nd from 2:30-4pm**, our Family Engagement Coordinator Heather Joy Magdelano invites you to practice Yoga Nidra (deep guided meditation). This group meets the first Saturday of each month, and currently takes place over Zoom. No experience with yoga or meditation is necessary, and the class is donation based. This class is for moms who have a child with a disability or a chronic health condition (physical or mental).



Email Heather Joy with questions or to register at [azdbparent@gmail.com](mailto:azdbparent@gmail.com). [Image: Three people spaced across a hardwood floor meditating on yoga mats in side-lying position, heads resting on their hands, knees bent]





The Arizona Deafblind Project wants to send out a huge **“Thank You!”** to ASDB Interpreters. We would not be able to provide our statewide services without their skill, knowledge, and deep commitment to accessibility. Special thank you to **Alexis Policroniades** who translates our Newsletter into Spanish every single week!

[Image description: A digital hand drawn image of a Zoom meeting with 10 individuals in boxes, all smiling at the camera, many giving the ILY sign]

If you have needs the newsletter does not address, Deafblind Project Specialists can be available by phone or through video conference during school closures in Arizona.

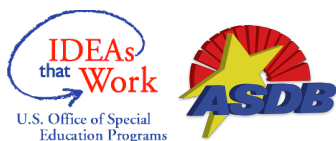
**Pat Jung**, Deafblind Specialist Maricopa County at [Patrice.Jung@asdb.az.gov](mailto:Patrice.Jung@asdb.az.gov) or 602-568-1944

**Amy Trollop**, Deafblind Specialist Maricopa County at [Amy.Trollop@asdb.az.gov](mailto:Amy.Trollop@asdb.az.gov) or 480-662-2657

**Megan Mogan**, Deafblind Specialist Statewide except Maricopa County at [Megan.Mogan@asdb.az.gov](mailto:Megan.Mogan@asdb.az.gov) or 520-260-2499

**Heather Joy Magdelano**, Family Engagement Coordinator Statewide at [azdbparent@gmail.com](mailto:azdbparent@gmail.com) or 602-300-5136

**Lisa Yencarelli**, Project Director at [lisa.yencarelli@asdb.az.gov](mailto:lisa.yencarelli@asdb.az.gov) or 520-833-8244.



*The contents of this newsletter were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (H236T180016), administered through the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind. This content does not necessarily represent the policy of Arizona State Schools of the Deaf and Blind nor the US Department of Education and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Project Officer, Susan Weigert*