

# OCDBE

THE OHIO CENTER FOR  
  
DEAFBLIND EDUCATION

Professional Learning  
Opportunity

The Ohio Center for Deafblind Education • 3246 Henderson Rd. • Columbus, OH 43220 • 614-897-0020 • [www.ohiodeafblind.org](http://www.ohiodeafblind.org)

## You are Invited to attend a Professional Learning Series

*Presented by*  
**Dr. Timothy Hartshorne**

### **Guest Speaker:**

Dr. Hartshorne, a parent of a child with deafblindness and professor from Central Michigan University, is well known for his work and research with children who are deafblind and their families. His areas of interest and investigation include issues related to CHARGE Syndrome, and deafblindness including behavior, sleep, play, anxiety, mindful interventions, and how parents and families cope with a child with severe disabilities.

### **Professional Learning Series Description:**

The 6-session professional learning series covers a variety of topics of interest to educators and parents. The topic and description of each session is provided below. All sessions will be held from 4:00 to 5:00 pm ET. Participants may register for one or more of the sessions by clicking on the session's registration link. One contact hour (1) is available for each session.

**Target Audience:** Parents, educators, related services providers, agency providers

## Session Descriptions

### **January 14, 2021    Anticipation**

**Session Description:** What are you looking forward to? What do you have to get done in the meantime? We are very conscious of the passage of time. But a child who is deafblind may experience confusion about time and what is going to happen next. That uncertainty can be a major source of anxiety. Calendar systems are an essential tool for helping a child who is deafblind manage his/her/their understanding and use of time.

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Recognize how pervasive our use of time is in managing our day and in our conversations.
2. Describe the relationship between anticipation and anxiety.
3. Explore various kinds of calendar systems.

**Registration Link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCDBEsession1anticipation>



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### February 4, 2021 Self-regulation

**Session Description:** Life is a lot about setting goals and accomplishing them. But this takes some degree of self-regulation. We have to stay motivated, focused, calm, and mindful. These are skills children learn incidentally as they develop, but children who are deafblind do not learn incidentally and must be taught. This presentation addresses strategies for teaching skills for self-regulation.

- Learning Objectives:**
1. Describe degrees of self-regulation.
  2. Distinguish between types of self-regulation.
  3. Describe the process of scaffolding.
  4. Describe some strategies for building self-regulation.

**Registration link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCDBEsession2selfreg>

### March 11, 2021 Diagnosis

**Session Description:** How do mental health diagnoses like autism help the child (do they)? It is not unusual for a child with deafblindness to acquire a number of different diagnoses including mental health diagnoses such as autism, obsessive-compulsive disorder, anxiety disorder, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, Tourette's, and more. How do these diagnoses help, and how might they not help the child?

- Learning Objectives:**
1. What is the stated purpose of psychiatric diagnosis?
  2. How are these diagnoses made?
  3. How do these diagnoses lead to intervention/treatment?
  4. What alternatives are there to psychiatric diagnosis?

**Registration link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCDBEsession3diagnosis>

### April 8, 2021 Counseling Parents – Issues Parents Face and What Counselors Miss

**Session Description:** We all know people who “get it” and many who do not “get” what our lives as parents of children who are deafblind are like. And if we decide to seek counseling for some of the issues we are confronting, what is the chance that the counselor will have a clue. This presentation addresses what counselors should understand.

- Learning Objectives:**
1. Describe the issues that might lead parents to see a counselor.
  2. List some of the objectives that might be useful in counseling.

**Registration link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCDBEsession4counselparents>



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## May 20, 2021 Siblings – How Will They Do and What Are Their Issues?

**Session Description:** Some claim that the siblings of children who are deafblind will be just fine, while others insist they are inevitably messed up. The truth is that all outcomes are possible. But what do we know about these siblings? This presentation will discuss what we know.

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Describe in general how siblings do in their lives.
2. What is the attitude of siblings toward their brother or sister with disability?
3. How can we better support siblings?

**Registration link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCDBEsession5siblings>

## June 10, 2021 Taming the Wolves and the Parent from Hell

**Session Description:** Have you ever marched to the school to be the parent from hell when your child is not getting what they need? Is there any other choice at times like those? This presentation describes six situations that drive parents to be hellions. It also describes six actions that schools can take to avoid having to be tamed by parents.

**Learning Objectives:**

1. Describe how diagnosis, placement/services, communication, intimidation, predictions, and disability rights create conditions for parents to feel the need to tame the wolves.
2. Describe how teamwork, scheduling, communication, de-skilling, missing the child, and following the IEP are issues that teachers can address to avoid being confronted by the parent from hell.
3. Describe the clash of worldviews that can create problems between parents and professionals.
4. List some advice for parents and advice for professionals to avoid conflicts.

**Registration link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCDBEsession6taming>

**Questions:** Contact Kathy Richards via e-mail at [kathryn.richards@uc.edu](mailto:kathryn.richards@uc.edu).

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