



**National Center
on Deaf-Blindness**

Learn About Hands & Voices

September 2021

Dear State Deaf-Blind Projects,

At Hands & Voices (H&V) Headquarters and the National Center on Deaf-Blindness, we are forging new paths in national partnerships that we hope will lead to enhanced support for families at the local level. H&V is eager to work with NCDB and the state deaf-blind projects in order to better serve families of children who are deaf-blind.

This letter provides information about H&V, whose local chapters can be important project partners in providing resources and support to families. We hope you will seek out and take advantage of opportunities to collaborate with them.

The goals of H&V and the state deaf-blind projects overlap in many ways. After reviewing the information below, please reach out to your [local H&V Chapter](#) to develop ways to work together on identification and referral as well as family support and engagement.

Already connected with your H&V chapter? Please complete this [2-question form](#) so we can highlight the work you are doing in your state.

About Hands & Voices

H&V is a parent-driven organization dedicated to supporting families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing (DHH) from birth through high school. They provide resources, outreach activities, opportunities for parent/professional collaboration, and advocacy focused on helping children who are DHH reach their highest potential.

There are currently 42 authorized chapters of H&V across North America and several more in development. Each chapter has a parent leader who works directly with families.

In addition to support, services, and advocacy efforts, H&V offers the following:

- **[H&V Guide By Your Side Program](#)**: Direct family support from specially-trained parents of children who are DHH, including those who are deaf-blind
- **[H&V Advocacy Support and Training Program](#)**: A program provided by trained advocates, with content derived from direct advocacy experience working with families in schools, advocacy training from legal experts, and the H&V Educational Advocacy Book
- **[The Family Leadership in Language and Learning \(FL3\) Center](#)**: A technical resource center that works in partnership with family leaders, DHH adult leaders, and EHDI systems of care professionals

Please encourage families with children who are deaf-blind in your state to contact their H&V chapter or visit handsandvoices.org to access information and resources, connect with other families, and learn about workshops and other events.

Contact Us

We hope this information is useful to you. If you have any questions or need assistance in establishing a partnership with your state deaf-blind project, don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

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The contents of this letter were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, #H326T180026. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Project Officer, Susan Weigert.