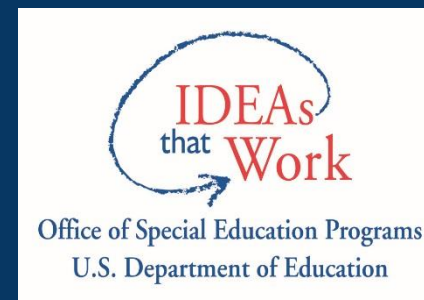


Overview of the National Center on Deaf-Blindness (NCDB)

Presented by Megan Cote,
Initiative Lead for Family Engagement and Early
Identification/ Referral



What is NCDB?

A national technical assistance center funded by the federal Department of Education.

NCDB works with state deaf-blind projects and national family organizations to improve quality of life for children who are deaf-blind and their families.



What are our initiatives?

1. Early Identification & Referral
2. Family Engagement
3. Interveners and Qualified Personnel
4. Literacy
5. National Child Count
6. Transition



The National Deaf-Blind Child Count

- Annually, each state deaf-blind project conducts a census of children and youth who are deaf-blind (birth through age 21).
- Information from all states is compiled and reported in the *National Child Count of Children and Youth who are Deaf-Blind*.
- To find out if your child is eligible for services through your state deaf-blind project, contact the project directly.

The National Deaf-Blind Child Count

- There were 9,574 children, birth through 21, on the 2015 National Child Count
- Of those 9,574 children, 295 had been diagnosed with Usher Syndrome
- Over two-thirds are between the ages of 12 and 22 (68.5%)
- Approximately 10% are under the age of 6

On the NCDB website you can . . .

- 1) Create a profile and join initiatives of interest to you
- 2) Learn about upcoming trainings
- 3) Browse the Resource Library (includes an “Advanced Search” feature)
- 4) Visit the “For Families” section and view “Families Matter Stories”
- 5) Find contact information for the State Deaf-Blind Projects and other resources
- 6) Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

How to Create a Profile on the NCDB site:

The screenshot displays the NCDB website interface. At the top right, there are links for "Help", "Login", and "Make a Profile". The main header features the NCDB logo and the text "NATIONAL CENTER ON DEAF-BLINDNESS". Below the header is a search bar labeled "Search NCDB". A navigation menu includes "Home", "NCDB Focus", "Library", "National Initiatives", "Connections", "Forums", "Events & Training", and "for Families".

Three promotional tiles are visible on the left side of the page:

- This is NICE!** National Intervener Certification E-Portfolio
- NEW** New OHOA Modules All 27 modules are now available!
- 2017** DB Summit 2017 Group All your info for Austin meeting!

A large photograph on the right shows a person in a wheelchair interacting with a horse, with other people standing nearby.

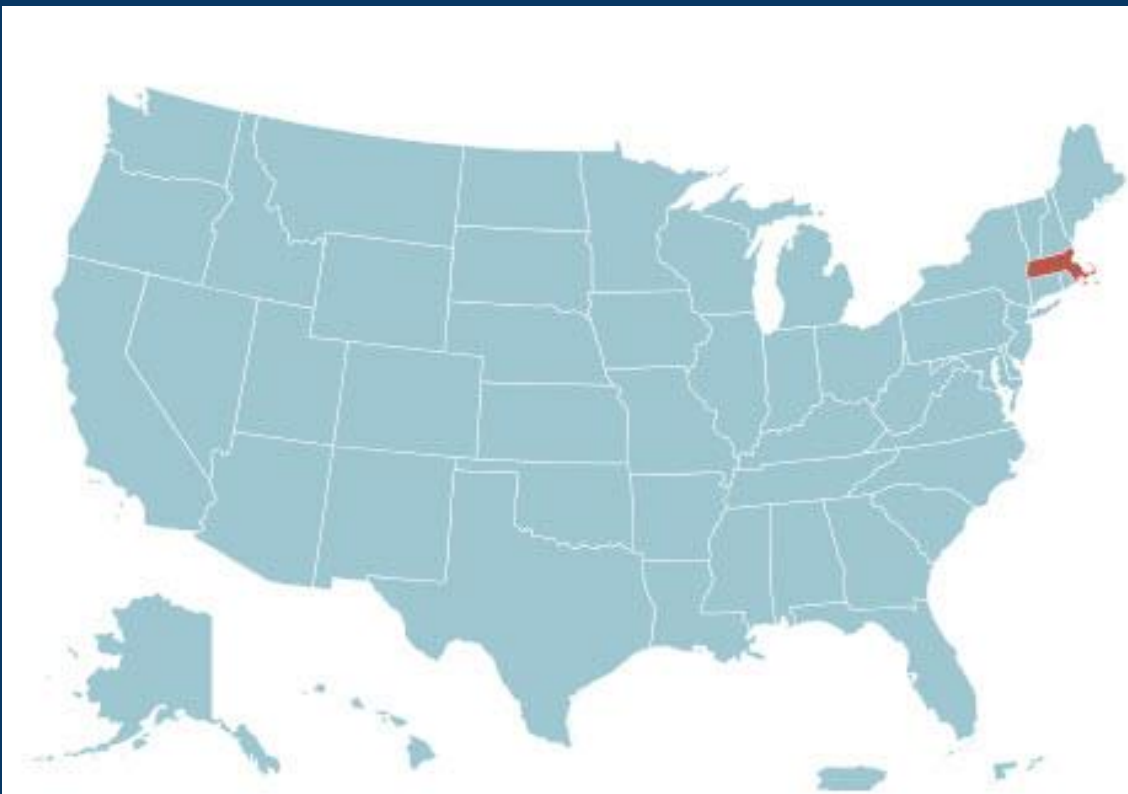
At the bottom, a red arrow-shaped box contains the text "Make a Profile" and a list of benefits: "Save favorite resources", "Make connections", "Use forums", and "Collaborate". To the right of this box are three circular icons representing profile types: "Project Staff", "Service Provider", and "Family Member". The "Family Member" icon is circled in red.

How to do an Advanced Library Search on the NCDB website:

The screenshot shows the NCDB website interface. At the top left is the NCDB logo and the text "NATIONAL CENTER ON DEAF-BLINDNESS". To the right is a search bar labeled "Search NCDB". Below this is a navigation menu with items: Home, NCDB Focus, Library, National Initiatives, Connections, Forums, Events & Training, and Families. The "Library" menu item is highlighted, and a dropdown menu is open, showing options: Selected Topics, Advanced Library Search (circled in red), NCDB Products, Recursos en Español, and My Bookmarks. Below the navigation menu, the page title is "Library Advanced Search". On the left side, there is a "Selected Topics" section with a list of categories: About Deaf-Blindness, Communication, Learning & Instruction, Education, Transition to Adulthood, and Personnel. The main content area contains search input fields for Keyword, Subject, Title, and Author, along with Year From and Year To dropdown menus, and a blue "Search" button.

How to Find Your State Deaf-Blind Project on the NCDB site:

<https://nationaldb.org/members/list?type=State+Project>



Massachusetts Affiliated Agency/New England Consortium of Deafblind Technical Assistance and Training

Project Director: Tracy Evans-Luiselli

175 North Beacon St.
Watertown, MA 02472

Ph: (617) 972-7515

TTY: (617) 924-5525

Fax: (617) 972-7354

[View project details](#)

[View project website](#)

State Deaf-Blind Project Services

- Opportunities for state involvement and connections
- Local training and support
- And much, much more!



OHOA Deaf-Blind Intervener Learning Modules

A national resource designed to increase awareness, knowledge, and skills related to the process of intervention for students who are deaf-blind. Developed by the National Center on Deaf-Blindness.

For more information go to:
nationaldb.org/ohoamoodle/



National Family Association for Deaf-Blind (NFADB)



A nonprofit 501 (c) 3 organization that has served families of individuals who are deaf-blind since 1994.

What they offer family members:

- Advocate for all families of persons who are deaf-blind
- Connect families to information and resources
- Provide training and support
- Bring families together for support and learning
- They are a lifetime support for families

Other Family Resources:

- Family2Family Connections – Online groups that bring family members together across state lines to get to know one another, share information and resources, & offer support. Interested? Contact Carol Darrah at cdarrah@uga.edu
- State and Local Parent Centers - <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/>



Other Family Resources

- iCanConnect – Federally-funded program that provides free distance communication technology to people with combined vision and hearing loss.
<http://www.icanconnect.org/>
- Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths & Adults – Provides individualized residential training for teens & adults on their campus in New York and information about local resources and services via regional representatives throughout the country.
<https://www.helenkeller.org/hknc>

Other Family Resources

“Paths to Transition” blog posts by Patti McGowan –

Posts by the mother of a young man who has Usher syndrome type 2. Her son, Hunter, has also written several posts for the site.

<http://www.perkinselearning.org/users/patti-mcgowan>

Thank you for your time today!

Questions?

Please feel free to contact me:

Megan Cote

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