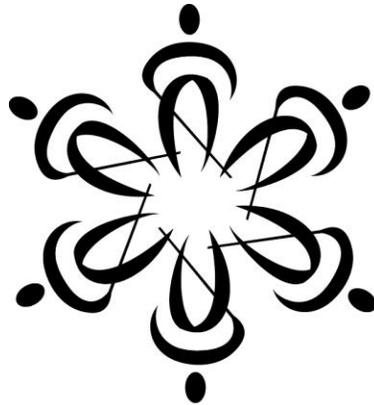


**The 46th Annual State Convention
National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey**



**AIN'T NO STOPPING US NOW;
WE'RE ON THE MOVE**

Delta by Marriott Hotel Woodbridge
Thursday through Sunday
November 10, 11, 12, and 13, 2022

Linda Melendez, President

732-421-7063

president@nfbnj.org

www.nfbnj.org

Who We Are & What We Do

The National Federation of the Blind, the oldest and largest organization of and for the blind in the US, is made up of blind/visually impaired people of all ages, and their families and friends. We help newly blind people adjust to eyesight loss, assist parents and teachers of blind children, and promote the full participation and integration of blind people in our communities. Our activities include:

- Assisting blind persons in acquiring the skills of independence and developing confidence in themselves
- Supporting parents and teachers of blind children with information, mentoring, role modeling, and training
- Preparing blind students for careers and self-sufficiency through mentoring, training, and academic scholarships
- Encouraging blind seniors to continue to live active and meaningful lives
- Advocating for policies that eliminate discrimination, promote civil rights, and guarantee equal access to high quality educational and rehabilitation programs
- Sponsoring information campaigns and legislative action at the state and national levels
- Educating the public through community activities and publications

Spotlight on the NFB of New Jersey

Since 1976, the National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey, an affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind, has been providing invaluable information and resources to blind/visually impaired people throughout the state. Our members work together for a brighter tomorrow by raising expectations for blind people everywhere so that blind persons can live the life they want. Our seven chapters meet monthly; our four divisions and our three committees meet at various times throughout the year." Please join us — we would welcome your participation and membership. For more information on the affiliate, chapters, divisions, committees, programs, and projects, visit www.nfbnj.org.

Live the Life You Want

The National Federation of the Blind 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. Together with love, hope, and determination, we transform dreams into reality.

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.

Integrity and Respect

To allow all attendees the chance to benefit from all aspects of the convention, we are committed to providing a harassment-free environment for everyone. We appreciate your assistance in cultivating an atmosphere in which participants from diverse backgrounds can learn, network, and share with each other in an environment of mutual respect. Thank you for doing your part to contribute to our community and the high expectations we strive to maintain.

Please visit the following link for the NFB Code of Conduct:
www.nfb.org/about-us/history-and-governance/code-conduct

You can still be a Convention Sponsor

Companies and individuals can support the programs and projects of the NFB of NJ by becoming a convention sponsor. There are four levels of sponsorship. Find out more by clicking the link below. You can also write a check to NFBNJ and send it to Affiliate Treasurer Annemarie Cooke (7 Mayfair Road, Southampton, NJ 08088); please write "Convention Sponsor" in the memo section.
<https://nfbnj.org/state-convention/sponsor-registration>

Covid Protocol

Masking will be required in all convention spaces when not actively eating or drinking. Acceptable masks are N95, KN95 or KF94. Cloth masks or surgical masks are not sufficient. [Project N95](#) has several different brands and varieties; free N95s are also available in a limited capacity in most retail pharmacies. The affiliate will be providing approved masks at the convention free of charge.

All attendees will be required to provide proof of a negative covid test taken within 72 hours of arriving. The test can be either a rapid antigen test or a PCR test. Free home tests are available from the state of New Jersey and the federal government. [Free accessible home rapid tests](#) can be ordered online, or by calling 1-800-232-0233. Accessible tests require use of a smartphone.

Results may be emailed to testresults@nfbnj.org or presented in person at the hotel. Confirmation of a negative COVID-19 test result is required to pick up registration materials and to participate in all convention activities.

Vaccinations are not required; however, it is strongly encouraged that attendees become up to date on their Covid vaccinations as these are the most effective way to prevent severe disease, hospitalization, and death, and are another tool to help slow the spread of the disease. The [New Jersey Covid-19 Information Hub](#) has additional resources on masks, testing, and vaccines.

Any conventioneer who becomes positive while at convention must quarantine; all efforts will be made to deliver purchased food to your room coordinated by a chapter president. Refunds will not be issued under any circumstances since the Affiliate is required to pick up the cost for all meals ordered.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pre-registration Pick-Up and On-Site Registration

Please note: Due to the need to have strict enforcement of the State Convention Covid Protocol to protect all our attendees, NO ONE will be allowed to enter the convention area until they have picked up their registration package.

This package will include your name tag (confirming you have tested negative within 72 hours of arriving at the hotel), an agenda and your meal tickets.

For your convenience we have expanded the registration desk hours as follows:

Thursday, Nov. 10—9 :00 AM - 3:00 PM and 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Friday, Nov. 11—8:00 AM - 1:30 PM and 4:45 PM - 5:25 PM

Saturday, Nov. 12—8:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Continental Breakfast Pick-up

Bring breakfast ticket received during hotel check-in to hotel restaurant to exchange for a bagged continental breakfast.

Banquet Ticket Exchange

Crystal Ballroom A

For a smooth seating process, we use a Banquet Ticket Exchange. Bring your pre-purchased ticket to the ticket exchange table, where you will trade it in for a ticket with a table number. If you would like to sit with friends, gather ALL tickets and exchange them together (you must have everyone's ticket when you go to the exchange). This year 8 people can sit at a table.

Ticket exchange hours: Friday 4:30 - 5:00 PM, and Saturday 8:00 - 8:25 AM, 12:30 - 1:00 PM, and 5:10 - 5:25 PM. If you do not exchange your ticket, you will be seated where space is available.

Exhibit Hall

Hybrid Exhibit Room—Ruby Room

Everyone is welcome to come to the Exhibit Room to visit our array of vendors. Many fine products and services for those living with vision loss will be offered. Speak to representatives directly and get all your questions answered on Thursday, Nov. 10, 10 AM - 9 PM, and on Friday, Nov. 11, 8:00 AM - Noon. Also, view their audio/video products online from Nov. 1 through Nov. 30.

Virtual Vendors- Hear from vendors who were unable to attend in person about their products also from Nov. 1 through Nov. 30.

To access our on-line Exhibit Hall, click on the link below

<https://www.nfbnj.org/state-convention/exhibitors-and-sponsors>

Guide Dog Relief Area

Dog relief area is a grassy area in a very long rectangular shape. Garbage pails will be located at both ends of the dog relief area. From the elevators, turn left and walk toward the lobby. Continue walking until you get past the lobby, bar, and hotel restaurant. Walk approximately 42 feet. When you feel the mat, turn right. With the restaurant to your back, there will be 2 push doors in front of you. After going through the doors, walk approximately 75 feet and turn left. Walk approximately 25 feet. When you feel the crack in the sidewalk you are approaching the grassy area on your left.

You can also access this same grassy area from the Exhibit Hall exit. Walk straight toward the outside doors. There is a revolving door with push doors on both sides. Go through the door. Walk approximately 45 feet and turn right. Walk approximately 15 feet and the grassy area will be on your right side after several bushes. As is our custom and State Law we must clean up after our dog and leave the dog waste in the garbage pails described above.

Door Prizes

Door prizes will be drawn and announced throughout the convention; you must be present to win.

Recording and Streaming

We will be recording and streaming the Saturday, Nov. 12 morning and afternoon sessions and the banquet.

Thursday, November 10, 2022

10:00 AM–9:00 PM Exhibit Hall

Ruby Room

Visit our array of vendors. Many fine products and services for those living with vision loss will be offered. Speak to representatives directly to have all your questions answered. View their audio/video products online by clicking on the link below from Nov. 1 through Nov. 30. To access our on-line Exhibit Hall, click on the link below

<https://www.nfbnj.org/state-convention/exhibitors-and-sponsors>

11:30 AM–Lunch

Pre-paid boxed lunches will be available at the hotel restaurant. **YOU MUST BRING YOUR LUNCH TICKET WITH YOU TO EXCHANGE FOR A PRE-PAID MEAL!**

Noon–2:00 PM–Hands-On Technology Clinic

Crystal Ballrooms A & B

Jane Degenshein, President, NJ Association of Blind Technology Users. Come with questions; our tech team will provide answers on topics like Jaws, Fusion, NVDA; Android; iOS devices, renaming your smart devices, Windows, and more.

2:30–5:30 PM–Technology Seminar

Crystal Ballrooms A & B

2:30 PM Welcoming Remarks - Jane Degenshein, President, NJ Association of Blind Technology Users

2:35 PM Creating and Navigating Well Formatted Word Documents - Rick Fox, member, Technology Division

2:55 PM New Accessibility Features of iOS 16 - Tony Santiago, Vice President, Technology Division

3:15 PM Let's Talk About TalkBack - Rick Fox, member, Technology Division

3:35 PM That's Entertainment, Blind Style

Sero, Freevee, Pluto TV, TBS Video, and BBC Sounds; audio description in movie theaters and live theaters; where to find YouTube videos on music, diabetic information, and more; TV streaming services, including Apple TV, HBO TV, Prime Video, Netflix, and Disney+; also, the Overcast app.

Panelists: Tracy Carcione, Annemarie Cooke, Ed Godfrey, and Tony Santiago

4:10 PM All About Apple - Matt Vollbrecht, Certified Apple Instructor, Founder, The Tech Juggernaut (TTJ)

4:50 PM Q&A - Ask the panel your question and get your answer. As always, for more in-depth answers, sign up for our Technology Division listserv:

http://www.nfbnet.org/mailman/listinfo/njtechdiv_nfbnet.org

**5:30–7:00 PM—Membership & Friendship Appreciation Pizza Party,
Sponsored by the National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey**

Crystal Ballroom C

Let the NFBNJ show how much you are valued as a member and friend.
Join us for a FREE Pizza Party with beverages sponsored by our affiliate.

**7:30–9:30 PM—Exploring the World of Dating and Relationships as
Blind People—Hybrid Event—Join us in-person or virtually**

In-Person—Crystal Ballrooms A & B and via Zoom (see link following description)
When it comes to dating, relationships, and marriage, what are some obstacles
you must overcome because of blindness? Join us for this virtual and in-person
event, featuring a panel discussion and group activities. You can answer this
question and learn from the experience of others as we move from observations
to solutions.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/6477660103?pwd=MUI1dnZQU1JxMkhUemdCSHZUM21HUT09>

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,6477660103#,,,,*460994# US (Chicago)
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Dial by your location

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+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
+1 646 931 3860 US
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 309 205 3325 US
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 386 347 5053 US
+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
+1 564 217 2000 US
+1 669 444 9171 US
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 719 359 4580 US
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 647 766 0103

Passcode: 460994

Friday, November 12, 2022

8:00 AM–Noon–Exhibit Hall

Ruby Room

Visit our array of vendors. Many fine products and services for those living with vision loss will be offered. Speak to representatives directly to have all your questions answered. View their audio/video products online by visiting our website from Nov. 1 through Nov. 30. To access our on-line Exhibit Hall click on the link below

<https://www.nfbnj.org/state-convention/exhibitors-and-sponsors>

8:00–8:25 AM–Pay Membership Dues—At-Large, Senior and Technology Divisions

Crystal Ballrooms B & C

Participants may pay dues for At-Large Chapter, Senior, and Technology Divisions during this time.

8:30 AM–Diabetic Committee Annual Business Meeting

Crystal Ballrooms B & C

Ed Godfrey, Chair

We will conduct a year-in-review and talk about speakers we have had, as well as the proposed new schedule of meetings and future guest speakers. In addition, we will discuss the vision we have for the Diabetic Committee going forward.

9:05 AM–New Jersey Association of Senior Blind (NJASB) Annual Business Meeting

Crystal Ballrooms B & C

Jane Degenshein, President

We will review 2022, hold elections, share information about the upcoming National Senior Division virtual retreat in January, and plan for next year.

To subscribe to our NFBNJ Senior Division listserv, click on the link below

https://www.nfbnet.org/mailman/listinfo/nfbnj-seniors_nfbnet.org

9:50 AM–New Jersey Association of Blind Technology Users Annual Business Meeting

Crystal Ballrooms B & C

Jane Degenshein, President

We will review 2022, hold elections, and discuss what's ahead in 2023.

To subscribe to our NFBNJ Technology Division listserv, click on the link below

http://www.nfbnet.org/mailman/listinfo/njtechdiv_nfbnet.org

10:35 AM–Sports and Recreation Division Annual Business Meeting

Crystal Ballrooms B & C

Annemarie Cooke, Vice President

Join us as we review 2022 and discuss the future of the division.

11:20 AM–Braille Committee Annual Business Meeting

Crystal Ballrooms B & C

Mary Jo Partyka, Chair

We'll review our committee actions during 2022. Learn what's ahead in 2023 including a Literacy Is for Everyone (LIFE) program where Braille readers and even those who don't read Braille can meet by conference call and read a book together. <https://www.nfbnj.org/projects/>

The NFBNJ Braille Committee website can be found at:

<https://www.nfbnj.org/projects/braille-committee/>

The NFB National Braille listserv can be found at this link:

https://www.nfbnet.org/mailman/listinfo/nfb-braille-discussion_nfbnet.org

11:50 AM–At Large Chapter Annual Business Meeting

Crystal Ballrooms B & C

Linda Melendez, President

In this segment, we will talk about the benefits of becoming a member of the NFBNJ At Large Chapter which has always held its meetings virtually. We will discuss when we meet and how you can join, as well as giving an overview of our 2022 activities and new initiatives planned for 2023.

12:15–1:15 PM–Lunch

Pre-paid boxed lunches will be available beginning at 11:30 AM at the hotel restaurant. YOU MUST BRING YOUR LUNCH TICKET WITH YOU TO EXCHANGE FOR A PRE-PAID MEAL!

Friday, November 11, 2022—Breakout Sessions

1:30–2:45 PM—How Do We Get There from Here? Independent Movement & Travel for Blind/VI Kids

Ruby Room

Carol Castellano, Chair, Parents of Blind Children-NJ (POBC-NJ); Carley Mullin, National Orientation and Mobility Certification (NOMC)

Can blind/visually impaired people really move with the same autonomy and independence as sighted people? What are reasonable expectations for our children in school, at home, in the community? Would my child benefit from a cane? How can the Discovery Method help my child be more independent in moving around?

1:30–2:45 PM—Diabetics and Blindness

Crystal Ballrooms B & C

Cassidy Starr, Manager, Patient Support Services, Diabetes Foundation, Denville, NJ and Jocelyn Santiago RN, BSN, NFB NJ member and diabetic will discuss diabetes and blindness. Hear a demonstration of accessible glucose monitors ending with a Q&A session.

3:00–4:15 PM—NFB’s National Website: A Treasure Trove of Programs, Services, and Resources to Help Us Live the Lives We Want

Crystal Ballrooms B & C – Rick Fox

Come take a tour of the NFB.org website where you can find a blind mentor, read informative and inspirational literature, get a free white cane, learn about services, access the many resources that can help you advocate more effectively, and much more.

4:30–5:00 PM—Banquet Exchange

Crystal Ballroom A

5:30 PM—Federation Family Reunion Meal

Crystal Ballroom A

Conventioneers who purchased their meal ticket will reconnect and meet new members and friends to dine and socialize with. **YOU MUST BRING DINNER TICKET WITH YOU TO RECEIVE YOUR PRE-PURCHASED MEAL!**

7:00 PM—Resolutions Committee Meeting

Ruby Room

Ryan Stevens, Chair

Come and take part in the development of resolutions, which become the policy statements of NFBNJ. This meeting is open to all.

8:15–11:00 PM—Entertainment—Sing-Down & Socializing

Crystal Ballrooms A, B, & C

Cash Bar

Can you name a song that has the word, “Love” in the lyrics? How about “Baby” or “Man?” Can you sing? If you can, then this event is for you! In each round, teams will be given a word by the judges and will have time to come up with as many songs as possible that contain this word. Then, the sing-down begins as teams sing a portion of their songs, until only one team remains. The team with the most victories wins! Audience members are strongly encouraged to attend and enjoy the music and help judge the accuracy of the songs. Afterwards, reunite with Federation pals, socialize, and make new friends.

Saturday, November 12, 2022 – Morning General Session

Crystal Ballrooms A, B, & C

8:00–8:25 AM—Banquet Exchange

8:30 AM—Traditional Pre-Convention Music

9:00 AM—Welcome, Call to Order

Linda Melendez, President, National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey

9:05 AM—Opening Ceremonies

Jane Degenshein, President, Senior and Technology Divisions

Pledge of Allegiance

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.

Invocation—Jane Degenshein, Member, Temple Ner Tamid

Moment of Silence for members, family and friends who have passed away

Honoring Veterans

God Bless America

9:20 AM–Introduction of the Scholarship Class of 2022

Evangelia (Lia) Stone, Chair Scholarship Committee and Second Vice President NFBNJ

9:30 AM–Nominating Committee Report

Ryan Stevens, Nominating Committee Chair & Affiliate Parliamentarian NFBNJ

9:40 AM–Presidential Report: Ain't No Stopping Us Now

Linda Melendez, President, National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey

10:00 AM–National Representative's Report: We're on the Move

Shelia Wright, NFB Board of Directors, President, National Federation of the Blind of Missouri

10:30 AM–Training and Skills to Get You Going

Julie Deden, Executive Director, Colorado Center for the Blind

Hear how our NFB training centers for the blind offer a variety of programs for all ages that help build blindness skills and encourage independence so there is no stopping you as you live the life you want!

10:55 AM–Fit Break

It's likely you've been sitting for a while today, so stand up and get the blood flowing again in those quads and glutes!

11:05 AM–NJ Moving Forward Together

Dr. Elisa Neira, Deputy Commissioner, NJ Department of Human Services; Dr. Bernice Davis, Executive Director, NJ Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, discuss moving forward with services, programs, and interactions in the coming year.

11:30 AM–The NFB Braille Enrichment Learning & Literacy (BELL) Academy: Glad to Be Back Together in Person

Mary Jo Partyka, Coordinator, NFBNJ BELL Academy, Sarah Scapardine, Teacher of the Visually Impaired (TVI), along with BELL Academy team members, BELL students and parents discuss this year's new experiences and accomplishments.

11:50 AM–Announcements

Linda Melendez, President, NFBNJ

12:00 PM–Adjourn**12:00–1:15 PM–Lunch**

Pre-paid boxed lunches will be available beginning at noon at the hotel restaurant. YOU MUST BRING YOUR LUNCH TICKET WITH YOU TO EXCHANGE FOR A PRE-PAID MEAL!

12:15–1:00 PM–Student Division Annual Business Meeting

Platinum Room 2nd Floor

Join us as we review 2022, discuss what’s ahead for us in 2023, and hold elections.

12:15–1:00 PM–Guide Dog Committee Annual Business Meeting

Garnet (to the right of parking lot entrance)

We will discuss plans for the upcoming year, as well as advocacy efforts and concerns of guide dog handlers in New Jersey. We’ll present updates on progress made by the National Association of Guide Dog Users, and members will have the opportunity to share and ask about issues and topics applicable to handlers. Attendees will also have the chance to network and learn from each other.

12:15 PM–Open Chat Lunch Session

Ruby Room

Jane Degenshein, Facilitator

Grab your lunch and join us!

12:30–1:00 PM–Banquet Exchange

Crystal Ballroom A

12:45–1:10 PM–Parents of Blind Children-NJ Meeting

Front Crystal Ballrooms A

Carol Castellano, Chair

How are things going in your child’s education and development? Join this informal meeting for inspiration and information.

Saturday, November 12, 2022 – Afternoon General Session

Crystal Ballrooms A, B, & C

1:15 PM–Afternoon Announcements

Linda Melendez, President, NFBNJ

1:30 PM–What’s New at the Library?

Adam Szczepaniak, Deputy State Librarian, NJ State Library Talking Book and Braille Center

How the NJ State Library Talking Book and Braille Center is endorsing Braille Technology for its readers and other important updates.

1:40 PM–Are You on the Move? Clarke King, Member, Board of Directors, NFBNJ; President, Northeast Chapter

Hear about the committees, programs, and projects of the NFBNJ and the many ways to become involved.

2:00 PM–Where Are They Now?

Evangelia (Lia) Stone, Chair Scholarship Committee and Second Vice President, NFBNJ

We meet many wonderful students through our scholarship program, but have you ever wondered what happens after the scholarship banquet? Three previous winners of NFBNJ scholarships tell how the scholarship made a difference in their education and what they’re doing now.

2:45 PM–Get on the PAC Plan, Sign Up Today!

Linda Melendez

Hear how your monthly contribution to the Preauthorized Contribution (PAC) Plan, no matter the size, helps grow the programs and projects of the NFB.

2:55 PM–Fit Break

It’s likely you’ve been sitting for a while today so stand up and get the blood flowing again in those quads and glutes!

3:05 PM—Exploring the Options for Literacy within the Blind Community

Presenters Melissa Lomax and Brianna Murrey will collaborate to share their personal experiences and tips for reading in formats like braille and audio books along with methods for reading aloud to others.

3:45 PM—Joy through Movement: Staying Active and Having Fun!

Panelists Ida Behreini and Danielle Hale will talk about how they discovered their interests in running and scuba diving and how these activities enrich their lives. And don't worry, if pounding out the miles or paddling beneath the waves isn't your thing, they will also talk about other ways you can stay active or get involved with sports here in NJ.

4:10 PM—On the Hot Seat!

Carol Castellano, Moderator

Join us to see who is on the hot seat and questions they will be asked!

4:50 PM—Announcements

Linda Melendez, President, NFBNJ

5:00 PM—Adjourn

5:00–5:25 PM—Banquet Exchange

Crystal Ballrooms A,

7:00 PM—Banquet

Crystal Ballrooms A, B, & C

YOU MUST BRING BANQUET EXCHANGE TICKET WITH YOU TO RECEIVE A MEAL !

Crystal Ball Rooms A, B, & C

Master of Ceremonies — Nicky Gacos, President, National Association of Blind Merchants

Invocation — Father Maximilian Buonocore, Monk of Newark Abbey

Keynote Address — Shelia Wright, NFB National Representative

Presentation of Awards — Rick Fox, President, NFBNJ Northern Chapter

Recognition of Contributors to State Scholarships — Evangelia (Lia) Stone, Chair Scholarship Committee and Second Vice President, NFBNJ

Presentation of State Scholarship Awards — Evangelia (Lia) Stone, Chair Scholarship Committee and Second Vice President, NFBNJ

Door prizes

Sunday, November 13, 2022

8:45 AM–Affiliate Business Meeting

Crystal Ballrooms A, B, & C

This meeting is perhaps the most important one of the NFBNJ affiliate. NFBNJ President Linda Melendez will provide an overview of the past year's activities and our future plans; chapter reports; elections. All are invited to attend.

Agenda subject to change

The National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey expresses appreciation to all members and non-members who attended the 46th in-person state convention.

Linda Melendez, President
National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey
732-421-7063
president@nfbnj.org

For the list of affiliate board members, chapters, divisions, committees, projects, and programs, please visit the state website at:
www.nfbnj.org

Meet our National Representative:

Shelia Wright grew up in a small town in South Carolina. Though her vision was never good, she did not know that she was blind until she was sixteen, when she finally saw an eye doctor that talked openly about her blindness and the importance of her learning Braille while she was still young. He urged Shelia and her parents to check to see if South Carolina had a school for the blind. This led her family to contact the Commission for the Blind, but the agency did little to provide the services she needed. They claimed she had too much vision to need training in Braille and Cane travel.

Shelia attended the University of South Carolina and received a B.A. in Psychology and a M.Ed. in Vocational Rehabilitation. She worked in the field of Rehabilitation for the Blind for over thirty years.

Shelia came to the Federation as a struggling blind person, having been told that she would never make it through a semester in college. When the National Federation of the Blind of South Carolina, through its then-President Donald Capps, weighed in on her behalf, rehabilitation services in South Carolina looked at Shelia in a whole new light. The Federation believed in her to such an extent that they frequently asked her to do things she thought she could not do. Each accomplishment propelled her toward becoming the woman she is today.

Shelia currently serves as the President of the National Federation of the Blind of Missouri. She was elected to the National Board of Directors in July 2022.

National Scholarship Program – Call for Applications Begins Nov. 1

Every year, the National Federation of the Blind awards more than \$120,000 to blind scholars across the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, in recognition of their achievements and professional aspirations. The scholarship program is our commitment to academic excellence and leadership among blind students, and each winner is awarded based on academic excellence, community service, and leadership. The application process opens November 1. To learn about eligibility and requirements of the 2022 scholarship program visit this link: <https://www.nfb.org/programs-services/scholarships-and-awards/scholarship-program>

Review the online scholarship application checklist and program FAQs. Let others know about this program that invests in the future of blind people.

Pre-Authorized Contribution Plan (PAC Plan)

PAC stands for Pre-Authorized Contribution. Each month, the amount you have designated is automatically deducted from your checking or savings account. That sum, which may be as little as five dollars, helps fund projects like the NFB Free White Cane program, and is also used to take care of “rainy day” expenditures that may arise unexpectedly.

To arrange for PAC Plan contributions, go to www.nfb.org/pac and fill out the form. The National Center will call you to take payment information. You can also call 877-635-2711 or email pac@nfb.org to enroll. The National Center will contact individuals for financial and banking information following the convention. Donations can be direct withdrawals from a checking account or charges to a credit card for additional assistance, contact Annemarie Cooke, Treasurer, National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey, by phone at: 609-859-4084, or by email at: aec732@gmail.com.

Exhibitors and Sponsors

The National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey thanks all our exhibitors and sponsors for their continued support. You help us raise expectations so that we can live the life we want.

Please visit our website and view the list of this year's exhibitors and sponsors. To <https://www.nfbnj.org/state-convention/exhibitors-and-sponsors>

We are grateful to all those who contributed time, effort, and suggestions to show There Ain't No Stopping' Us Now; We're on the Move!