



You're Invited

Northern Illinois Conference for Parents of Children with Vision Impairment

Parents of children aged birth to twenty-one are invited to join us for in-depth discussions of useful topics and networking opportunities. Teenagers are also encouraged to attend with their parents.

Discussion Topics Will Include:

- **Daily Living Skills:** *Explore the various ways materials can be adapted to allow children and adults with vision impairment to independently perform daily tasks, including dressing, grooming, and cooking.*
- **Technology Overview:** *Take a guided tour of the technology department at the Center for Sight & Hearing. Also available for demonstration will be technology for younger children, and children with multiple disabilities.*
- **Low Vision Exam Overview:** *Dr. Jon Russell, OD, of the Center for Sight & Hearing will discuss the various aspects of a low vision exam.*
- **Student Panel:** *Students with vision impairment share their experiences and answer questions.*
- **Finding Your Vision:** *Using long-term goals to guide today's decisions.*

Date:	Saturday, April 24th, 2010
Location:	Center for Sight & Hearing 8038 Macintosh Lane, Rockford IL 61107
Time:	8:45 Registration and Breakfast 9:15 – 3:15 Conference Program

Presented by: Center for Sight & Hearing, Hearing and Vision Connections, Illinois School for the Visually Impaired, Northwestern Illinois Association, Rockford Public Schools, TransVision, and Voices of Vision Talking Book Center.

CHILDCARE is not provided. Assistance with hotel or childcare costs related to attending this conference is possible (see family funding section below). Some reimbursement for mileage may also be possible.

FAMILY FUNDING- Families of children attending this conference may be eligible for funding to help pay for lodging, mileage and childcare expenses. The ARC of Illinois and the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities offers Consumer Involvement Program-Consumer Stipend funds. Parents/guardians can apply for \$200 per person or \$400 per family each year. To request a copy of the application form, please contact the ARC of Illinois at 815-464-1832. Go online to download the form at www.thearcofil.org.

Also, each region of StarNET has fellowships available to eligible families. Those with children with special needs below the age of six may be eligible for funding to help pay for lodging, mileage, and childcare expenses related to attending a conference. To inquire about this fellowship and the eligibility criteria, please call 800-227-7537 ext.251 or download the information from the financial section of the StarNET website at www.starnet.org

REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION—Upon registration, you will receive a confirmation packet that will include Rockford hotel information, a map, and driving directions. All registration confirmations will be sent through Email unless US mail delivery is requested.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY—Parents are asked to submit a picture of their child. This is optional, but the intent of the photo request is to help parents network and meet one another at the conference by allowing ease in identifying other families with similar age children. The photos will be displayed on a map so that geographic proximity is also easily identifiable.

INVITE TEACHERS—Your child’s provider/teachers are welcome to attend with you as a team. Please contact us to get further information.

HELP PUBLICIZE THIS EVENT—Feel free to make copies of the poster and registration forms. Distribute forms to friends. Hang posters in prominent places in your community.

For more information, please contact—
Michele Westmaas, Hearing Vision Connections
125 Webster
Jacksonville, IL 62650
877-731-8184 Michele.Westmaas@illinois.gov

**PARENTS—PLEASE KEEP THE FIRST TWO PAGES FOR YOUR
INFORMATION.
MAIL THE FOLLOWING SHEET FOR REGISTRATION. THANK YOU!**



Northern Illinois Conference for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments Registration Form

List all who will be attending and their relationship to the child with a visual impairment. If the attendee is a child, please list their age. Notice, children must be at least 12 years old to attend.

Name _____ Relationship _____

Name _____ Relationship _____

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Phone _____ Email _____

Check here if you would like registration information via US mail rather than email.

Name of child you are representing: _____ Age of child: _____

Child's diagnosis: _____

Please explain any interpreter or ADA accommodation needs: _____

Choose appropriate format for handouts: Regular print Large print Braille

I give permission for my photo to be taken at the conference for future educational use.

Sign _____ Sign _____ Date _____

Registration fee: \$5 per person (Fee includes continental breakfast and lunch.)

of persons attending _____ x \$5 = total enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to NIA.

Mail, Fax or Email registration information to:

Amber Gaddis, Hearing and Vision Connections, 125 Webster, Jacksonville, IL 62650

Phone: 877-731-8184 Amber.Gaddis@illinois.gov

Fax 217-479-4328

****Please note: If faxing your registration or registering online, please mail your registration fee to the above address.**