

NORTH DAKOTA

Blind/Visual Impairment Resources



North Dakota Blind/Visual Impairment Resources

North Dakota Deaf/blind Services Project

1401 College Drive North
Devils Lake, ND 58301-1596
Phone: (701) 665-4401 (877) 630-6214
Fax: (701) 665-4409
E-mail: sherri.nelson@sendit.nodak.edu
Website: <http://www.state.nd.us/deafblind/>
Contact Name: Sherri Nelson
Organization Type: General
Disabilities Served: Deaf / Blind

The North Dakota Deaf/blind Services Project's mission is to improve the education and services for children with deaf/blindness and their families in North Dakota. They accomplish this through training, mentorship, resource dissemination, and technical assistance. The Project is funded by the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education. The purpose of the ND Deaf/blind Project is to provide technical assistance and support to parents, families, teachers, and service providers of infants, toddlers, students, and youth who are deaf/blind or at risk for deaf/blindness. The project focuses on building statewide capacity and sustainability for serving the unique needs of individuals, birth through 21 years of age, who are deaf/blind. The project maintains a lending library of materials including videos and books. All services are provided at no cost to North Dakota families, teachers, and service providers of children and youth on the project census. For students to be eligible to receive services through the Project, they must meet the federal definition of deaf/blindness (also known as dual sensory impairment).

North Dakota Dual Sensory Project

500 Stanford Road
Grand Forks, ND 58203
Phone: 701-795-2730
Fax: 701-795-2727
E-mail: shnelson@nd.gov
Website: <http://www.nd.gov/deafblind/>
Contact Name: Sherri Nelson
Organization Type: Disability/Disorder Specific, Information Centers, Parent/Family Support, State and Local Agencies
Disabilities Served: Deaf / Blind

The North Dakota Dual Sensory Project is funded by the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education. The mission of the Project is to promote academic achievement and to improve the results for children with disabilities by providing technical assistance (TA), supporting model demonstration projects, disseminating useful information, and implementing activities that are supported by scientifically based research. This project is the sole statewide entity in ND that has been funded to build state and local capacity to serve children who are Deaf-Blind and their families. The priority of this project is to create and strengthen

collaborative partnerships among the families, Local Education Associations (LEAs), and state and private agencies, to enhance services and improve the outcomes for all children and youth who are Deaf-Blind.

North Dakota Interagency Program for Assistive Technology

3509 Interstate Blvd.

Fargo, ND 58103

Phone: 1-(800) 895-4728

Fax: (701) 365-6242

E-mail: jlee@polarcomm.com

Website: <http://www.ndipat.org/>

Contact Name: Judie Lee, Executive Director

Organization Type: Assistive Technology, State and Local Organizations

Disabilities Served: General / Non-disability Specific

North Dakota Interagency Program of Assistive Technology (IPAT) provides the following services: AT Senior Safety Program, Regional Technical Assistance, IPAT Equipment Loan Library, and the Technology Access Center.

The North Dakota State Library Disability Services

North Dakota State Talking Book Library

604 East Boulevard Ave. – Dept. 250

Bismarck, ND 58505-0800

The North Dakota State Library Disability Services department offers an array of services for citizens of North Dakota who are unable to read standard print materials because of a visual, physical, or reading impairment. Two programs are available for those who qualify for these services: Talking Books and Dakota Radio Information Services (DRIS).

The Talking Books program provides patrons with free access to cassette books and magazines. The Talking Books program is administered by the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), a Division of the Library of Congress.

Dakota Radio Information Services (DRIS) broadcasts local newspapers over a closed circuit radio to the patrons in the middle and western portion of the state. In addition to local news, DRIS also broadcasts a nationally syndicated radio program twenty-four hours a day. These programs utilize volunteers who read newspapers on the radio, record books and magazines, and provide other valuable services to keep this program running smoothly.

Disability Services

701-328-2185

Talking Book Request Line

800-843-9948

TDD

701-328-4923, or
800-892-8622

E-mail

tbooks@nd.gov

North Dakota Vision Services School for the Blind: Vision Resource Center

Cheryl Misialek - Library Assistant and Editor of *Reaching Out*
cmisiale@nd.gov
701-795-2715

Faye Lehn - Talking Book Coordinator
flehn@nd.gov
701-795-2711

Crystal Roy - Braillist
croy@nd.gov
701-795-2713

The Vision Resource Center at the North Dakota School for the Blind establishes and maintains ongoing communications between the school and other educational facilities, as well as other agencies serving visually impaired children and adults. The center provides the following services:

- Depository for American Printing House materials for registered students
- Assessments
- Audio Books
- Braille Production
- Books in Large Print and Braille
- Descriptive Videos

- Professional Books and Videos
- The Store
- Talking Book Machine Lending Agency
- Toy/Switch Lending Library

North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind

500 Stanford Road
Grand Forks, ND 58203
Phone: (701) 795-2700 (800) 421-1181 (toll-free)
Fax: (701) 795-2727
E-mail: gbornsen@nd.gov
Website: <http://www.ndvisionservices.com/>
Contact Name: Gary Bornsen, Network Administrator
Organization Type: General
Disabilities Served: Visual Impairment / Blind

The North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind, a division of the Department of Public Instruction, is located in Grand Forks, North Dakota. NDVS/School for the Blind provides services for persons with visual impairment throughout the state utilizing their Outreach Program. Their mission is to function as a statewide comprehensive resource and to work cooperatively with related agencies in providing a full range of services to all persons who are blind or visually impaired, including those with multiple disabilities. North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind (NDVS/SB) provides statewide leadership, center based programming, and regionalized outreach services ensuring that the specialized needs of persons of all ages who are blind or visually impaired are met. Outreach services for all ages include evaluation, consultation, and instruction in the vision specific related areas (orientation and mobility; Braille; Braille music; daily living skills; technology; vocational/career education; recreation/leisure; and functional vision). Services are also provided to children and their families between the ages of birth to three.

The Low Vision Store

2200 University Avenue West, Suite 200
Saint Paul, MN 55114
800-871-8780 (Toll free)
651-203-2200
651-203-2203 (Fax)
www.thelowvisioncenter.com E-mail: lowvisionstore@yahoo.com

The Low Vision Store carries a full line of daily living products and reading machines for people who are blind or have low vision. They cover the five-state area of North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa and will do free in-house demonstrations for all reading machines.

Sources of Custom-Produced Books

Grand Forks

*North Dakota Vision Services
School for the Blind
500 Stanford Road
Grand Forks, ND 58203
(701) 795-2700
(701) 795-2727 fax
Braille Coordinator: Crystal Roy*

Braille: literary, supplemental and short material; spiral binding; computer-produced; software (Duxbury, MegaDots); embosser (Juliet Pro)

Other Information: fee for service