

Registration Fee: \$15 per adult attendee - children & Zoom attendees are FREE.
Checks payable to: ND School for the Blind Foundation. (PayPal available, must add 2.9% Fee: ndsbfoundation@gmail.com)
Registration Deadline: March 29th

Accommodations: A block of rooms are reserved under ND School for the Blind at two different hotels. The first option is Hampton Inn, with a rate of \$107 plus tax per night for double queen or single king room. The second option is Best Western (has handicap accessible pool), with a rate of \$140 plus tax per night for double queen or single king room. Rooms will be reserved until **March 26th**. To ensure you get the reduced rate, please call the hotel directly: Hampton Inn (701) 757-2255 or Best Western (701) 775-5000.

Scholarships are available to assist families with transportation and room costs. To request assistance, please contact your local vision teacher.

If you are not able to attend in person, there will be virtual sessions available through Zoom at no cost.

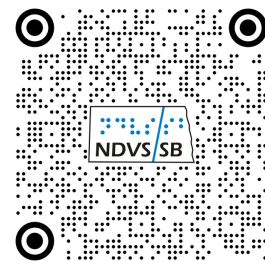


Message from our Superintendent Paul Olson

Family Weekend is right around the corner once again. Just like spring, Family Weekend is a time for renewal. It is a time to gather with old friends and meet new ones. The opportunity to listen to stories and learn from each other is powerful. NDVS/SB staff and the parent planning team look forward to this weekend all year because of the positive energy and fun that everyone experiences. If you have attended in the past, please come again and share what you have learned. If you are considering coming for the first time be ready to make friends and come away with a new sense of optimism.



Scan the QR Code for online registration/info on Family Weekend.



Our Mission

Is to empower families so that they may access information on topics relating to their child's visual impairment, develop an awareness of services and resources available on a regional and national level and become more effective advocates for their child.

What is Family Weekend?

This is an opportunity for families who have a child with vision loss (including those with additional disabilities) to listen to informational speakers one can meet other families from across North Dakota and staff from North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind.



NDVS/SB is a Division of the ND Department of Public Instruction
Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent

ND Vision Services/School for the Blind does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, sex (wages) or genetics in its programs and activities. For inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies, please contact: Paula Solheim, Business Manager, ND Vision Services/School for the Blind, 500 Stanford Road, Grand Forks, ND 58203, (701) 795-2343.



NORTH DAKOTA VISION SERVICES/SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND PRESENTS:



FAMILY WEEKEND

April 26th - 6:00PM
NDVS/School for the Blind
500 Stanford Rd.
Grand Forks, ND 58203

April 27th - 8:00AM
Grace Baptist Church
700 24th Ave S
Grand Forks, ND 58201

This event coincides with the North Dakota School for the Blind Foundation Card Contest.

Friday, April 26th at
NDVS/SB - Agenda

6:00 to 8:00 Social - Food & FUN!

Saturday, April 27th
at Grace Baptist
Church - Agenda

8:00 - 8:30 Registration

8:30 - 9:00 Family Meet & Greet

9:00 - 11:00 A New Way To See by Kim
Owens of Navigating Blindness (*small
break from 10-10:15*)

11:00 - 11:30 Family Sharing

11:30 - 1:00 Lunch/NDSB Foundation
Card Contest Award Program

1:00 - 2:00 Breakout Sessions - Quincie
Mattick or CVI with Gwyn McCormick -
Positive Eye

2:00 - 2:15 Break

2:15 - 3:00 Ken Dockter on Daily Living
Skills

3:00 - 3:30 Evaluations and Closing

Additional Information Contact:

Lanna Slaby at (701) 253-3012 or
lslaby@nd.gov

Family Weekend Sponsors

- ND School for the Blind Foundation
- The Wollan Family on behalf of Lowry Engineering
- The ND State Council on Developmental Disabilities under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill Of Rights Act.



PRESENTERS

KIM OWENS



Kim is a blogger, influencer, writer, parent-mentor, speaker, and braille transcriber. She's also a wife, and the mother of two adult children. Her youngest son, Kai, unexpectedly lost his sight at the age of ten. After immersing herself in the blindness community and advocating for his equal and accessible education, she emerged with a strong perspective to share. She believes that parental acceptance, community building, and equal accessible education are the three main pillars that led to her son's success. She also says that disabled children's needs are not special-access and inclusion are rights protected by law. The content she creates appeals to parents of blind and disabled children, disabled adults, medical professionals, business owners, and educators. Kim is chronically ill with an autoimmune disease trifecta and spends her free time allowing her body and nervous system to heal by walking on the Georgia coast, collecting fossilized shark teeth, practicing mindfulness, and playing with her fur-monsters.



KEN DOCKTER

Coordinator of Adult Services, North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind: Mr. Dockter is the coordinator of Adult Services. He received his elementary education degree and certification in Education of Vision Impairment from the University of North Dakota. He is also certified in Orientation & Mobility and has a Masters in Rehabilitation for the Blind from Northern Illinois University. Mr. Dockter specializes in daily living skills (DLS) instruction and provides services and support through short-term programs and outreach to individuals with visual impairments across North Dakota.



QUINCIE MATTICK

Quincie attended public school in North Dakota until the end of her 7th grade year, in a small town right outside of Minot. She moved to Colorado and started her 8th grade year at the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind in Colorado Springs. While she lived in North Dakota, she participated in the short-term programming offered by the North Dakota Vision Services/School for the Blind beginning in 2nd grade. Quincie learned braille at a young age and used a white cane until she was 17. She got her first guide dog, Tessa, from The Seeing Eye in New Jersey. Quincie was a member of the paralympic team for USA Judo for a few years while in high school in Colorado. With this she traveled to several different countries and really got to experience the world. Quincie's hobbies include judo, goalball, listening to audio books, listening to music, baking, spending time with friends at college through Chi Alpha, a campus ministry group and connecting with various blindness groups online.



GWYN MCCORMACK

Gwyn is an award winning educator with a specialism in vision impairment. She founded Positive Eye in 2008 to provide practical courses and a product range of resources for practitioners working with children with VI. Positive Eye has developed to work nationally and internationally. Gwyn uses her years of experience as a Qualified Teacher of VI (QTVI) and Head of Service to deliver creative approaches, within practical frameworks, equipping educators with practical skills to support children. She has taken the lead role on the Qualified Teacher of VI course - University of South Wales, contributed to the University of Birmingham QTVI course and participated in European projects. She has trained 1,000 of professionals, travelling to and presenting online to 12 countries to date. She is currently collaborating with 27 States (USA) to bring a successful model of literacy to life: 'The Story Time Show' strengthening the literacy outcomes for 100's of children with complex learning needs - the impact is immeasurable.