

# Nebraska Deaf-Blind Summer Institute

July 14-18, 2008

Location: University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Barkley Center, East Campus



*Co-Sponsored by:  
Nebraska Project for Children and Youth with Deaf-Blindness;  
Nebraska Department of Education, Special Education;  
University of Nebraska -Lincoln; and  
Educational Service Unit #3*



**July 14-15, 2008** Title: "Creating Communication Portfolio for Learners Who Are Deafblind: Opening the Door to Life's Opportunities"  
**8:30-4:00**

**Presenter: Ms. Susan DeCaluwe, Consultant, New England Center Deafblind Project (NEC). Boston, MA**

This presentation will explore a variety of tools and strategies that reflect best practices in the areas of Communication Portfolios for students with significant support needs and deafblindness. Participants will understand how to create a person-centered communication portfolio that supports effective annual school transitions and how to use the portfolios to create communication partners with others and develop positive self-esteem in learners. Susan has presented at state, national, and international conferences and written articles regarding the effective use of Communication Portfolios.



**July 16, 2008** Title: "My Journey with Cochlear Implant and Usher Syndrome"

**8:30-4:00**

**Presenter: Paul Molloy, Coordinator, New York State Technical Assistance Project (NYSTAP)**

This one-day session will focus on understanding the impact of the use of a cochlear implant for accessing information for an adult who is deaf-blind. Paul will also share "his journey" from receiving his cochlear implant to some of his day-to-day experiences. He also will share how he still uses interpreters in addition to using his cochlear implant to provide him full access to his community. Paul has presented at state and national conferences specific to his journey and specific to deaf-blind people. He understands deaf-blindness fully because he lives it each day of his life. He also works full-time for the New York Deaf-Blind Project providing technical assistance to educators, families, and agencies in New York. He has worked with Dr. William Kimberling from Boys Town National Research Hospital and assisted in the development of a DVD specific to understanding Usher Syndrome. His story and journey can be applied to all age groups and all people.



**July 17, 2008**

**Title: "Embedding APH Products into Learning Environments"**

**Presenter: Terri Thomas Connolly, Consultant, representing APH National presentation**

This session will focus on teaching families and educators how to embed APH products into a variety of learning environments for the purpose of supporting IFSP and IEP goals and objectives. The session will be specific to children who have multiple disabilities, dual sensory impairments, and/or visual impairments with additional disabilities.



**July 18, 2008**

**Title: "Helen Keller National Center Services: A Lifelong Point of Contact for Consumers, Families, & Service Providers"**

**8:30-12:00**

**Presenter: Beth Jordan, HKNC Regional Representative, Great Plains Region**

Authorized by an Act of Congress in 1967, the Helen Keller National Center is the only national vocational and rehabilitation program exclusively serving youth and adults who have both vision and hearing loss. Beth will review the broad range of services based at the National Center and provided by the Regional Offices. Additional information will focus on the collaboration between HKNC and entities in Nebraska and throughout the region. Attention will be given to real success stories of deaf-blind adults living in Nebraska.

**1:00-4:00**

**Title: "Our Next Journey in Deaf-Blindness"**

**Presenter: Teresa Coonts, Project Coordinator for Nebraska Dept. of Ed., NE TA Project for Deaf-Blind**

The afternoon session will focus on activities for the next 5 years of the Nebraska Technical Assistance Project for Children who are Deaf-Blind (NETAP). Teresa will share the proposed objectives and activities and discuss how additional support can be provided to local school districts. In addition, she will remind us all about the reason for "our journey" with children who have a combined hearing and vision loss.

# Registration Form

Deaf-Blind Summer Institute

(due by: June 2, 2008)

Return To: Teresa Coonts, Coordinator

6949 South 110<sup>th</sup> St.

Omaha, NE 68128

PH: 402-595-1810; Fax: 402-595-2727

July 14-18, 2008

I would like to register for the Deaf-Blind Summer Institute (no cost for registration, but space is limited to sixty people)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

**Summer Mailing**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening

I currently work with children who have dual sensory impairments (both hearing and vision concerns): YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**I will attend:**

- Entire Week (July 14-18) - 1 hour credit with tuition waived by UNL/NDE grant. Practical Assignment required to complete course. Complete the enclosed Waiver Form & submit to UNL. Additional UNL Registration process must be completed -SPED 890E - Complete Jill England, 402-472-2141 or jengland2@unl.edu
- Entire Week (July 14-18) - audit class or family member
- Two Day only (July 14-15)- Susan DeCaluwe, Communication Portfolios
- One Day only (July 16) - Paul Molloy, Cochlear Implants and Deafblindness Journey
- One Day only (July 17) - Terri T. Connolly, APH products and effective instruction
- One Day only (July 18) - Beth Jordan, HKNC information & Teresa Coonts, DB Project

**Please check below if this applies to you:**

I need accommodations (i.e. Braille, Interpreter, Large Print, etc.): (please describe)