

HKNC South Central - November Newsletter

Editor of the newsletter is Natasha Aymami, Helen Keller National Center South Central Regional Representative, <u>Natasha.Aymami@hknc.org</u>. Please send information to Natasha to include in future newsletters.

Helen Keller Services enables individuals who are blind, DeafBlind, have vision loss, or hearing and vision loss to live, work and thrive in the communities of their choice.

HKNC News

HKNC Receives Awarded for Efficiency



In recognition of National Energy Efficiency Day, HKNC participated in the PSEG Long Island Commercial Efficiency Program to create a greener, cleaner environment for students. These significant savings resulted from indoor and outdoor LED lighting design, which not only saves energy but also helps enhance lighting levels for those with vision loss to better navigate the campus. "We applaud the Helen Keller National Center for carefully assessing energy usage and adopting energy-efficient upgrades," said Michael Voltz, PSEG Long Island's director of Energy Efficiency and Renewables. "PSEG Long Island and its Commercial Efficiency Program are helping to reduce the facilities' operating costs, freeing up capital that can be directed towards the students."

- From HKNC's in-house newsletter, the IN-TOUCH

Living DeafBlind in Iowa on PBS



PBS made a film, 'Becoming Helen Keller' that was shown on October 19th. As a follow-up to this film, they spotlighted the Iowa DeafBlind community. In 1925, Helen Keller and others successfully lobbied at Iowa's Statehouse for a bill that would result in the Iowa Commission for the Blind. The impact of Hellen Keller's advocacy is still apparent today. Meet Iowans who face the daily challenges of living DeafBlind and learn about the technology that assists them.

Laure McBribe works for HKNC as a DeafBlind Specialist and she was involved in the film and represented the Iowa DeafBlind community. This film shares a glimpse in the lives of DeafBlind individuals of all ages. Here is the audio described version at <u>https://youtu.be/EBAfAuOz-hs</u>

HKNC South-Central Registry Count



The HKNC Census includes individuals who have submitted a HKNC National Registry. The following data is the HKNC South-Central DeafBlind Population Census to date:

- AR: 217
- LA: 394
- NM: 154
- OK: 188
- Texas: 2,478

The HKNC South-Central Representative, Natasha Aymami's goal is to update the registry so it can reflect data as accurately as possible. Please share the HKNC registry that is available at this link,

https://www.helenkeller.org/hknc/national-registry

Contact Natasha Aymami for questions or assistance in filling out the registry at natasha.aymami@hknc.org

HKNC DeafBlind National Community

Does your organization participate in the HKNC NCOP? If not, below is a link to gain access to the application to apply.

HKNC DeafBlind National Community of Practice

The HKNC DeafBlind National Community of Practice (DB NCOP) has been established as a collaborative working group of agencies committed to maximizing resources and enhancing services with and for DeafBlind individuals. The DB NCOP looks to strengthen relationships among these agencies and increase opportunities for services and supports available on the local and state level to the DeafBlind community across the country.

What is a Community of Practice?

Communities of practice are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and who interact regularly to learn how to do it better. ~Etienne Wenger

Helen Keller National Community of Practice

Helen Keller National Center Job Openings

Since 1893, Helen Keller Services (HKS) has been committed to improving the lives of individuals who are blind, visually impaired or have combined hearing and vision loss. HKS is comprised of Helen Keller Services for the Blind, a regional division serving the New York City/Long Island area, and the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youth and Adults, a national division headquartered in Sands Point, New York, with a network of regional offices that extends HKS' reach across the US. There are several job openings at HKNC. Go to the career center link below for a list of current openings. <u>HKNC Job Openings</u>

National News

November is National Diabetes Month

Join the conversation in November — and share information about diabetic eye disease with your community all year long.

Diabetic eye disease, a leading cause of blindness, often has no early warning signs. Early detection, timely treatment, and appropriate follow-up care are the only ways to prevent vision loss.

- By 2030, an estimated 11 million people will have diabetic retinopathy. If you have diabetes, make sure you keep your health on TRACK! Learn more: <u>https://nei.nih.gov/nehep/learn-about-eye-health/resources-for-health-educators/diabetic-eye-disease-resources/national-diabetes-month</u>
- Newer and better treatments for diabetic retinopathy are now available. This National Diabetes Month, talk with your eye care provider about what would be best for you. If you don't have an eye care provider, get tips for finding one in your area by visiting <u>https://nei.nih.gov/learn-about-eye-health/healthy-vision/finding-eye-doctor</u>
- Don't let finances keep you from getting proper eye care, especially during National Diabetes Month. Help may be available. Learn more about financial assistance for eye care at <u>https://www.nei.nih.gov/learn-about-eye-health/healthy-vision/get-help-paying-eye-care</u>

Blindness & Diabetes Webinar

This December 3rd at 12:00pm EST, please join Accessible Pharmacy Services for the Blind as we discuss blindness and diabetes with expert presenters.

This FREE, live webinar will include presentations from healthcare providers, diabetes experts, and leaders in the blind community.

Participants can expect to learn about blindness and diabetes, nutrition, diabetic retinopathy, accessible glucose monitoring systems and medication, coverage and insurance, exercise, real-life self-management tips, and more!

A full agenda and speaker details will be emailed to you before the webinar.

REGISTER FOR FREE

Questions? Please contact info@accessiblepharmacy.com

If you are unable to attend, still be sure to register to receive access to the webinar audio and video straight to your inbox!

Becoming Helen Keller on PBS



'Becoming Helen Keller' which aired on PBS revisits the complex life and legacy of the author, advocate and human rights pioneer. Helen Keller used her celebrity and wit to champion rights for women, people with disabilities and people living in poverty. Here is the link to documentary, <u>Becoming Helen on</u> <u>PBS</u>. The documentary shed light on her successes and includes DeafBlind individuals who share their perspectives. Full access is provided by including interpreters. The film is an hour and a half long.

Social Security Says Stimulus Checks Won't Affect SSI Benefits disabilityScoop

by Michelle Diament

People with disabilities can save money received through stimulus checks and other COVID-19 relief programs indefinitely without losing out on their Supplemental Security Income benefits thanks to a recent rule change. The Social Security Administration <u>modified its policy</u> this month on how it will treat various forms of financial assistance that have come about since the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

Link to article: In Reversal, Social Security Says Stimulus Checks Won't Affect SSI Benefits

Sorenson Video Relay Service has Interpreters for FaceTime

Apple's recently released iOS 15 includes a change to FaceTime that allows users to create a link to a FaceTime call and invite non-Apple users to join the call. We saw a great opportunity when we realized that by using that link, Deaf and hearing callers can access an ASL interpreter via FaceTime to interpret their call. For the past few weeks, our awesome engineering team has been modifying some of our already-existing software and tools so that we can provide Sorenson interpreters in FaceTime calls. We just deployed these software updates, and the option to request an ASL interpreter on FaceTime is now live! Welcome to another way Deaf and hearing callers can work with an ASL interpreter using their natural language – signed or spoken – to communicate in real time with ease.

Visit <u>www.sorenson.com/facetime</u> to find out more today!



Library for the Blind at Arkansas State Library

We provide free loan of public library type books in a non-print format to anyone who is unable to use regular print material. We are the NLS Regional Library for the Blind for the State of Arkansas.

Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Arkansas State Library 900 West Capitol Ave suite 100 Little Rock Arkansas 72201-3108 (501) 682 1155 Email: <u>nlsbooks@arkansas.gov</u> Library Website: <u>https://www.library.arkansas.gov/services/lbpd/</u>





HKNC at Tarrant Community College - Deaf Deaf World Event



From Aaron Waheed

Tarrant County College (TCC) held an event called "Deaf Deaf World" recently and invited HKNC to host a booth and provide a presentation. I attended, along with a DeafBlind community member. "Deaf Deaf World" is an immersive experience where everyone must use sign language to communicate during the entire event and are able to practice their skills by going to various stations. If participants used their voice, they were swiftly taken to 'jail" for a short amount of time.

HKNC had a booth at the event to help educate participants about DeafBlind culture. We provided vision simulators for the sighted participants and taught them how to communicate using tactile sign language. I gave a presentation about HKNC Aaron at the Deaf Deaf World event in Texas and an introduction on DeafBlind information. Over 200 people attended the event. The participants included high school students, college students, school staff, community members, etc. The event was a success and we are hoping to coordinate more events with TCC in the future.



Emergency alerts now available in ASL in Austin and Travis County



For the first time, community members who are deaf, hard of hearing or blind will be able to receive accessible emergency notifications. The city of Austin and Travis County launched the Accessible Hazard Alert System, or AHAS, on Oct. 4.

The new program allows users to receive emergency notifications in the form of a video with American Sign Language. The alerts are accompanied by a voiceover of the message and English text that can be used by a Braille reader or other screen-reading devices.

The Accessible Hazard Alert System was used for the first time on Oct. 13, just nine days after the program's release. An emergency alert was sent to warn users of severe weather.

The city and the county partnered with Deaf Link, an all-service ASL interpreting agency based in San Antonio, to launch the initiative. Similar AHAS programs have been launched in San Antonio, Ft. Worth and Oklahoma City, Bencivengo noted.

"We are grateful to be able to partner with an organization like Deaf Link who share our commitment to community preparedness," Eric Carter, Travis County's chief emergency management coordinator, said in a <u>statement to the</u> <u>press</u>. "Preparedness information should be available to everyone." To sign up for the Accessible Hazard Alert System, visit the <u>website</u> or text "AHAS" to 737-241-3710.

Article Link: <u>https://www.austinamonitor.com/stories/2021/10/emergency-alerts-now-available-in-american-sign-language/</u>

Texas Renaissance Festival, November 13th is DeafBlind Day



DeafBlind Weekend at the Texas Renaissance Festival on November 13th Address: 21778 Farm to Market 1774, Todd Mission, TX 77363 There will be a lunch time community social. Go to these links for more information: <u>www.texrenfest.com</u> and <u>https://aslfairestx.wixsite.com/asltrf</u> Contact <u>aslfairestx@gmail.com</u>

Texas Tech University: Certified Orientation & Mobility Specialist Scholarships Available



Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist, COMS are in demand! Scholarships are available through the Reach Across Texas Program. Join us at Texas Tech University and start your new career!

Degrees Offered:

- M.Ed. in Special Education Specialization in Orientation & Mobility, Master's program requires 36 total credit hours.
- Orientation & Mobility Certification alone. Certification program requires 27 total credit hours.

Required Course List for Certified Orientation Specialist (COMS) *Graduate certification or Master's degree program may be started during any semester. Resources and Contacts:

- TTU Graduate school application: https://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/admissions/howtoapply.php
- Reach Across Texas Grant: https://www.depts.ttu.edu/education/outreachandresearch/sowell/students/cert-application.php
- Deadlines to apply for the Reach Across Texas Program grant are as follows: November 1 (for spring), May 1 (for summer), & June 1 (for fall).
- Reach Across Texas Program only pays the tuition for certification courses.

Louisiana



Louisiana Commission for the Deaf, SSP RFP

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL- Support Service Provider (SSP) Program

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Office of Public Health (OPH), Bureau of Family Health (BFH), Louisiana Commission for the Deaf (LCD) hereby issues Request for Proposal (RFP) #3000017865 to obtain competitive proposals from qualified proposers who are interested in providing high-quality healthcare services for the statewide Support Service Provider (SSP) Program. The LCD intends to award a single contract to provide SSP services to people who are DeafBlind in the State of Louisiana. A Contract is necessary to inform DeafBlind individuals in Louisiana of the SSP services available, coordinate the provision of high quality services through SSPs trained to work one-on-one with DeafBlind individuals, and to inform the continued development and improvement of the SSP program in collaboration with LCD.

RFP is attached and also available at the following web address:

https://www.cfprd.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/lapac/pubMain.cfm

http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/newsroom/category/47

Jana M. Broussard, Interim Director, Louisiana Commission for the Deaf

National Federation for the Blind of Louisiana 2021 State Convention November 5th - 7th



Natasha Aymami, HKNC South Central Regional Representative, attended the National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana state convention and had the opportunity to interact with the community.

Cathy Miller invited Natasha to attend the DeafBlind Division meeting where Natasha shared information and resources from the South Central Region, such as Support Service Provider services available for individuals who have combined vision and hearing loss. Natasha also met Pam Allen, the state president of the organization. Natasha appreciated the opportunity to attend the convention and looks forward to next year's national conference in New Orleans.

Affiliated Blind of Louisiana State Convention



Convention is on November 19th to 20th, 2021

Fee is \$55.00 and will be collected at the registration table at the convention site.

All ABL Convention fees are non-refundable. For more information go to this link, <u>https://app.mobilecause.com/e/8Q5hZw?vid=mlk4i</u>

Survey for Hard-of-hearing, Non-signing deaf, and Late-deafened in Healthcare Settings- LA Commission for the Deaf

In partnership with the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf (LCD), 2axend, LLC. is conducting a survey to gain a better understanding of the patient experience in healthcare settings for hard of hearing, non-signing deaf and late deafened individuals in the State of Louisiana. It will take about 5 minutes to complete. The information provided in this survey will be used as a statewide effort to review and/or implement policies and practices to improve patient experience in medical settings that will address the overarching community's communication needs and preferences. Please click here to complete the survey no later than Monday, November 15,

2021: https://form.jotform.com/212844353931153.

We appreciate your assistance in completing, if applicable, and sharing this survey to individuals who are hard of hearing, non-signing deaf and late deafened.

Disability Rights of LA Survey DISABILITY RIGHTS LOUISIANA Protect. Advocate. Empower.

Every year, Disability Rights Louisiana asks for feedback from the community to help us set our priorities and goals that guide our work.

In the past, these [surveys] have led us to focus our work on helping to protect, advocate for, and empower people with disabilities on issues including education, independence & self direction, rights of individuals in institutions, employment, voting, and benefits protection. We'd like your thoughts on what you would like us to work on in these areas, and any additional areas you would like us to focus on that we have not in the past.

If you have a few minutes, please answer as many questions as you can in this survey to give us feedback that will guide our priorities and goals for the coming year. You can complete the survey online using this link: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MTVF7NL</u>

Please visit our website: disabilityrightsla.org

ASL Instructor Full-Time Position at Baton Rouge Community College



Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC) seeks to fill the position of Instructor (face-to-face and online) – American Sign Language Studies (ASLS) in the Division of Liberal Arts. This is a full-time position, and is open for recruitment.

Position Link: <u>https://jobs.chronicle.com/job/382651/instructor-american-sign-language-studies-asls-/</u>

Technology

Tech Tip: Pairing Braille Displays with new iPhones

I recently had to reset a newer phone to replace an old one I'm selling back to Apple. I set it up and had all of the data transferred from the old phone to the new one during set up. When the transfer happened, mostly it went very smooth. However, if you plan to pair your display with the newly set up device, be sure that it has a different name than the original phone you restored from. The reason is that this is how braille displays that can connect to more than 1 device differentiate your connected devices from one another. I did not think of this when I was trying to pair the second iPhone, but was having a problem trying to get the Brailliant and my new iPhone communicating. When I finally established the connection, since I had 2 phones with the same name, both channels were connecting to my old iPhone. So I had to forget the Brailliant on my new phone, restart both devices, and then change the phone name. Since I also had to forget the old phone on the Brailliant's side, if I wanted to reconnect my old device, that should also work.

To change your phone's name, go to settings, general, about, name, and change it to something else. Note that there is no "save" button, once you have a name for the phone you like, you can use the back button after setting it. I hope this info will help someone else avoid making the mistake I did. This will apply equally to the current release of iOS 15.0.2 and the upcoming 15.1 release. Sadly, if you are fully DeafBlind and do not have enough vision or hearing to set these things up prior to connecting the braille display, this cannot be completed independently.

- HKNC Technology, Research, Innovation Center Coordinator, Scott Davert

Accessible Cellphones with Keypads

A cellphone with a keypad as well as a screen, speech that reads the display, and voice commands to make calls. This is a combination that seniors with vision loss might really like, but there are only a few, and it may all come down to what your carrier offers.

It's critical for all of us with a vision disability to have a cellphone to make calls easily outside our homes, and one that still works if the power gets shut off, as more land lines switch to the internet.

Doug Rose, my go-to expert on accessible devices, who has contributed much to this post, points out the considerations for anyone choosing a phone with some speech. "There's the user's ability, their budget, the carrier they use, and the changing models on the market. "Vision Rehab professionals also talk about speech volume and clarity, button-prominence, and ease of use. This post is about available current models.

Accessible keypad phones are not true smartphones but has some of the same features. They do not have mobility features such as Google Maps and BlindSquare. But may have an SOS feature that allows emergency services to find your location.

Article Link: <u>https://www.visionlossandpersonalrecovery.com/accessible-</u> celllphones-with-keypads/

Tech Tip: Create a Bulleted or Numbered List

If you are creating lists of points or items in your document or email, such as steps in a recipe or a set of directions, use bullets and numbers. Screen reader users can jump between lists if they are marked up in this manner. Here is a link for more information on creating a bulleted or numbered list, <u>https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/create-a-bulleted-or-numberedlist-9ff81241-58a8-4d88-8d8c-acab3006a23e</u> - HKNC's Accessibility Specialist, Megan Dausch

iCanConnect (iCC)

HKNC is a partner in iCanConnect, the National DeafBlind Equipment Distribution Program. We can help you to navigate the application process, determine your equipment needs and configure your devices, and can provide you with assessment training, or information about resources in our state as appropriate.

iCanConnect is a national program that provides free equipment and training to help people stay connected with friends, family, and the world. iCanConnect provides equipment including smartphones, tablets, computers, screen readers, braille equipment, and software to people with significant combined vision and hearing loss who meet federal income and disability guidelines. Each person receives an individual assessment to determine the best equipment solutions.

iCanConnect serves people from a wide range of backgrounds, including older people who have lost vision and hearing later in life, and people with Usher and CHARGE Syndromes.

Contact the following individuals for more information on iCC in the following states:

- Texas: Brenda Baroncelli, Brenda.Baroncelli@hknc.org
- Louisiana: Scott Crawford, scottc@affiliatedblind.org
- New Mexico: Lyssa Matsche, <u>LyssaM@copdnm.org</u>
- Arkansas: Brittany Fuhrmann, <u>b.fuhrmann.icc@gmail.com</u>
- Oklahoma: Julie Bailey, JBailey@okdrs.gov

iCanConnect Perkins (Positions Available in 22 states)

For the following states and U.S. territories only:

Arkansas, Arizona, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Seeking organizations that serve people who are deafblind and/or who have other combinations of sensory disabilities to serve as primary in-state partner to provide local iCanConnect services under Perkins School for the Blind's supervision.

Partners are reimbursed for time related to: intakes/consumer application verification; conducting consumer assessments and training; outreach; round-trip travel time, mileage, and other related expenses. Partners are responsible for submitting timely invoices for pre-approved expenses on a monthly basis; payments are made on a monthly basis. Hours vary based on need.

Organizations interested in applying: email Marcia Brooks, <u>marcia.brooks@perkins.org</u>, with letter of interest, credentials and experience.

iCanConnect Helps Sisters from Colorado Stay in Touch with Family & Friends



Lena and Tina Stolper are 20-year-old sisters. The women live with their family, including their triplet sister, in Arvada, Colorado, and have been participants of iCanConnect, since their early teens. They are individuals who are DeafBlind, and with their combined other health-related issues, including cerebral palsy and autism, it was uncomfortable for them to socialize and difficult to communicate with people outside their immediate family.

Lena and Tina learned about iCanConnect during a presentation by Colorado representative, JoAnne Hirsch, Communications Technology Program Manager of the Colorado Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind.

Through iCanConnect, Lena received an iPhone and iPad along with training on how to use her new equipment. "Using the equipment gave me confidence to communicate with others outside of our house," said Lena. "I text friends, video chat with out-of-state family, and send emails for classes. Using video chat, I am able to continue therapies - like speech, occupational, physical, and ABA - which were in-person visits and had to end due to the pandemic."

"I recommend iCanConnect to anyone with hearing and vision issues so they can get help too," says Tina. "This program - and the people helping with it - are blessings. I love having a way to see, talk to, and write to my friends and family. Thank you, iCanConnect, for helping me!"

Link to article: <u>http://www.icanconnect.org/news/icanconnect-helps-sisters-</u> colorado-stay-touch-family-and-friends?fbclid=IwAR0pBik-nSZDR_MgqwhkTA5J8w6zUKb0LtiKZmWsxlil1GSHFXe5pseBQc

Resources & Information

Join National Association of DeafBlind Americans Listserv

NEW! The Launching of NADBA-Public

NADBA (National Association of DeafBlind Americans) is pleased to announce that we have launched a new listserv (group discussion), "NDBA-Public" directed by co-moderators, Barbara Davis (Halton, Canada) and Carolyn Sue Alflen (Missouri, USA). NADBA-Public is open to all (DeafBlind, Professionals, and allies of Deaf and Hearing friends). It serves clearinghouse where comes from many professionals (some from Mental Health) to a better and richer understanding of the cultural DeafBlind world en route to meet the quality of our daily lives. It opens to the consequences of group discussion and feedback such as support group by sharing facts and support information collaboratively.

If interested, you may sign up for NADBA-Public at NADBA-

Public+subscribe@groups.io to subscribe. After signing up, you will expect to receive confirmation shortly directly from Groups.jo with a subject line saying, 'Confirm Your Groups.jo Subscription' and then you just click on 'Reply' and then 'Send'. That way, your email address will automatically be added into the group. Nothing to pay as FREE of charge to join, otherwise, you take a great opportunity to learn richly and knowing on what is talking all about!

We look forward to hearing from you, and in advance, thank you for your consideration and time.

Cheers,

NADBA Team

Dan Arabie, President (Louisiana) Rich McGann, Vice President (Pennsylvania) Carolyn Sue Alflen, Secretary/Treasurer (Missouri) Barbara Davis, Member-At-Large (Halton) Eddie Martinez, Jr., Member-At-Large (Maryland) Paul Deeming, Member-At-Large (Minnesota)

Research Project: Social Experiences in CHARGE Syndrome

Sarah Sykes, M.A. (Doctoral Student at Central Michigan University) and Timothy Hartshorne, Ph.D. (Central Michigan University)

We are investigating the social experiences that individuals with CHARGE syndrome have in school, work, and online. If you are an adult with CHARGE syndrome who is fluent in English, you may be eligible to take our online survey.

What is this for? The purpose of this project is to better understand the social experiences of adults with CHARGE syndrome, including those which may have been particularly negative. This study will also assess the ways in which adults cope with negative social experiences.

The online survey should take approximately 25-35 minutes to complete. Survey: <u>https://cmich.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_42ruq4aBINESL3f</u> If you want more information: If you have questions, you can contact Sarah Sykes at <u>sykes1sm@cmich.edu</u> or Dr. Timothy Hartshorne at <u>harts1ts@cmich.edu</u>. Thank you for your interest in this study!

Professional Development Opportunities

HKNC Online Courses



Continuing Education Credits (CEUs) are offered with many of our courses. You can access our class catalogue by going to: https://www.helenkeller.org/hknc/available-classes

All courses are asynchronous and designed to learn at your own pace. We hope you find these resources to be helpful in supporting the needs of individuals who are DeafBlind.

Continue to learn from the comfort and safety of your home and check out our website for new online courses <u>https://www.helenkeller.org/hknc</u>

If you are interested in our online courses or have any questions, please contact the Region 6 Assistant, Brenda Baroncelli at <u>Brenda.Baroncelli@hknc.org</u> with the course you would like to take and your contact information.

Conference: Abilities Expo (FREE Admission)

Dallas, Texas: December 3-5, 2021; register at https://www.abilities.com/houston/

Even Abilities Expo is BIGGER in Texas! We are thrilled to bring Abilities Expo to the disability community in North Texas. First, we'll show you all the latest products, tech and game-changing opportunities. Next, you can attend informative workshops on issues that matter to you. Then you can try your hand at a host of different adaptive sports, dancing and fun. After that, let's all go out for BBQ! Abilities Expo is free, so join us.

APH Connect Center: Online Braille Study Group, Sundays 11:30 EST

Our braille study group meets every Saturday at 11:30am EST, and is led by staff and volunteers at NYPL's Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library. We are open to anyone: whether you are a Braille beginner or fully fluent, blind or sighted, you are welcome to attend. We know that studying Braille at a distance can be a challenge, but we can support you with encouragement and fellowship from other learners. Info on where to sign up for free Braille classes and receive free Braille materials Answers to your questions about contractions, reading and writing Braille Recommendations for tools and sites to help you learn Braille online. We meet every Saturday, but you do not have to attend every session. Please register here:

https://nypl.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUIde2hqTkoG91r_zlaHrQ8YualgNhzFE g

Newsletter Disclaimer

The purpose of the HKNC South Central Newsletter is to serve as a quick resource for sharing information with the south central region. HKNC is not responsible for the content of the information in the newsletter. If you have any questions or want further information, please contact the source of the articles directly.

Editor, Natasha Aymami, Helen Keller National Center South Central Regional Representative, <u>Natasha.Aymami@hknc.org</u> Please send information to Natasha to include in future newsletters.

Newsletter Link: https://sway.office.com/tguNiBgcWbdCaUL6?ref=Link