



The Alaska Deaf-Blind Project and The Alaska Center for Accessible Materials (AKCAM) Newsletter

October 2020

The Alaska Deaf-Blind Project serves:

- Any individual from premature birth to age 22 with a hearing and vision loss.
- Those in urban and remote areas
- Individuals not enrolled in school.
- Those in secondary school.

The Alaska Deaf-Blind Project's assistance is provided free-of-charge to families, schools, and

The Alaska Center for Accessible Materials provides classroom-ready material that has been converted into:

- Braille
- Large Print
- Digital Text
- Audio

AKCAM can also provide support in choosing which format is appropriate for your individual student!

community organizations.

Letter from the editors . . .

For most of us, school has started in some variation, whether it be online, face to face, or a combination of both. There is a deep sense of community and willingness to do whatever it takes to educate the students of Alaska. We all have unanswered questions, but as educators we must believe that as long as we keep working together as a team to serve our students, we will continue to move forward to a future filled with hope and promise. During this time of uncertainty we hope that you will embrace the strength that comes from working as a team.

Helen Keller said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

A Few of the Services Provided by the Alaska Deaf-Blind Project

- Conduct functional vision assessments.
- Introduce teams to specialized strategies, topical in-services and workshops.
- Assist with the development and implementation of student's IEP or IFSP programs.
- Provide access to adapted instructional materials and equipment.
- Facilitate culturally appropriate interventions.

Student-Related Questions

Can your student...

- see the material well enough to read the information?
- physically manipulate the material without undue effort?
- decode letters and words at or near grade level?
- read with fluency at or near grade level?

If you answered "no" to any of these questions, AKCAM can provide support!

Happy White Cane Day! October 15, 2020

To acknowledge the abilities of individuals who are blind, deaf-blind and/or visually impaired and to promote equality amongst all Americans, per the Blind Americans Equality Day Proclamation of October 15th, the President of the United States annually recognizes White Cane Day.

We created a T-Shirt to celebrate this special day, and want to make it available for anyone wanting to support the cause via the following link:

<https://www.customink.com/g/mbe0-00cb-jb3u>

The link will direct you to a website where you can see the T-Shirt, pick your size, and place an order on or before December 1, 2020. The shirts will be sent directly to you. SESA is not a part of this transaction.

**For more information about
the
Alaska Deaf-Blind Project
contact:**

**Angel Black
907-334-1333
ablack@sesa.org**

**For more information about
the Alaska Center for
Accessible Materials contact:**

**Tyler Arsen
907-334-1320
tarsen@sesa.org**