



Services Geared Toward Families

DB Central services are offered year-round, free of charge. Following a request for service, DB Central staff will provide support in one (or more) of the following formats:

Telephone/ email: Contacts will be made with the family and/or schools, agencies and other service providers to provide information and resources, participate in meetings, and to consult as needed.

Webcams: Using Skype, project staff can participate in meetings, conduct classroom observations, and have face to face discussions. A limited number of webcams are available for loan from the project library.

Information Sharing: DB Central provides publications and media that reflect best practices in the field of DeafBlindness. Examples include access to a lending library, electronic project newsletters (3 times per year), mailing to target audiences (e.g. parents of transition-age students), online training modules (under construction), a website (www.dbcentral.org) and an e-mail distribution list to families.

Referral to other agencies/organizations: If you call the project with an issue that staff cannot address, every effort will be made to link you with a different resource.

Parent Networking: DB Central recognizes the value of parents as resources for one another and aims to connect parents of children who are DeafBlind. The project maintains a Family Directory and helps to organize family social events with the state parent group Michigan Association for DeafBlind (MADB).

Onsite Consultation: In some circumstances, DB Central staff will visit the home, school or community setting to work with families and service professionals who are impacted by DeafBlindness. Attempts to address and resolve issues via distance consultation (i.e. phone, email, webcam) will likely precede on-site visits.

Trainings: The project will offer a variety of regional and statewide trainings over the course of the grant. Information about trainings can be obtained by visiting the project website, www.dbcentral.org. Administrators can book professional development trainings for their staff by contacting the project. (See "Training Opportunities.")

Educational Technical Assistance: Assistance specific to education or school will be discussed by staff and referred to the appropriate staff member.

*Please note: A signed "Family Consent for Services" form is required for services involving a specific child/children.



DeafBlind Central: Michigan's Training & Resource Project

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