



## PROJECT REACH: Illinois DeafBlind Services

*Serving youth who are DeafBlind, their families,  
and their schools*

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## MENU OF SCHOOL-BASED SERVICES

**UNIVERSAL** – Universal TA is meant for everybody, and participants may or may not be associated with a child with DeafBlindness. No referral form is needed, but people who DO refer for targeted and intensive services may also benefit from using general services.

Level of commitment: **None, or brief communications** by project staff with recipients, by telephone or email

### Examples of services:

- Project Reach website to get description of project, specialist contact information, newsletters, forms, links to other resources
- Support navigating NCDB (National Center on Deaf-Blindness) website for information on selected topics, products, online resources and training
- Suggestions for resources on other OSEP (Office of Special Education Programs) project websites
- Suggestions for etiology-specific support groups or research groups
- Connections to Illinois Advocates for the DeafBlind (IADB) or National Family Association of the DeafBlind
- Social media sites, like Facebook groups (CHARGE Syndrome, IADB, Project Reach)
- Brief phone consultation followed by brief email of a resource
- Project Reach Products, (e. g. Job Coaches Guidebook, Statewide Recreation Guide)
- Open Hands Open Access Deaf-Blind Intervener Modules (website version)
- Book and DVD loan
- DeafBlind 101 Simulation Kit loan

**TARGETED** - Targeted TA is for participants who either have a connection to a child with DeafBlindness, or are likely to have a connection in the future. Some activities require the Targeted TA Needs Assessment, and some will require the Targeted and Intensive TA Referral Form.

Level of commitment: **More communication** between project staff and participants, and participants' evaluation of activity is expected. Event may be one time, or a series of events.

### Examples of services:

- National Teacher of the Deaf-Blind Community of Practice
- Presentations at statewide conferences held by other groups (IAER – Vision Conference, ITHI – Hearing Conference, other)
- Conferences or trainings hosted by Project Reach

- Summer Institute
- Trainings by request (e.g. Usher Syndrome Screening)
- Series of regular phone consultations by a DeafBlind Specialist over a period of time and/or a series of email Q&A communication (consultation); a more substantial, sustained communication process between DeafBlind Specialist and potential TA recipient **OR**
- Less sustained communication that may result in general technical assistance such as:
  - Online video links on a specific topic, strategy
  - Book or materials loan (e.g.: Little Room, CVI books)
  - Toy or equipment loan (e.g.: Switch Assessment Kit)
  - Connections to a local or state resource, agency, or group
  - Connections to national resources (e.g., Helen Keller National Center)
  - NCDB products with working processes around specific topics (e.g. Literacy Website, READY Tool, EI Framework)
  - Share specific NCDB website OHOA Intervener module on a specific topic
  - Project products (e.g., Job Coaches Guide)
  - OHOA modules with credit (not yet available)

**INTENSIVE** – Intensive TA services will always be attached to a child on the Project Reach Child Count, and a Project Reach Targeted and Intensive Referral Form will always be completed. Services are often provided on-site and require a stable, ongoing relationship between the project staff and the TA recipient. The services are a negotiated series of activities designed to change adult and child learning.

Level of commitment: ***Ongoing, interactive communication*** between project staff and participants, and evaluation of adult learning and of the activity are expected. Events are scaffolded and may include general and targeted activities.

Examples of services:

- Intensive Classroom Child-Specific Coaching of Deaf-Blind Teaching Strategies.
- Statewide Intervener Training