DEAFBLIND SERVICE CENTER



Fall/Winter 2022

**From the Desk of the Executive Director – Angela Theriault**

**It is almost time to say goodbye to 2022. We are ready for the new year of 2023! DBSC has recovered from the meltdown of the COVID-19 pandemic several months ago as we are now fully open. DBSC continues to have a healthy relationship with the DeafBlind Community in Washington State by continuing to provide Case Management (CM), Support Service Providers (SSP) & Co-Navigators (CN), Communication Facilitators (CF), Information and Referral Services, and DB Interpreting throughout Washington State.**

**We are so grateful to have each other in the DeafBlind Community. DBSC also provides outreach and fundraising events. It was such a pleasure to associate with many people in DeafBlind community this year!**

**I would like to take this time to show my appreciation for all of the DBSC employees, board members, and sub-contractors who continue to work tirelessly in support of DBSC’s mission statement. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to the DeafBlind community!**

**Lastly, DBSC would like to express our gratitude to the donors who support DBSC financially. It is greatly appreciated!**

**I wish you all a very happy and healthy holiday season!**

**DBSC Staff and Board**

**DBSC would like to share exciting news! We have a new staff member at DBSC. Her name is Elizabeth Oesterling. She works full-time as the new Administrative Assistant. DBSC would like to express our many thanks to Heather Melendez who was a dedicated Administrative Assistant for several years. We will never forget her because she has the best customer service skills. She is not leaving DBSC but has moved into a different role working closely with the Executive Director.**

**One of our board members, Krystal Sanders, has decided to step down to focus on furthering her education. DBSC wants to thank you for your time and involvement with DBSC and the DB community. We wish you good luck with your education pursuits.**

**We are currently looking for new board members. If you are interested in becoming a board member for DBSC, please contact Diane Poulin, Board President, at: contactboardprez16@gmail.com.**

**Three Job Openings Available**

**Two full-time positions for Client Advocate:** [**CLICK HERE**](https://seattledbsc.org/job-opportunities/)

**One full-time position for a Bookkeeper:** [**CLICK HERE**](https://seattledbsc.org/job-opportunities/)

**DBSC supports is an equal opportunity employer and welcome all to apply.**

**White Cane Day – Outreach**

**DBSC set up an outreach booth for White Cane Day, which occurred on Saturday, October 15th this year. The walkers participated in a walk from the south base of the Space Needle to the Washington Talking Book & Braille Library (WTBBL). A few informational booths were set up at WTBBL for visitors. It proved to be a successful event, despite the smoky weather.**

**DBSC/ADWAS – ProTactile Happy Hour (PTHH)**

**DBSC and ADWAS (Abused Deaf Women’s Advocacy Services) hosted a PTHH event at Optimism Brewery on Friday, October 21st of this year. It was quite a surprise to see such a large mixed group, comprised of Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hearing folks! All of them enjoyed mingling and associating with one another. Some people came from other States and even Canada to attend!**

**DBSC’s Halloween Fundraiser Party**

**Our Halloween Fundraiser Party was a last-minute event. We were supposed to host our annual Move-a-Thon on Saturday, September 10th, but the event was cancelled to due to the excessive smoke from the Oregon fires. Members of the DBSC Board decided to change the event to a Halloween Party instead. This occurred on Saturday, October 29th. Surprisingly, the event was a great success! Many people even wore their own handmade costumes! Food and drinks were enjoyed by all. Many enjoyed playing a guessing game where you would put your hand into a mystery box and touch the texture and shape of an item, and then figure out what it was. It was a lot of fun! Roger Poulin, who is DeafBlind and an avid hiker, gave a mini presentation about his journey and adventure when he hiked the Appalachian Trail. I would like to thank the committee – Morgan Breese, Jay Breese, Patti Lang, Roger Poulin, and Diane Poulin, for doing an amazing job in preparing and hosting the event.**

**Outreach – DeafNation Expo**

**The DeafNation Expo finally came back to Seattle. It had been a long time since the last one! Over 1900 people attended the event with 30 vendors. DBSC set up a booth at the Expo. Our SSP Coordinator successfully recruited 15 volunteer and paid SSP’s. Approximately 18 DeafBlind individuals were in attendance. It was great to connect with people again.**

**Free COVID- 19 Testing Kits.**

**The Biden Administration is providing at-home COVID Testing Kits available for free again this winter. You can order up to four free kits. Here is the website to find out more:** [**https://www.covid.gov/tests**](https://www.covid.gov/tests)

**Events**

**Washington State DeafBlind Citizen (WSDBC)**

**Date: Saturday February 11th, 2023**

**Time: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**Location: HSDC Conference Room**

**Address: 1625 19th Ave, Seattle 98122**

**DBSC Webinar Fundraiser**

**When: February 23rd, 2023**

**Time 10:00 AM (Pacific Time)**

**Topic: DBSC Webinar "Touch Stimulation"**

**A flyer will be sent out soon.**

**DBSC Ice Skating**

**Date: Saturday Feb 25**

**Time: 1:00 pm to 3:15 PM**

**Place: Kraken Community Iceplex**

**Address: 10601 5th Ave NE, Seattle WA 98125**

**Further details will be coming.**

**\*The Move-a-Thon for 2023 will be May 13th! Details to come in the near future.\***

**DBSC’s Closed Schedule**

**DBSC will be closed on Friday, December 23rd to Monday December 26th. We will also be closed on Monday, January 2nd, 2023.**

**Happy Holidays!**

**PRO-TACTILE NEWS – DECEMBER 2022**

**Donate to DBSC!**

**If you would like to donate DBSC’s programs & services, you can donate on our DBSC website! Click** [**here to donate**](http://seattledbsc.org/support/supportDonate.php)**.**

**DBSC is on** **Facebook!**

**Click** [**here to join**](https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Deaf-Blind-Service-Center/307809821674) **DBSC on FACEBOOK!**

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