

Providing Technical Assistance and Support to Underserved & Underrepresented Populations

A Training Opportunity for State Teams

WHAT

The Perkins Training & Educational Resources Program and the National Consortium on Deaf-Blindness (NCDB) are working together to provide a 2-day training and follow-up support for state teams to enhance their abilities to work effectively with underserved and underrepresented families of children who are visually impaired so these families can benefit from the core services and mission of the groups represented by the state teams.

WHO

States are invited to put together a team of partners who all provide services to families of children with visual impairments, including those who are deafblind, blind and visually impaired. Teams will consist of 3 - 5 people and must include representatives from at least three of the following:

- State DeafBlind project
- Family Specialist, State Deafblind project (*one of above two must be included*)
- Parent Training and Information Center (PTI);
- National Family Association for Deaf-Blind (NFADB) or affiliate group;
- National Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments (NAPVI) or affiliate group;
- Statewide parent groups for families with children who are blind, visually impaired, deafblind, including those with additional disabilities

WHY

- To increase organizations' understanding of the concept of cultural reciprocity and build the capacity to provide technical assistance and support that is respectful of the recipients' cultural background
- To increase organizations' ability to identify needs and effective technical assistance and support strategies for under-served families
- To develop collaborative relationships between the state partners to enhance outreach and support to all families

WHEN

June 29-30, 2010
(June 28 and 30 will be travel days)

WHERE

Lake Buena Vista, FL (Orlando area)
Sheraton Safari Hotel and Suites

COST & COMMITMENTS

Airfare, lodging and lunches will be paid for all participants. All other meals, parking, mileage or other incidentals will be the responsibility of the participating projects and organizations.

State team members must commit to:

- 1) gathering information about underrepresented or underserved populations in their state *prior to the training*
- 2) attending a two-day training and developing a state team action plan
- 3) sharing follow-up information regarding implementation and outcomes

WHAT NOW

Form a state team by contacting representatives in your state from the list to the left. Once you have a commitment from at least three of those on the list, turn in your state team application online or on the attached form. A total of 5 - 7 teams (maximum of 25 participants) that meet the criteria on the application form will be selected to participate. **The due date for applications is April 2.** *Any partner may take the lead in forming the team.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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