



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF THE BLIND
WEST VIRGINIA

Live the life you want.

**NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF
WEST VIRGINIA**

2021 CONVENTION AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 25, 2021, 9:00AM-5:30pm

Greetings from the President

Even though we cannot actually be in each other's presence and midst for a second year in a row now, it is still breathtakingly amazing to see what all we have accomplished together while forced apart. While we are left to long for the days of yore with banquets, parties, and other gatherings, I would implore us all to take comfort that we have still kept our movement going and the fruits of our labor have indeed gone a long way. Let's take this convention time to look at how well and burgeoning we are, as well as build and stroke hope for an even better year next year. – Marcus Soulsby, President, NFBWW

NFB PLEDGE

"I pledge to participate actively in the effort of the National Federation of the Blind to achieve equality, opportunity, and security for the blind; to support the policies and programs of the Federation; and to abide by its constitution."

ZOOM Connection Information

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7266493027>

Join by Skype for Business

<https://zoom.us/skype/7266493027>

Meeting ID: 726 649 3027

Phone Number: +1 301 715 8592

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,7266493027# US

Schedule of Events (times and speakers subject to change)

9:00AM **Opening**

■ **Welcome** – Marcus Soulsby, President

■ **Invocation** – TBA

■ **NFB Pledge Recital** – Everyone

9:15AM - **Greetings from President Riccobono and National Developments of Our Movement** – Truly become a part of our National Movement as our National Representative gives us the latest exciting developments from across the country and around the globe. Gary Wunder, NFB of Missouri

10:00AM - **Division of Rehabilitation Services: New Beginnings** – Be a part of discussion of where DRS is headed and strides that can be made with a changing of the guard at the helm. Pisnu Bua-lam, Acting Director, WV Division of Rehab Services

10:30AM - **At Long Last: Truly Independent Voting** – West Virginia has made many strides to make voting truly accessible, independent, and private without sighted intervention. Learn what technology and innovation has brought us in this area. Brittany Westfall, Director of Elections, WV Secretary Of State

11:00AM - **The Spirit of Entrepreneurship: The Randolph-Sheppard Vending Program** – Want to be your own boss? Learn the ropes involved in what could be a promising career. Mike Coburn, Minnesota Association of Blind Vendors

11:30AM - **Be BARD During the Pandemic – Not Bored** – If you aren't already a National Library Service patron, learn about how easy it is to access so many books thru mail or mobile device as well as new developments coming everyday. Donna Calvert, Director of Special Services, West Virginia Library Commission

ADJOURN MORNING SESSION

12:00PM-1:30PM **“Presidential Suite”** – During the traditional lunch hour, feel free to stay in the Zoom Room for socialization, networking, and catching up with friends and colleagues old and new.

1:30PM **Presidential Report** – A look back on what we have been doing and what we, together, as an organization have accomplished. Marcus Soulsby, President, NFBWV

2:00PM Financial Report – Chad Keeney, Treasurer

2:15PM Committee Reports

- B.A.T.S Final Report – Sheri Koch, Executive Dir.
- Transportation – John Jackson, Chair
- Legislative – Chad Keeney, Legislative Director
- Agency Partnership – Ed McDonald, Chair
- Resolutions – Ed McDonald, Chair

3:30PM – **In Memoriam** – As we spend this convention looking at where we are and where we will go, let us also take a look back at those who left us this year that made us who and where we are today. Marcus Soulsby, President, NFBWV

4:15PM - **A Presentation from The Blind History Lady** – We have absolutely made an impression upon our Federation brethren nationwide, so please stay tuned for this intriguing take on our history as an affiliate and how we have had great influence all around. Peggy Chong, Speaker

5:00PM – **Closing Thoughts** – Words of wisdom on how to make our great affiliate and our own paths to independence even more enriching. Gary Wunder, NFB of Missouri

5:30PM – Drawing for \$50 Amazon Gift Card and Adjournment