



# The Alaska Deaf-Blind Project

## Quarterly Newsletter

The Alaska Deaf-Blind Project serves any individual from premature birth to age 22 with a hearing and vision loss. We serve those in urban and remote areas, individuals not enrolled in school, and those in secondary school.

The Alaska Deaf-Blind Project's assistance is provided free-of-charge to families, schools, and community organizations.

[PROJECT INFO](#)

[ONLINE REFERRAL](#)

### Letter from the Editor

Whether you are a parent, teacher, related service provider, or other school staff, much of your time is taken up with goals, objectives, and milestones for your child/student. There are milestones that parents look for as a part of their child's development and goals that the team want to focus on helping each child achieve- and while those are important, it can be easy to miss the small steps that each child achieves along the way.

As a traveling specialist, I have the privilege of seeing my students every few months. I say that because, while I would LOVE to see them more often, I get to see all of those "little" steps and how they are building up. When you see a person every day, it can be difficult to see progress or to know if what you do see is important progress. From my perspective, it is all important- from the smallest step to mastering a goal.

**Jennifer Schroeder**

Deaf-Blind Specialist, Special Education Service Agency

***“Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out”***

Robert Collier



***“I put his name in each story. He is learning to feel his name on every page.”***

Phillis F., Maruthi's TVI



***“Abby ran the opposite way of me. I said her name once. She turned around and looked at me!!!”***

Briar D., Avery's Mom



***“A'monei is now following the classroom routine of rotating work stations. We are really proud of him for being able to work with four different adults on different activities.”***

Kathy J, A'monei's Teacher



***“Avery is making gains in so many areas it is hard to just pick one. She is working hard on recognizing sight words. She is learning to read, write and draw to show the meaning of them.”***

Krista H, Avery's Teacher



**Kendra has favorite books. She understands how to orient them, turn the pages, and go to her favorite spots.**

**She is able to sit and enjoy them both with another person and independently. Kendra also really enjoys being read to.**



***“And today she started nodding her head!”***

Ashley B, Stephanie's Interpreter as Intervener



***“Tytan really seems to like fast music!”***

Trina, Tytan's Nurse

**Learning to sign with a variety of people, and to say what you want, is an important skill.**

**While one word might not feel like much, the ability to say you want more of your favorite music activity is so important!**

Hannah, Aria M. (Para) and Chelsea S. (SLP) enjoy working on communication.





***"Uriah is learning so many new things this year- and trying to be so independent. He is learning how to hang up his own materials when he gets to school in the morning, and he has recently been able to join his classmates in biking during gym time!"***

Lois R., Uriah's Teacher



***"I am learning how to use the braille. I like it because it is neat and it is new. I thought it was going to be hard, but now I know it is easy. My favorite part is writing my name. Next I want to learn to write colors."***

Alden, Senior High School Student

Dear Jennifer thing I am  
proud of are being more  
independent, get my work done  
correctly, Drinking lots of water,  
coming over my fear of the  
dark, asking for help more and  
more, getting better sleep, Reading  
Faster everyday at reading, Trying  
hard in class, using stuff to help  
me see like my bracers, Thinking  
positive thoughts, Trying new foods,  
actually doing my work, getting  
good grades all year around, using  
my coping skills for when im  
angry sad frustrated or even  
Jealous.

and that is what im  
proud of what I think I  
need to work on will be  
on the next page. 

By Jane Hood

Jane H., Student, Grade 7

***"I long to accomplish a great and noble task;  
but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were  
great and noble."***

Helen Keller