



Hello, everyone! We're pleased to provide an update on our activities for the 1st Quarter 2016, our first quarter in business!!

The biggest news is that - *thanks to ASL IRS and Kathy Kady-Hopkins* - we have an attorney working on our application to become a federally recognized non profit! We really need this designation so that we can apply for grant money for the workshops and events we want to sponsor.

We'd also like to announce that DB CAN NJ now has a Board:

- Kathy Gabry, President
- Allen Reposh, Vice President
- Marci Friedman, Secretary
- Paul Werner, Treasurer
- Kathy Kady-Hopkins, Board Member

Our **November Open House** was attended by 35 people. We were overwhelmed by the outpouring of support, love and good wishes from those who came and those who couldn't make it. THANK YOU, everyone, for letting us know our mission is necessary and appreciated by the community!

In conjunction with Sprint, we sponsored a **workshop January 9: Communications on the Go**. Twenty-five people attended, and the info presented and the feedback were awesomely positive! Thanks to Sprint, ASL IRS, the Rutgers Catholic Center and everyone who volunteered their time, talents and refreshments. Link to the Sprint newsletter: <http://njrelay.com/sites/default/files/NJ%20Relay%20Winter%202016%20Newsletter.pdf>

With Sprint, DB CAN NJ will be sponsoring a **Taste of Technology Seminar, Saturday, October 29 at Montclair State University**. The Keynote speaker will be Bapin, the tech guru we all know and love from HKNC. Please make plans to join us!! CBVI has agreed to provide transportation for anyone who is a client.

We're planning an **advanced SSP Workshop for July**. Stay tuned for more info!

Braille teacher Barbara Shalit and Kathy Gabry have been working to develop a **curriculum to teach braille remotely** - meaning that you can be in your home and Barbara can be in hers, and she'll able to teach you! We have several modules ready and will soon be selecting a couple of students for our pilot program. If you're interested, please e-mail [dbcannj@gmail.com](mailto:dbcannj@gmail.com)

Our surveys told us there's lots of interest in **ProTactile Happy Hour!!!** We've discussed the possibility of Jamie Pope coming to New Jersey to train, but, unfortunately, we don't have the money to do that right now. However, Jamie has invited us to come to the Baltimore-Washington PTHH, and we're all for it! It will involve one night in a hotel. You would need to pay for your own travel and accommodations, but we may be able to set up carpooling, or everyone taking the train together. Let us know if you're interested!

**Philly Touch Tours** and our good friend Trish Maunder offer touch tours of interesting places in Philadelphia, such as the Italian Market. Thanks to Trish, the Penn Museum also has an amazing and totally **hands-on tour of Ancient Egypt**. Trish is able to get a bus to bring us from a meeting place in New Jersey to University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Who wants to go?

The **International DeafBlind Expo** is set for August 17 - 20 at the Rosen Hotel in Orlando. Please let us know if you're going and want to join us in the discounted group rate (we need 10 DB for the group rate). We'll also be assisting DB and SSPs in matching up with each other for this exciting event.

Who's interested in an **ASL class**?? Mary Ellen has graciously offered the use of her home in Little Falls (near Willowbrook Mall) for an ASL class. Cost will be \$10 per class. Dates and times TBA.

Is anyone interested in a series of **yoga and nutrition workshops**? Please let us!

**Our Facebook page is up!** As of March 31, we had 54 "Likes." Our goal is 1,000. Allen is our monitor. If you have something to share, please let us know so Allen can post it.

We have 56 people on our mailing list; our goal is 250 by the end of June. Please help us spread the word!!

**To get on our mailing list or join any of our activities, please e-mail us:**  
[dbcannj@gmail.com](mailto:dbcannj@gmail.com)