



BEST NEWS

Blind Early Services TN - Newsletter for Caregivers and Providers



Giving Tuesday is November 30th!

Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 with a simple concept in mind -- encouraging people to do good and give back. It is now a global movement that has inspired hundreds of millions of people to donate time, money and their voices to organizations or movements small and large. Giving Tuesday is celebrated on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving and this year will fall on November 30th. BEST would be honored to be a charitable organization that you consider as you decide on how you'd like to give back. No amount is too small and every dollar given to BEST goes directly to supporting families of children with blindness or low vision.

Examples of how donations are used:

- Direct in-home support services (caregiver training)
- Provider training and certification
- Tactile toys and books
- Braille books and resources
- Interpreter services
- Provider supplies

Join Alison and Stacy on Facebook Live at 1PM CST on Giving Tuesday as we speak to the importance of specialized early intervention!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 30
GIVING TUESDAY
 JOIN ALISON & STACY
 ON FACEBOOK LIVE
 @1PM CST

DECEMBER 1
6:30PM-7:30PM CT
 PARENT CONNECT
 VIRTUAL SUPPORT GROUP
 MONTHLY MEETING

DECEMBER RELEASE
BEST TOGETHER PODCAST
 KEN QUINN AND
 ALICIA HOLT

GIVING TUESDAY

Support Blind Early Services TN - Order BEST Apparel!

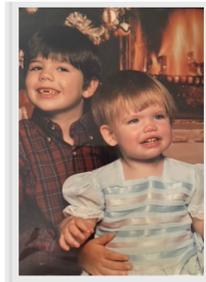
BEST Shirts are now for sale on Bonfire with proceeds benefitting BEST families! A variety of colors and styles are available with more to come soon! Click the link below to shop!



Siblings, Ken Quinn and Alicia Holt Are Our December Podcast Guests

Ken Quinn is a husband, father of three, advocate, student (currently receiving his Masters of Education, Teacher of the Visually Impaired through the University of Kentucky), and accessibility and tactile graphics consultant living in Pennsylvania. He also happens to be blind. Ken's younger sister, Alicia Holt, is a wife, mother of two and Team Lead and Nonprofit Coordinator living in Florida. She was born with typical vision.

For this month's podcast we invited Ken and Alicia to talk with us and explore sibling dynamics when it comes to disability. Does having a brother or sister with a disability lead to less focus on the child who does not have a disability? Does having a sibling with a disability equate to a feeling of protectiveness? Does having a disability and growing up with a sibling who does not have a disability make things harder or easier? How can parents and caregivers foster a positive and secure relationship between siblings? We dive into these questions and more in our conversation as Ken and Alicia share their lived experience. Don't miss it!



Request a Braille Letter from Santa!



Every year, the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) helps Santa send letters in braille to children with blindness and low vision across the country. Along with the braille letter, you also get a print version.

The program is available for children ten and under, and requests can be made now through December 17th using the link below. If your family prefers a Winter Celebration letter instead or a letter in Spanish, those are also available this year.

WHAT WE'RE LOVING THIS MONTH!



The SmartNoggin Developmental Light Up Rattle is used to encourage developmental milestones in newborns and infants. It lights up blue, red or green to encourage visual stimulation and eye tracking. The rattle also makes sound when it is shaken, making it fun for babies to hold while teaching cause and effect. This is a great toy for any child, but especially those who may have delayed visual maturation or Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI).