**A logo with text and colorful hands

Description automatically generated with medium confidence  
  
National Federation of the Blind of West Virginia 2024 State Convention  
Holiday Inn-University Area, 1188 Pineview Dr.  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
  
  
AGENDA**

**Thursday, October 31, 2024**3:00 PM Hotel Check-in  
3:30 PM Drop off auction items and door prizes presidential suite #215  
  
5:00 PM Dinner on your own (Bourbon Room)  
  
7:30 PM NFBWV Board of Directors Meeting (Bourbon Room): Sheri Koch, Chair

**Friday, November 1, 2024**BLIND COMMUNITY UNITY DAY:  
8:000 AM Vendor Booths Setup (Liberi Section)  
  
8:30 AM Welcome (Montani Semper Section): Sheri Koch, NFBWV President  
   
 A Moment of Silence for Those We’ve Lost  
  
 Vendor Mini Presentations: 10 Minutes Each   
  
 VISIONS: Amanda Udell   
 WV Assistive Technology System (WVATS): Doug Cumpston  
  
 Jehovah’s Witness (JW.org) Robert & Geraldine Johnson, Ron & Diane   
 Barnett  
  
 WV Library Commission: Susan Ward   
  
 American Printing House for the Blind (APH): Lee Huffman and   
 Jim Sullivan Monarch  
  
 LiveAbility Center for Independent Living: Annetta Johnson   
   
 This & That Gadgets Table: Demonstrations Provided by Blind Equipment   
 Owners: NFBWV members, other interested gadget Users   
  
10:00 AM BREAK  
  
10:15 AM Explore the Vendor booths (Liberi Section)

11:30 PM BOX LUNCH (Montani Semper Section)

12:30 PM GENERAL SESSION   
 Organizations & Agency Reports: (Montani Semper Section)  
  
 National Federation of the Blind, A National Review of our Mission and   
 Impact: Jesse Sherik, National Representative   
  
12:50 PM National Federation of the Blind of West Virginia, A State and  
 Grassroots Perspective on our Mission and Impact: Sheri Koch, NFBWV  
 President  
  
1:00 PM WV School for the Deaf and the Blind: Melanie Hesse, WVSDB Dean of  
 Students and Wendy Bailey, Statewide Outreach Specialist for WVDE  
   
1:20 PM Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind: Toni Walls, Executive Director  
  
1:40 PM Seeing Hand Association for the Blind: Karen Haught, Executive Director   
   
2:00 PM LiveAbility Center for Independent Living, Morgantown: Annetta Johnson,  
 Administrative Director  
  
2:20 PM American Foundation for the Blind, Huntington: Aaron Preece,   
 AccessWorld Editor in Chief   
  
2:40 PM American Printing House for the Blind, Huntington: Lee Huffman, Low   
 Vision Product Manager, Product Development and Jim Sullivan, Director,   
 Social Enterprise  
  
3:00 PM BREAK  
  
3:15 PM Let’s Talk: West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services (WVDRS); A  
 Pannel Discussion on Services and Policies: Pisnu Bua-Iam, WVDRS  
 Director; (Blind Services Staff) Candice Ward, Assistant Director,   
 Rachel Hatfield, Rehabilitation Services Manager 1, Gentry Klein,  
 Deputy Director, Kevin Maynus, Rehabilitation Specialist for the   
 Blind, Tammy Murdock, VISIONS Manager, NFBWV members, Jesse   
 Sherik, NFB National Representative, and other interested blind   
 stakeholders   
  
5:00 PM Wrap-up and Adjourn  
  
6:15 PM DINNER (Montani Semper Section)  
  
8:00 PM AUCTION: All Things West Virginian: (Montani Semper Section)   
 Marcus Soulsby, Auctioneer

**Saturday, November 2, 2024**8:30 AM GENERAL SESSION: (Montani Semper Section)  
 Call to Order, Remarks, & Announcements: Sheri Koch, NFBWV   
   
 President Pledge of Allegiance, Led by Harold Thomas Rogers  
HH   
 NFB Pledge, by Karen McDonald  
 “I pledge to participate actively in the efforts 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.”  
  
8:35 AM WHAT’S GOING ON AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, NFB Report: Jesse Sherik,   
 National Representative   
9:00 AM WHAT’S GOING ON AT THE STATE LEVEL, NFBWV Report: Sheri Koch  
 NFBWV President  
  
9:15 AM FUNDAMENTALS OF SELF-ADVOCACY: Jesse Shirek, National   
 Representative  
  
10:15 AM BREAK  
  
10:30 AM TRAINING FOR LIFE AT AN NFB CENTER: My Experience at the   
 Louisiana Center for the Blind: Ahmad Shafi, NFBWV Member   
 at Large

11:00 AM CHALLENGING INACCESSIBILITY AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL: Miranda  
 Lacy & Harold Rogers, WVU MSW Students and NFBWV Members, and   
 Facilitated by Sheri Koch   
  
11:30 AM MY EXPERIENCE AS A TEACHER OF TOMORROW: Wendy Bailey  
   
12:00 PM LUNCH   
  
1:30 PM GENERAL SESSION;   
 Convention Business (Montani Semper Section)

BUILDING OUR AFFILIATE: A ROADMAP FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW;   
 Final Report of the Committee of the Whole on Membership Building:  
 Review & Progress Report: Ed McDonald, 1st Vice-president and  
 President Members at Large Chapter  
  
      RESOLUTIONS: Ed McDonald, Mr. Whereas  
  
 FINANCIAL MATTERS: Garrett Harris, Interim Treasurer   
   
 ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
   
 CHAPTER REPORTS: Sightless Workers Guild President, Jack Yahnke   
 & Members at Large President, Ed McDonald   
   
 OPEN DISCUSSION: Review of Blind Community Unity Day; Initiatives &   
 Priorities for the Coming Year  
  
4:30 PM WRAP-UP AND ADJOURN  
  
6:30 PM BANQUET: Master of Ceremonies: Ed McDonald &   
  
 Keynote Speaker: Jesse Sherik

**Sunday, November 3, 2024**9:00 AM IN MEMORIUM, Remembering Those We’ve Loved and Lost: Marla   
 Sewell, Members at Large (Montani Semper Section)  
  
10:00 AM WRAP-UP, ADJOURN, AND CHECK-OUT  
  
***THANKS YOU FOR SHARING YOUR TIME, SPIRIT, AND GREAT IDEA! THE FELLOWSHIP WAS WONDERFUL. BE SAFE GOING HOME****.*