

National Center on Deaf-Blindness



FAMILY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES JUNE 2018

Families Matter Stories

Have you seen the four “Families Matter” Stories on the NCDB website? If not, we encourage you to check them out and be inspired. Told mostly through video, they will introduce you to children and young adults who are deaf-blind and their families. As you get to know them, you will discover how individuals who are deaf-blind learn, develop, and live their lives. The four stories featured so far are about the following individuals:

- Ava lives in New Jersey and has combined vision and hearing loss due to Usher syndrome. Her family recently moved to a new town and she changed schools at the beginning of fifth grade. Parents, administrators, and teachers worked together to make the transition as smooth as possible, and she's thriving in her new school.
- Liam (7) lives with his family in South Dakota. He became deaf-blind due to meningitis at age 2½ and communicates using American Sign Language. He is also a braille reader. His mom, Sandy, has found many creative ways to make home, school, and community as accessible as possible to him.
- Soliz (8) and Camila (7) live in Phoenix, Arizona with their mom (Heather Joy), dad (André), and dog (Sammy). Their family loves to travel and recently went on a camping trip to Malibu, where the children were immersed in nature and sensory experiences.
- Jake (22) recently graduated from high school. He currently lives with his mom (Dee), dad (Ernie), and brothers, Connor and Patrick, in Lawrence, Kansas.

Here's the link to where the stories are located on the NCDB website:

<https://nationaldb.org/families/familiesmatterstories>

We hope you enjoy them!



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