2017 Texas Symposium on DeafBlindness
Innovative Meaningful Outcomes for Transition from School to Adulthood for Young People with DeafBlindness
Saturday, 8:30-10:00 AM
March 3-4, 2017

Presented by
Christine Givens, Parent, Spring, TX
Catherine Allen, Parent, Plano, TX
Rachel Allen, DeafBlind Individual, Plano, TX
Ashley Davis, Activities Coordinator for Touch Base Center for the DeafBlind

Developed for
Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Outreach Programs
Touch Base: Center for the DeafBlind

"Creating Moments of Joy Together"

For people with DeafBlindness, and those who support them, to build connections with the community, promote self-respect, and improve communication and daily living skills, while creating moments of joy.

Touch Base is the dream of parents of two DeafBlind young adults in Houston, TX. They decided to create a specialized post-school resource with the advice and help of the experienced staff at Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, as well as other qualified professionals.

Touch Base members with DeafBlindness work one-on-one with his or her intervener, as well as the Program Coordinator, up to 6 hours daily, Monday - Friday. At the center and in the community, members will practice and participate in routines, life skills, and fun activities, such as:

- Pottery
- Gardening
- Candle-making
- Community outings
- Exercise routines
- Dancing
- Animal therapy
- Baking
- Holiday celebrations
- Card-making

Figure 1 DeafBlind participant and intervener making pottery, hand over hand, together on pottery wheel. Image of hands and wheel.
Touch Base can provide speakers for presentations, parent consultation, guided single/group tours, as well as opportunities for volunteers and interveners.
Texas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired
Outreach Programs

Figure 5 TSBVI logo.

Figure 6 IDEAs that Work logo and OSEP disclaimer.