



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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TO: Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Lead Administrators, Charter Schools

FROM: Sherry Thomas, Director *SHT*
Exceptional Children Division

RE: Deaf-Blind Professional Learning

DATE: April 30, 2019

The NC Department of Public Instruction Exceptional Children Division in collaboration with the NC Deaf-Blind Project (NCDBP), DHHS Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Wake Technical Community College invites participants to attend the professional development workshop **Empowerment Through Touch: Haptic Training**. The two-day workshop will be held June 7-8, 2019, at Wake Tech Community College, 3434 Kildaire Farm Road, Cary, NC 27518. The workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. each day. Lunch is provided as part of the training experience. Participants will also receive the book [Haptic Communication](#). There is no registration fee but pre-registration is required as training is limited to 40 participants.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the touch communication system that provides information to people who are deaf-blind through pictures that are drawn discretely on the back or the arm. The touch communication system includes Tactile Sign Language, Touch Cues and Touch Signals. Presenters for this professional development will be Marilyn Trader, the Helen Keller Southeast Regional Representative; and Ashley Benton, the Deaf/Deaf-Blind Services Coordinator with the NC Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Participants will earn 1.4 professional CEUs upon successful completion of the training.

Please use the following link to register by May 27, 2019: <http://bit.ly/2GKDmIA>

For additional information, please email Dottie Snyder at Dorothy.Snyder@dpi.nc.gov.

SHT/DS/tt

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

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