



Ricard Lopez reports:

European Deafblind Network (EDbN) Report.

EDbN is the European network of organizations of deafblind people, parents, relatives and professionals. In 2011, the EDbN has been able to have a strong impact on important areas related to deafblindness and disabilities in Europe. Examples are listed as follows:

European Disability Forum (EDF) We are part of a group of experts on the European Union Structural Funds. This is beneficial because it means we have some influence on its budgets and management (for the period 2014 to 2020), and are able to acquire knowledge and establish relationships. We participated in various seminars about accessibility. As members of EDF we have experience in many subjects at the European level.

European Platform of Deafness, Hard of Hearing and Deafblindness We have become involved in the creation of this platform, which will offer us closer relationships with colleagues in this area with access to high quality information. It will also provide us with direct access to the Disability Intergroup of the European Parliament giving us greater lobbying strength. All of these reasons give us cause to celebrate.

European Deafblind Union – Agreement of understanding. We are looking forward to working more closely with our colleagues within EDbU.

World Confederation of Parents of Deafblind Persons – Agreement of understanding
The preferential agreement with the recently created Confederation of parents is another reason to celebrate 2011.

EDbN is being revealed as an excellent working tool for our collective workings at the European level.