## HAND UNDER HAND FACT SHEET

A STRATEGY WHERE A CHILD'S HANDS ARE GENTLY GUIDED FROM UNDERNEATH, WHICH ALLOWS THEM TO EXPLORE AND PARTICPATE AS THEY CHOOSE.



Touch is often the most reliable and efficient way to learn for children and young adults who are deafblind.

## STRATEGIES FOR POSITIVE TOUCH

- Touch in a neutral location (shoulder, arm, leg).
- Use a greeting ritual to introduce yourself (voice, personal identifier, or touch).
- Touch what the child is touching.
- Affirm the child with touch in a way that makes sense to them.
- Follow the child's lead.
- Use a parting ritual to say goodbye.



- The hands often serve as they eyes and ears of a child who is deafblind.
- Make your hands available in a palm up, open handshape.
- Encourage hand play and exploration! This builds trust!



## THE TEXAS DEAFBLIND PROJECT

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