



25th Annual Visually Impaired Family Learning Weekend

June 13-15, 2025 on MSDB Campus in Great Falls, MT

Kristin Smedley is our Keynote Guest Speaker!



Kristin Smedley is the Mom of two blind sons and Best Selling author of *Thriving Blind: Stories of Real People Succeeding Without Sight* and *Brilliantly Resilient: Reset, Rise and Reveal Your Brilliance*. A recognized expert in the blindness and rare disease communities,

Kristin won the highly regarded Champion of Hope Award and was named an Ambassador for the National Organization of Rare Disorders. Kristin is a popular, in demand speaker who has been invited to share her message internationally.

As CEO of a global patient organization, she coordinated legislation (H.R. #625) that became the first in US history to be submitted in Braille. Kristin spoke at the FDA to help achieve the first ever FDA approved gene therapy to treat an inherited retinal disease in the United States. Her TEDx Talk, book and international summit change perceptions of blindness, and sparked a global movement, Thriving Blind Academy, that is solving the unemployment, literacy, and financial crisis in the blind the community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Kristin co-founded Brilliantly Resilient™ to help people come through life's challenges and setbacks brilliant, not broken.

Registration and event details coming soon!