# Deaf-Blind Young Adults in Action: Participating in the Policy Process



June 21-27, 2009 Washington, D.C.

# **Collaborating Partners**

- Helen Keller National Center
- Texas Tech University- Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Visual Impairments
- American Foundation for the Blind
- American Association of the Deaf-Blind
- Gallaudet University

### **Deaf-Blind Young Adult Participants**



# **Co-Coordinators of the Program**



Suzanne Ressa and Amy Parker

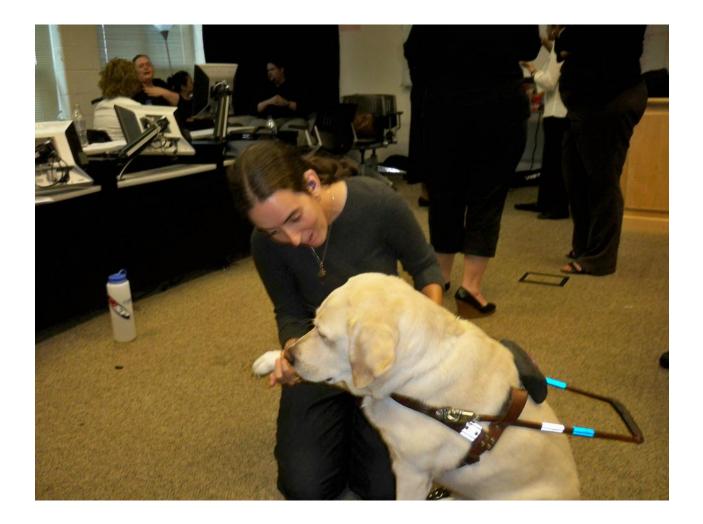
#### **Classroom Experience**



### **Divya Listening Intently**



### Crystal and Umbro



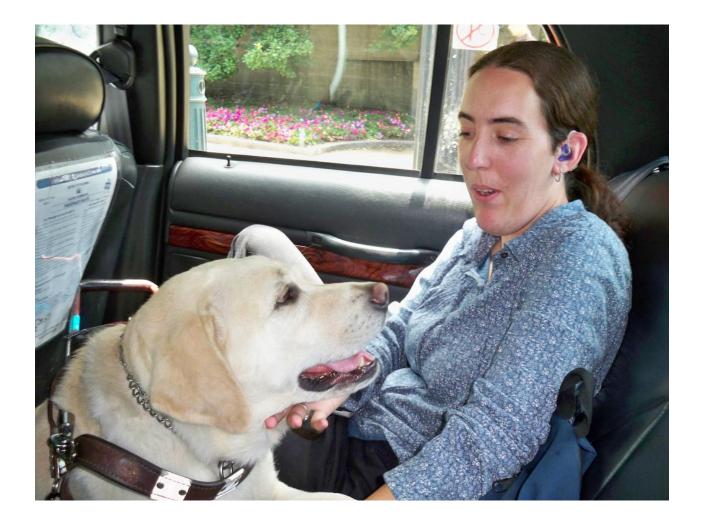
# Making a Plan on the Hill



# Advocacy for Four Issues Facing Deaf-Blind People



### Crystal and Umbro in the taxi



# Virginia and Divya



### Meeting with Senator John Cornyn's Legislative Assistant



# **Thanking Senator Kohl**



# Thanking Congressman Markey



#### Meeting President Obama in the Oval Office



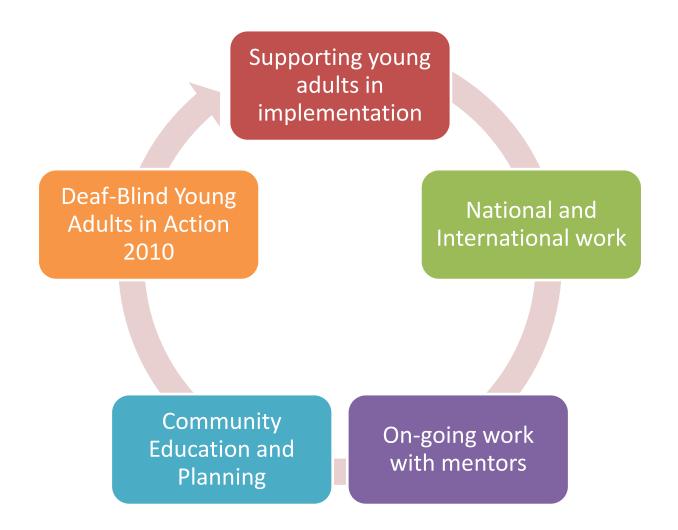
#### **Friendships Formed**



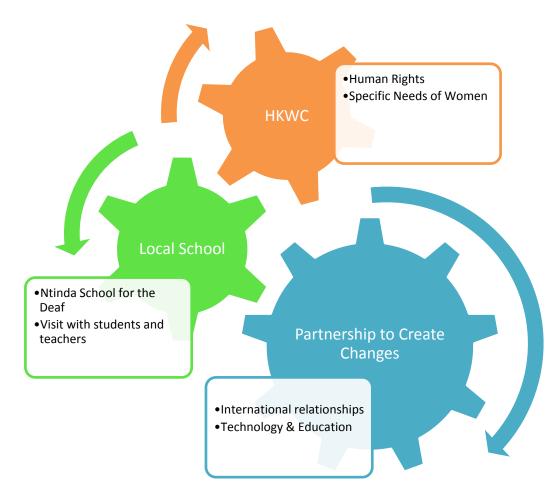
### Positive Young Adults Making Positive Changes in the World



#### **Phase II- Implementing Action Plans**



# Helen Keller World Conference Kampala, Uganda



# A vision for HKWC and Growing Young Leaders

