

“Improving the Accessibility and Comprehension of Tornado Warnings in the Southeast for Deaf, Blind, and Deaf-Blind”

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Goal: This project will investigate the communication of tornado warning information among individuals who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing (HoH), Blind, Low Vision (LV), and Deaf-Blind. It aims to improve our understanding of the sociological, linguistic, and cultural factors that influence how individuals from specific vulnerable groups receive, process, and respond to tornado information.



INFORMATION FROM NOAA.GOV

NOAA's dedicated scientists use cutting-edge research and high-tech instrumentation to provide citizens, planners, emergency managers and other decision makers with reliable information they need when they need it.

NOAA's Mission: Science, Service and Stewardship

1. To understand and predict changes in climate, weather, oceans and coasts;
2. To share that knowledge and information with others.
3. To conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources.

NOAA's Vision of the Future

1. Resilient Ecosystems, Communities, and Economies.
2. Healthy ecosystems, communities and economies that are resilient in the face of change.



INFORMATION FROM NSSL.NOAA.GOV

VORTEX-SE is an effort to understand how environmental factors characteristic of the southeastern U.S. affect the formation, intensity, structure, and path of tornadoes in this region. The experiment will also determine the best methods for communicating the forecast uncertainty related to these events to the public, and evaluate public response.

NSSL- (NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory) is the executing partner and lead organization in developing the research program to meet the VORTEX-SE objectives because of NSSL's experience during the past 20 years in the previous VORTEX experiments. The lab has brought together a number of tornado researchers and social scientists to focus on the most important and urgent areas of research.



ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEAF (NAD.ORG)

Deaf/deaf- “We use the lowercase deaf when referring to the audiological condition of not hearing, and the uppercase Deaf when referring to a particular group of Deaf people who share a language – American Sign Language (ASL) – and a culture.”

Hearing-impaired – “This term is no longer accepted by most in the community but was at one time preferred, largely because it was viewed as politically correct.”



ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND (NFB.ORG)

“Some people use terms such as visually impaired or low vision instead of blind. The National Federation of the Blind uses the term **blind** for all people, regardless of their visual acuity, who need to use alternative techniques to accomplish the same thing that a sighted person can do using eyesight.”

For more information:

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