

clear channels

SUMMER 2010 ISSUE



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From the Director

The first half of 2010 has brought a lot of change – and, with it, excitement – to ACDHH. I would like to share some of those highlights with you and I look forward to reporting more as this year comes to a close.

March 17 marked the date of ACDHH's sunset hearing in the Arizona state legislature, also known as HB 2028, which would extend the life of ACDHH by 10 years (to July 1, 2020). I attended the hearing, along with supporters of the bill, and it was passed without opposition. "[The Commission] will continue to act as a bureau of information to the deaf and the hard of hearing and state agencies that provide services to the deaf and hard of hearing and to protect the public by regulating

the practice of interpreting." We are very excited to be able to continue our programming for the state of Arizona for the next 10 years!

Another piece of legislation was passed, HB 2151, which outlined the appointment of commissioners for ACDHH, as well as license issuance and renewal and continuing education guidelines for licensed sign language interpreters. We take great pride in our highly qualified commissioners and sign language interpreters, and HB 2151 allows us to continue providing this level of quality to the deaf and the hard of hearing communities statewide. Internally, we have been working on a few things to streamline the Commission and take it into the 21st

State Budget Cuts Continue to Impact ACDHH Services

All state agencies, boards and commissions are required to participate in the mandatory furlough program. ACDHH's office will be closed on the following dates:

- July 23, 2010
- August 20, 2010
- September 17, 2010
- November 26, 2010
- December 23, 2010

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century. First up: a new website design. We are revamping our website to make it even more user-friendly. We will continue to keep you informed about upcoming events, trainings, seminars and workshops, as well as ACDHH-supported programs like Arizona Relay Service, AzTEDP and interpreter licensure.

We are also going green with Clear Channels. Whereas previously you read this newsletter in hard copy, we are now delivering it digitally to reduce the amount of paper used in our quarterly mailings. Those unable to receive communications via e-mail may request Clear Channels by mail by calling (602) 542-3323 or 1-800-352-8161 (928 & 520 area codes). Those wishing to add their email to the distribution list may do so by visiting www.acdhh.org or emailing us at info@acdhh.az.gov.

In addition to our new and improved website and newsletter, we have increased our presence on the Web by jumping feet first into Facebook and Twitter. Social media creates a forum in which we can provide you, our community, with up-to-date information you can use – and you can interact with ACDHH as well! Feel free to make suggestions, ask questions and start discussions; it's all about open communication.

To find ACDHH on Facebook, visit www.facebook.com/AzCDHH, or type "Arizona Commission" into the search bar. Once you are on the ACDHH page, click "Like" and you will begin to see page updates in your News Feed. To follow ACDHH on Twitter, go to www.twitter.com/AzCDHH and click "Follow."



Sherri Collins, Executive Director of ACDHH



ACDHH Staff Retreat

On Friday, May 14, 2010 the Commission staff held its staff retreat. Due to budget cuts, the retreat was held at the W. Washington St. office. The day was filled with great opportunities to learn and have fun! The day began with an opportunity to take us back down memory lane for the year and then forecast plans for the new fiscal year, which begins on July 1. Ed Kinal and Bel Masaquaptewa with the finance department were first at bat and put on quite a presentation for the staff. It was a great way to get the morning started. Each staff member had an opportunity to celebrate his or her successes of the past year and brainstorm with his or her peers to find solutions to issues that continue to create challenges.

During lunch, everyone had the opportunity to sample the cooking skills of all of the staff. What a smorgasbord: Emmett's hummus, Bryanna's sausage dip, Vicki's Hawaiian pork roast and Sherri's kidney bean pasta dish rounded out the main courses. Melinda provided a delicious raw dessert with her raspberry pecan pie!

The day closed out with more presentations from the staff, comments from the executive director, Sherri Collins, and deputy director, Carmen Green. As usual, the presentation of the Employee of the Year generated a great deal of



excitement. The 2010 Employee of the Year is Michele Michaels, Hard of Hearing Specialist. Michele was applauded for her exemplary commitment to improving the quality of life for hard-of-hearing Arizonans. Michele has made great strides in educating agencies and organizations through great networking and outreach efforts. She has provided excellent feedback leading to policy change, increased awareness and improved accessibility!

Emergency Preparedness

Deaf Specialist Beca Bailey and Licensure Certification Coordinator Emmett Hassen represented the Commission during the Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network (CEPIN). This training was the 43rd training since the inception of CEPIN. CEPIN provides training for emergency responders and community members to better serve

the needs of the deaf and the hard-of-hearing. Responders are introduced to the challenges that citizens may experience during emergencies that are unique to the deaf and the hard-of-hearing. Citizens are made aware of the challenges that responders face when serving the public. More than 50 individuals were in attendance.

The Commission staff will be providing trainings to several agencies as a result of networking during the event. Flagstaff emergency preparedness professionals have expressed an interest in recruiting deaf and hard-of-hearing volunteers for the community.

National Alliance of Black Interpreters, Inc. (NAOBI)

NAOBI continues its outreach by encouraging participation in the upcoming 2010 Professional Development Conference. The conference line-up includes a wide range of professional development for all skill levels. There is the misconception that the conference is for African American/



Black interpreters only. During an e-interview, Dr. Rodney Smith, conference coordinator, refuted the misconception. The conference is open to anyone who wishes

to improve their skills in sign language interpreting. "You do not have to be African American/Black to attend this conference" says Dr. Smith. Other great points emphasized during the interview included the ability to potentially earn 2.5 continuing education units (CEUs). The CEUs offered are by Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. The CEU calculations include the .6 CEUs offered during the Interpreter Business Boot Camp on June 23 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. A hot breakfast every morning is included

in the registration fee. During the June 24-27 event, participants will only be responsible for four meals on their own. Those staying at the hotel are allowed to enjoy all amenities of the hotel at no additional cost during their stay. There are additional benefits, so please visit www.naobi.org for more information.

On June 23, the Interpreter Business Boot Camp will provide workshops on the business of interpreting, how to make more money, how to get the IRS to pay your way, how to fly around the world and how to make money working as an interpreter. Presenters for the boot camp include Anne Leahy, freelance interpreter, with more than 20 years of experience; Arlene Narvaez, interpreter, tax preparer with 25 years of contract experience; Dr. Rodney Smith, business professor, with 25 years of experience; and Antonio Goodwin, traveling interpreter, with 12 years of contractual experience and a top law school graduate!



Summertime presents opportunities for learning

ACDHH strives to stay on the cutting edge of all things important in the field of deafness and hearing loss. Staff will be attending conferences this summer to learn new skills to improve the quality of services provided to all Commission consumers.

Licensure staff Christi Smith and Emmett Hassen will attend the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Region V

conference on June 16-20, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Several staff will attend the National Alliance of Black Interpreters conference in Phoenix June 23-27 at the Sheraton Crescent Hotel. Hard-of-Hearing Specialist Michele Michaels will attend the National Hearing Loss Association of America conference June 16-20, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Staff will also participate in state and local conferences as attendees and presenters during the summer months.



Training offered to professionals statewide

ACDHH's 4th Hard of Hearing Training for Professionals was offered this year for the first time in Tucson. Seventy-five people participated in this free, all-day training, made possible by our sponsors: the University of Arizona, the Arizona Relay Service, and Cochlear Americas, with CRC credits provided by DES/RSA. Professionals from all walks of life and from around the state convened at the Bio5 conference room at the U of A in late May. In one day

they learned about audiology, mental health, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), cochlear implants, captioned telephones, and assistive listening devices. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and ACDHH looks forward to providing this training again in the future.



community events

ACDHH Interpreter Application Review Committee Meetings

Thursday, July 15th
Thursday, September 16th
Thursday, November 18th
ACDHH
1400 W. Washington St.
Room 126
Phoenix, AZ 85007

ACDHH Commission Meetings

Thursday, September 16th
Thursday, November 18th
Residence Inn
8242 N. Black Canyon Freeway
Phoenix, AZ 85051

National Alliance of Black Interpreters, Inc (NAOBI) 2010 Professional Development Conference

Thursday, June 24th – Sunday, June 27th
Sheraton Crescent Hotel
2620 W. Dunlap Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85021

This Conference will offer a host of workshops for interpreters. Workshop topics include; multi-cultural interpreting, technology, video relay interpreting, freelancing interpreting, religious interpreting, diversity, legal interpreting and much more. NAOBI, Inc. is not an African American-only organization. Anyone pursuing excellence in the field of interpreting is encouraged to attend.

Please visit www.naobi.org/2010 or email Registration-Chair@naobi.org for more information.
Registration: www.naobi.org/2010

Apache ASL Trails Groundbreaking

Thursday, June 17th

Future Home of Apache ASL Trails,
Arizona's First housing for Deaf/Hard
or Hearing/Deaf-Blind Seniors
2428 E. Apache Boulevard
Tempe, AZ 85281
(Price and 101 light rail stop, building is on the north
side of the street).

Continental breakfast following the ceremony, at Istanbul
Cafe located at 1310 E. Apache Blvd. You can hop on
the light rail across the street from Apache ASL Trails,
and go two stops up to the cafe (Stop Dorsey/Apache
Blvd).

Please RSVP to:

Katie Voss at 414-937-5903,
Beca Bailey at 866-705-4507 or
email ckinney@cardinalcapital.us

Please visit our website, www.acdhh.org for more
exciting events and up-to-date activities of the
Commission!

The Commission Tidbits

CDI Graduation

The Commission partnered with Phoenix College for a pilot Deaf Interpreter Program. The two-year pilot has come to an end! Ten students completed the program and graduated with a certificate of completion on Wednesday, May 12, 2010. The students were exposed to many facets of the field of interpreting. Renowned presenters in the field of interpreting provided instruction to the students. Internships were also requirements of the program.

Parents Care Event

CBS-5 and SCAN Healthcare had the first Parent Care Expo at the Phoenix Convention Center on April 24th. It was free and open to the public. CBS-5 invited the Commission to be one of 30 booths at the expo. Approximately 300 people participated in the expo. Michele Michaels, HOH Specialist, and Lisa Furr, AZRS Outreach Specialist participated in the event.



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