

NEVADA

Subcommittee on Communication Services

for Persons Who Are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, or Hard of Hearing
and Persons with Speech Disabilities (SOCS)

Strategic Plan

2017 - 2021



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This page recognizes the individuals who lead or participated significantly in the planning process or in the development of the plan.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This section summarizes the key information from all of the other sections of the strategic plan down into a 3-4 page executive summary. It will be written so that an outsider can easily read and understand the mission of the Commission, its overall major issues and goals, and key strategies to reach the goals.

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The Subcommittee on Communication Services (SOCS) for Persons Who Are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, or Hard of Hearing and Persons with Speech Disabilities (also known as the Communication Access Council) acts in an advisory capacity to telecommunication service providers, service programs and the community. It is a subcommittee of, and reports to, the Nevada Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities (CSPD). The mission of SOCS is to recommend policy and support development and implementation of telecommunications services, equipment distribution and advocacy for Nevadans with communication disabilities. Throughout this proposal, the Subcommittee on Communication Services is referred to simply as the “Subcommittee”.

NRS 427A.797 authorizes the provision of telecommunications access for people who are deaf or have severely impaired speech or hearing.

According to its bylaws, the work of the Subcommittee includes:

- Making recommendations to CSPD concerning the establishment and operation of programs for persons with communications disabilities which affect their ability to communicate;
- Recommending to the CSPD any proposed legislation concerning persons with communications disabilities which affect their ability to communicate;
- Providing input into Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) program services, budgets and goals;
- Performing other functions, consistent with the purpose under the authority of NRS 426 that the Council determines to be appropriate and that are consistent with its other functions.

In addition, it is the responsibility of the Subcommittee to seek and solicit input from varying entities and persons with communications disabilities in creating a five year revolving plan. The plan consists of long and short-range goals as determined through the planning process, for Communication Access (service related) programs and Telecommunications providers (Relay).

Organization of Report

The report is comprised of the following seven sections.

Executive Summary: This section summarizes the key information from all of the other sections of the strategic plan into an executive summary. It provides a high level overview of the mission of the Subcommittee, its overall major issues and goals, and key strategies to realize those goals.

Introduction and Purpose of Plan: This section provides background information about the Subcommittee and context for the development of the strategic plan.

Strategic Orientation: This section presents the vision, mission and values held by the Subcommittee. This framework is what is used as the “looking glass” through which all decisions related to the Subcommittee are made.

Methods & Approach: This section outlines the methods and the approach to the strategic planning process through each phase of development.

Situational Analysis: This section of the report describes the current reality of individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing and persons with speech disabilities in each stage of life for residents throughout Nevada. It explores the most pressing needs facing the population, as well as strengths and weaknesses of the service system.

Strategic Plan Goals & Objectives: This section lists the goals of the Subcommittee over the 2017-2021 timeframe. It also provides specific objectives that will be pursued and the benchmarks to measure success or the need to modify the approach.

Evaluating & Updating the Plan: This section describes how the Subcommittee will measure and report on its success and lessons learned. Specific milestones for assessing progress are described and the frequency for reporting and discussing results.

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METHODS AND APPROACH

This section outlines the methods and the approach to the strategic planning process through each phase of development.

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This section of the report describes the current reality of individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing and persons with speech disabilities in each stage of life for residents throughout Nevada. It explores the most pressing needs facing the population, as well as strengths and weaknesses of the service system.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1.				
Objective	Strategies	Timeline for Completion	Partners in Action / Responsible Parties	Benchmarks for Measuring Success
Objective 1.1:	1.1.1			•
	1.1.2			•
	1.1.3			•
Objective 1.2:	1.2.1			•
	1.2.2			•
	1.2.3			•
Objective 1.3:	1.3.1			•
	1.3.2			•
	1.3.3			•

Goal 2.				
Objective	Strategies	Timeline for Completion	Partners in Action / Responsible Parties	Benchmarks for Measuring Success
Objective 2.1:	2.1.1			•
	2.1.2			•
	2.1.3			•
Objective 2.2:	2.2.1			•
	2.2.2			•
	2.2.3			•
Objective 2.3:	2.3.1			•
	2.3.2			•
	2.3.3			•

Goal 3.				
Objective	Strategies	Timeline for Completion	Partners in Action / Responsible Parties	Benchmarks for Measuring Success
Objective 3.1:	3.1.1			•
	3.1.2			•
	3.1.3			•
Objective 3.2:	3.2.1			•
	3.2.2			•
	3.2.3			•
Objective 3.3:	3.3.1			•
	3.3.2			•
	3.3.3			•

EVALUATING AND UPDATING THE PLAN

Agreements by the SOCS Strategic Planning Steering Committee regarding how and when the plan will be reviewed and (as needed) updated should be placed here. It is important to be explicit about who has the responsibility to ensure that the plan is updated as needed; otherwise, there is a greater risk that the plan slowly becomes obsolete and stops being used.

APPENDIX