

Nevada Commission For Persons Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Education  
Maureen Fradianni

**Objective 1.3. Education Implement effective educational approaches, supports and transitions throughout Nevada for school-aged target population.**

**Objective 1.3.4. Work with DOE to create and utilize a universal/standard communication plan with IEP process identifies a child within the target population.**

**September 10, 2018:** Eric Wilcox and I had a meeting with Will Jensen, Director of Special Education-Dept. of Education at his office in Carson City on September 10, 2018. We discussed re: universal/standard communication plan-IEP. Eric Wilcox had the example of communication plan for deaf and hard of hearing children form from Colorado Hands & Voices. (<http://cohandsandvoices.org/resources/complan.htm> )

Copy of a written report by Eric Wilcox and copy of Communication Plan: Washoe County and Colorado Hands & Voices.

### **Nevada Early Intervention Services-Reno office DATA collection**

**September 13, 2018:** Met NEIS staffs: Development specialist and SLP with deaf and hard of hearing children. These NEIS staffs received Sky Hi trainings several years ago.  
The following datas are:

**SKI-HI Language Development (LDS)** 2nd edition “Assessment of Language Skills For Children Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing from infancy to Five Years of Age”. Test form (Individual Test Booklet) SKI-HI Institute Utah State University Logan, They use the LDS-Language Development Scale. Almost every child has a LDS. This is the major tool we use to track the development of language. **NOTE: a copy** of three pages of the SKI HI booklet **“The Gestural Approach to Thought and Expression” (G.A.T.E.):** Depending on the cognitive level of the child and if they have other deficits and look at non-verbal, gesture communication from 0 months to 36 months. It gives total communication age in months, which reflects the infant or child’s non-verbal gestural communication level. It includes sign language, as the child gets older or more mature in their communication.

**“Callier-Azusa Scale”** It covers all areas of development, the original scale is called Scale “G” which can be obtained through the University of Texas, Callier Center for Communication Disorders. Scale “H” is a specific component that is based on the work of Dr. Jan van Dijk and is authored by Robert Stillman and Christy Battle. Specifically a Communication Scale (Scale H) that looks at multi-challenged children with hearing loss and other conditions. Another multi-handicapped scale they have rarely utilized, is the CAROLINA which covers 5 areas of development.

**Rossetti Infant Toddler Language Scale** compares children with hearing and is used, but cautiously. For eligibility something called the DASI-2 is used.

**NOTES:** Follow up with Judy Young particulars on those tools if I need them.

**November 8, 2018:** Emailed NEIS staff asking her where to obtain data for deaf and hard of hearing babies & toddlers, ages 0-3. Also asked her where to obtain data for deaf and hard of hearing children ages,

**November 2018: Washoe County school :Follow Up** with a teacher of the deaf-- data collection on 1. Annual Language Assessment, 2. Annual Disaggregated Data report by the state-use the copy of data collection by Sheri Fariinha

W.C. school just hired a new position ASL Coordinator, Educational Interpreter Kristen Watson. I plan to have a meeting with her in the near future. A new full time position collaborate with the community, mentor for interpreters at school.

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**Follow up Data: 1.** numbers of deaf and hard of hearing students in Nevada. Upcoming legislative session, 2019-establish a school for the deaf in Nevada, they have the statistic of deaf and hard of hearing. Can check with the legislative & Will Jensen from CC Special Education. What is the Draft bill?

**Data: 2.** All these reports point to the fact that the current system of educating deaf children is not working: 1. Babbidge Committee Report-1965 2. Coed President & Congress-1988 3. LIDAC Quality Study on LEA's-1989. 4. NADSE SpEd Report-1994. 5. California Superintendent's TF Report on Restructuring Deaf & HOH Education - 1999. Note: Sheri A. Fariinha, M.A. Director National Campaign, CEO Norcal Services for deaf and hard of hearing, presented Lead-K for Nevada community in Reno on June 2018.

**November 17, 2019:** Attended Lead-K meeting

**December 8, 2018:** 1. Attended Lead-K meeting. The blue folders passed out to the members, It includes Model Legislation for States (7 pages), Lead-K State Checklist, Immediate release-two letters-AG Bell statement on Lead-K Agreement, draft-Lead-K of Nevada's mission, reports from 1965 to 1994 showing that the education for deaf is not working. Lead-K data collection—numbers of deaf students, interpreters in Las Vegas, Advocacy tips for meeting with legislators.2. Diane Miller, AuD. Doctor mentioned that NV EHDI Program and the early intervention services in Nevada is working Paula Pittman from the SKI Hi Institute to ensure quality early intervention services in Nevada. 3. Tessa Pearce attended Lead-K summit last October mentioned that NV encourage certified deaf mentors but no training. The cost of the SKI Hi training is about \$7,000 and three days of training. 4. Ask NV Commission regarding the cost of the training and provide SKI HI training for the deaf and hard of hearing community in the future.??? 4. E H D I data (ages 0 - 3) As of today they have birth year 2016 and will begin processing the 2017 data in early 2019 usually complete around March 2019.

Next Lead-K meeting on January 19, 2018.

### **Outreach/Links Specific**

I received a message from SLP needing resources to aid a young deaf boy who has hearing parents. There is a communication barrier between deaf son and his blind hearing mother. I researched and found useful some resources for children and adults who are deaf/blind.

**Nevada Dural Sensory Impairment Project:** Helping meet the educational needs of children who have dual sensory impairments. Ages 3 to 22

Nevada Dual Sensory Impairment Project, College of Education, University of Nevada, Reno/  
MS 299, Reno, NV 89557. 1-877-621-5042 (toll free in Nevada). Email: [mad@unr.edu](mailto:mad@unr.edu) MaryAnn  
Demchak, PH.D, Project Director

**Helen Keller National Center (HKNC) Region 9: Southwest**  
9939 Hibert St. #108, San Diego, CA 92131. Voice/TTY 858-578-1600.  
[cathy.kirscher@hknc.org](mailto:cathy.kirscher@hknc.org)

**Clerc Center at Gallaudet University** has many family resources for the families of deaf, hard  
of hearing, and multi-challenged children with hearing loss and other conditions. Website:  
<http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu>.

**Links Specific to Nevada. There are many other links specific to Nevada: See a copy of  
list of links.**

**Nevada P.E.P., Inc.** is Nevada's parent training and information center for families of children  
with disabilities. Website: [www.nvpep.org](http://www.nvpep.org)

**Nevada Department of Education, Office of Special Education,** Elementary & Secondary  
Education and School Improvement Program has a website that includes a calendar of events,  
documents, as well as the names and contacts information for the staff. The website describes  
the department's purpose objectives and goals. [http://www.doe.nv.gov/Special\\_Education1/](http://www.doe.nv.gov/Special_Education1/)

**The Nevada Special Education Technology Assistance Project (NSETAP)** was established  
by the Special Education Branch of the Nevada Department of Education. The project's  
purpose is to provide resources to school districts for making informed decisions regarding  
assistive technology devices and/or services which meet state and federal mandates. Website:  
<http://www.nsetap.com/about.shtml>