

# Strategic Plan – Update Report

**Presentation Date:** September 3, 2020      **Workgroup/Member:** Eli Schwartz

**Goal #: 1**      **Objective #:**

**Summary of Activities:**

*(Provide a summary of activities completed since the last meeting. Reference any attachments to accompany this report)*

High level discussion regarding the following:

- 9-1-1 to text option:
  - The text option is already available in Henderson, Las Vegas, and Reno however, not sure if it is accessible in other portions of the state specifically rural areas.
  - Explore obstacles, cost, technology, internet et;
  - Advocacy efforts in rural areas, police department, city councils
  
- Define American Sign Language (ASL) as a protected language and in doing so work with insurance companies to determine how they will cover costs associated with the professional supportive services of Interpreters.
  
- Deaf School:
  - Appeared in the last session
  - Conduct further research on the benefits of a Deaf school (i.e. look at other states)
  - Possibility of virtual school

**Recommendations to the Commission:**

*(List recommended action or next steps if there is no action for the Commission)*

- Executive Director creates alliance with other advocacy groups to write a letter to educate legislators about using more appropriate language
  
- Commission will make recommendation to Senator Spearman/ legislators to change the NRS regarding SB203:
  - Financial support should be extended beyond the purchase of hearing aid molds to also include batteries.
    1. Instances throughout the bill referring to the “affordability of insurance” should be defined as families “having no insurance, no access to insurance or unable to pay premiums/co-pays associated with insurance”. In these instances, financial support made possible by SB203 should pay for hearing aid and related costs (i.e. ear molds and batteries) and/or assistance with paying premiums and/or co-pays for said purpose.
  - Make qualification standards for hearing aids less restrictive. Currently, few families qualify. Per the survey, 38% of households earned \$30k or less – if a household had several persons this could be restrictive.

*For Executive Director Use:*

Acton Taken by Commission? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Follow Up Needed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Date Entered to Tracking:	Contact Person: