Nevada Commission Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

March 14, 2019

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**Summarize report:**

**January 14 2019**: I emailed Kelli Fast from Washoe County school district, coordinator of Special Education for deaf and hard of hearing a few times. Our goal- Eric Wilcox and I hope to meet Kelli Fast to discuss the Communication plan for deaf and hard of hearing-IEP.

Washoe County School district hired Kristen Watson as ASL Coordinator. NOTE: just emailed her to summarize her duties as ASL Coordinator for the deaf and hard of hearing students.

**March 1, 2019**: We agreed to reschedule the meeting to have more attendances from the school in the near future. I developed the agenda what the meeting is about. Outreach them regarding the strategic plan, 2017 2021- high quality education for the deaf and hard of hearing students, high quality teachers of the deaf , high quality interpreters and other services that provide direct services.

**February 2019**: I had a meeting with Tim Smalley the acting executive director of DCN and Jeff Breadsley, the member of the commission via video phone on February 7th. My goal is to bridge the gap between two agencies, Deaf Center of Nevada and Nevada Hands & Voices. I educated him  about Nevada Commission strategic plan goals and objectives.

**February 2019:** Follow up Lead-K article  “Bridging the language gap: LEAD-K written by Andrea Juillerat Olvera.  Quoting Kristy Stellato (copy of the article and quoting\_

**February 2019:** Mental Health Objective 1.2. Increase access to mental health providers that are deaf themselves or that have a unique understanding of the target population:

I researched mental health subject:  DCN will hire mental health specialist or social worker and require to have a license. Does DCN has the descriptions of the positions and the duties? do the staff have the HIPAA for them to sign it?  Does DCN  collerbate with Nevada Mental Health. to assure that the deaf community receives qualified mental health services in Nevada.

 More and more deaf people receive mental health services and/or counseling  using video phones from other states. The problem is the health insurances? <http://www.deafcounseling.com/about/> (8/15/17)

Department of Public and Behavioral Health Program (DPBH): I am aware that  some deaf and hard of hearing children receive services from DPBH. When I was DHHARC employee, two or three deaf children from Nevada were sent to  National Deaf Academy, Mt. Dora, Florida. It provided mental health services to deaf and hard of hearing children and adults but now I heard that it is closed due to abuses a few years ago. Check with DPBH—  Qualified staffs who have ASL skills to evaluate them? How do they communicate with deaf and hard of hearing children who have  limited language or no language? Did they receive the partner letter from NV Commission? **Copy of  report and insurances wi**th different websites. If they have not receive the letter-email them the letter.

**March 1, 2019**: 80th session of the Nevada Legislature.

Four bills: **SB93-**Commission Bill, **SB90-**Making various changes relating to the health of children, **SB203** Revises provisions for children who are blind, visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing, **SB222** Hearing Aid Program