



UNIVERSAL ACCESS. AUTONOMY. INCLUSION FOR ALL.
WWW.DCNV.ORG

Commission Report

Deaf Centers of Nevada (DCN) – Executive Director’s Report

Commission Report

Deaf Centers of Nevada (DCN) – Report

Presented to the Commission for Persons who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Speech Impaired

Report Date:

July 8, 2020

Successes and Wins

- Accomplishments above and beyond what is reported to our grantors:
 - June 2020’s cumulative engagements provided to stakeholders from all direct service platforms within DCN, including data reported to our grantors, totaled 8,469.
 - In average over the last 3 months DCN has doubled in engagements since our last Commission Report. This momentum is a great reflection of the due diligence of our dynamic Advocates, Specialist, Providers, and community members coming together to enrich our community services and access.

Collaborations and Service Expansions

- Updates on any partnerships established, new or existing:
 - DCN currently holds 12 collaborative allies (aids in resources, community platforms, and/or events), 62 partners, with 30 potential partnerships in the works.
- Updates on expanded services outside of our grantors:
 - Internship opportunities have shown to strengthen our presence in the community among college students at CSN and NSC, schools in which interpreting courses are offered.
 - SB203 Hearing Aid Program:
 - In our efforts to get this program up and running our Hearing Loss Advocate and Executive Director have found that there are issues in the

Las Vegas
8020 W Sahara Ave, Ste 125
Las Vegas, NV 89117
702-363-3323 TEL
702-475-4751 VP
702-685-0324 FAX

Reno
1324 Airmotive Way, Ste 225
Reno, NV 89502
775-332-7700 TEL
775-473-9452 VP
702-685-0324 FAX

interpretation of the Law guiding this resource, therefore increasing the challenges of provisionary use of said resource.

- DCN Executive Director is working closely with the Commission Subcommittee and Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Health Equity Alliance to seek the proper changes to aid in increasing the accessibility of hearing aids to our D/HH constituents through this program.
- DCN Executive Director and the Commission's Education Subcommittee have also discussed the funding aspect of the SB203 Hearing Aid Program and the limitations the current budget presents. This is still under discussion and will be best presented once the program becomes more accessible as we build fluency of services through the law as it stands.

Community Challenges

- Challenges or opportunities to improve services for the target population:
 - DCN has seen an increase in the needs of our homeless population as there is a lack of resources with language access for the D/HH populations. The service challenges pertain to shelter, nutrition, and access to virtual assistance via cellphone, tablet, or computer.
 - DCN continues to ally with local representatives (North and South) to educate and empower organizations to expand their scope to include accessibility points within their current practices.
 - The need for employment continues, yet as DCN has provided resources with Unemployment the community has shown little interest as a collective. Though we have received multiple calls seeking direction and assistance when open platform discussions are presented clients and community members shy away and/or do not show up via virtual outlets.
 - This can be perceived as a lack of virtual access to current platforms engaged.

Recommendations for the Commission

- Decisions/recommendations needed by the Commission (if any):
 - The Subcommittee is already addressing the concerns of the SB203 law as it is currently written. DCN has no other decision/recommendations to present to the Commission.

Upcoming Events/Announcements

- DCN has positions posted in Reno and Las Vegas.
 - Reno:
 - Assistive Technology Specialist (Full-Time)
 - Field Interpreter (Part-Time)

Las Vegas
8020 W Sahara Ave, Ste 125
Las Vegas, NV 89117
702-363-3323 TEL
702-475-4751 VP
702-685-0324 FAX

Reno
1324 Airmotive Way, Ste 225
Reno, NV 89502
775-332-7700 TEL
775-473-9452 VP
702-685-0324 FAX

- Front Desk Receptionist (TEMP – Full-Time)
- Las Vegas:
 - Director of Finance (Full-Time)

Additional Information

DCN Update:

- New Hires:
 - Priscilla Acosta, Deaf Case Advocate (Reno) – Start date: July 1st, 2020
 - Margaret Lansing, Front Desk Receptionist (Las Vegas) – Start date: July 13th, 2020

Final Note:

- As the community has become accustomed to DCN's team approach, it is with great sadness to share that one of our Executive Team members has resigned. Phyllis Charles has been an amazing ally in change for DCN and our greater community. Her tenacity for integrity and professionalism has been one of the pillars in resetting DCN on a stronger and impervious course of client focused services. Her shoes will be challenging to fill, but we are grateful for all she has given to DCN in her time with us and the mark she has made on our organization/community.

SUBMITTED BY: Obioma U. Officer, M.A.
Executive Director

Las Vegas
8020 W Sahara Ave, Ste 125
Las Vegas, NV 89117
702-363-3323 TEL
702-475-4751 VP
702-685-0324 FAX

Reno
1324 Airmotive Way, Ste 225
Reno, NV 89502
775-332-7700 TEL
775-473-9452 VP
702-685-0324 FAX