

Communication Access Services – Program Report – 05/13/2021

Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Relay Nevada

Contract with T-Mobile has been extended a 3rd year for coverage until July 2022. CAS is working on drafting a new Request For Proposal (RFP) that will be released next year for competitive bid. During development of new RFP, new trends within the Relay industry will be considered. Once RFP is released, it will be shared with the public.

Additional Information

Relay Nevada CapTel commercial being aired from April 2021 to June 2021 on major networks such as ABC, NBC, CBS and Fox. Commercials are being aired statewide on these networks.

Communication Access Service Centers

CASC temporary staff continue to provide services to the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Speech Impaired community.

ADSD has reviewed the applications that were submitted in response to the CASC NOFO. Community partners for access to services for youth, and the telecommunications equipment and assistive technology distribution program have been identified. Nevada Hands & Voices (NVHV) will be funded to provide access to services for youth. University of Reno (UNR) provide telecommunications equipment and communication-related assistive technology distribution and training. Funding for these services will begin July 1, 2021. We are working to identify community partners to provide access to services for adults, as well as language acquisition, including ASL Instruction. ADSD has just released a separate NOFO specific to ASL Instruction this week and looks forward to receiving applications.

We expect the temporary staff to stay with us until our new community partners are set up and ready to provide services. In addition, we plan to hire part-time ASL instructor until we can identify a community partner for this service.

Additional Information

CAS has been contacted by Adult Protective Services (APS) to provide deaf/hard of hearing awareness training, which will be provided in July of 2021. This training will help give APS social workers tools they need to serve the deaf, hard of hearing and speech impaired Nevadans. Training will also be developed and customized for community partners awarded funding under CASC services.

Interpreter Registry

CAS has a new Interpreter/CART Registry database that has been improved and is more user friendly for both the public and interpreters to navigate. It can be accessed anytime by phone or computer. There will be a digital wallet for uploading and managing files or documents. In addition, the new system will send out email reminders or alerts automatically. These are just to name a few. Please visit Interpreter/CART Registry website for the new registry link at:

http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/Physical/ComAccessSvc/Interpreter_Registry/Interpreter_Registry/.

State Interpreters and Mentoring

The CAS interpreters/mentors are still available to provide interpreting services for Governor's press conferences.

The CAS team is continuing to migrate the Interpreter/CART Registry database by assisting interpreters and CART providers in navigating the new online system and transferring their required documents.

SB 179, which modifies the qualifications for interpreters to register has unanimously passed the Senate and has now moved to the Assembly. Jennifer Montoya and Adrienne Navarro presented this bill to the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor Committee yesterday, 5/12/2021.

The CAS interpreters/mentors are currently providing mentoring services remotely to 22 community and educational interpreters across the State. There are currently two applicants for the mentorship program on the waiting list.

Total mentees: 22

Mentees by primary work setting

Educational: 20

Community: 2

Mentees by work location

Urban (Washoe, Carson City, Clark County): 16

Rural (All other counties): 6

Applicants on the waitlist: 2

The CAS interpreters/mentors hosted workshops/webinars during March and April for interpreters. The CAS interpreters/mentors also continue to engage in early release day activities for educational interpreters in the Washoe and Douglas County School Districts.

Workshop/Webinars	Location(s)	Date	Number of Attendees
Professional Interpreter Training Series – Becoming the Chair of Your Own Committee: Giving Yourself a Promotion	virtual	3/11/2021	59

School District Professional Development	School District	Date	Number of Attendees
Washoe County School District Early Release Day - Hidden Valley	WCSD	3/3/2021	4
Douglas County School District Early Release Day	DCSD	3/8/2021	1
Douglas County School District Early Release Day	DCSD	3/22/2021	3

Workshops/Webinars - April 2021

Workshop/Webinars	Location(s)	Date	Number of Attendees
The EIPA Performance Exam: Deconstructed	Virtual	4/20/2021	72
School District Professional Development (PD)/Professional Learning Community (PLC)	School District	Date	Number of Attendees
Washoe County School District Early Release Day - Hidden Valley	WCSD	4/7/2021	5
Washoe County School District Early Release Day - Wooster	WCSD	4/14/2021	5
Washoe County School District Early Release Day - Wooster	WCSD	4/21/2021	6
Douglas County School District Early Release Day	DCSD	4/26/2021	3

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