

Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Subcommittee Communication Accessibility Report

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2022, 11:00 AM

Meeting held via Zoom

Public Comment: Dawn Lyons of the Statewide Independent Living council announced that the ACLU is currently suing Clark County Detention Center for not having interpreters for the deaf inmates.

Dora Martinez wants all boards and commissions at ADSD to use a standard meeting announcement, preferably like the SILC.

Communication Accessibility approved the committee goals based on the Strategic Plan:

- The first recommendation is inclusion of the community:
  - Once we have a director, the communication accessibility benchmarks would be inclusion in the community. We would assist the director as needed in that first recommendation.
- The second recommendation is government accessibility:
  - First, we understand DETR unemployment is still having issues with access for deaf and hard of hearing individuals.
    - **Action Item:** It is suggested that the accessibility subcommittee drafts a letter to the unemployment division and take that to the Commission for approval
  - In addition, with the legislative interim session committees getting started, it has been an area with a consistent challenge in accessibility of meetings. The legislature does have a new webpage that describes their current effort to ensure accessibility.
    - **Discussion and possible action:** Suggestion is to look at that information and determine if there are any recommendations that we need to make to the legislature, which would then be taken to the full commission for approval.
  - All state contracts for ASL and CART services have expired and that means that right now no state agency can request interpreter services.
    - **Action Item:** We would like to make a recommendation to the full commission that there needs to be a change, there cannot be a drop in access to accommodations, ever.
- The third recommendation is quality interpreters:
  - Manage as needed.
    - Any urgent items would be addressed immediately or by special meetings.
- The fourth recommendation is emergency response and management:
  - Communication Accessibility benchmarks would be partnerships with emergency response groups and entities, training, ideas, and updates of policies and procedures to include target populations.
    - Further discussion for the next Communication Accessibility Committee for planning.
- The fifth recommendation is healthcare access:
  - Communication Accessibility benchmarks would include partnerships with healthcare workers with the director, training, ideas and updates of policies and procedures to include target populations.
    - Further discussion for the next Communication Accessibility Committee for planning.
- The sixth recommendation is language development:
  - Communication accessibility to work with the education committee as needed to address issues and assist in their goals.
    - Any urgent items would be addressed immediately or by special meetings.

- The seventh recommendation is postsecondary education:
  - Communication accessibility to work with the education committee as needed to address issues and assist in their goals.
    - Any urgent items would be addressed immediately or by special meetings.
- The eighth recommendation is WIOA partnerships and communication accessibility benchmarks:
  - Communication accessibility to work with the education committee as needed to address issues and assist in their goals.
    - Any urgent items would be addressed immediately or by special meetings.

The addition of the following members to the Communication Accessibility Committee:

Ace Patrick - Public

Lance Ledet - Public

Sandra LaPalm – Current Commission Member

This would create the full committee based on our first meeting.

Submitted by:

Susan Beckett

March 3, 2022