

## **Communication Access Services – Program Report – 5/12/2022**

Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

### **Relay Nevada**

T-Mobile submitted their annual report to the Communication Access Services Program on March 31, 2022.

As post pandemic openings continue, T-Mobile's contractors are visiting various nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other care facilities to provide outreach. The outreach coordinators are now also attending community events and continue to provide Relay Nevada webinars several times each month, which assist in reaching those living in rural counties. Relay Nevada will be attending the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Speech Impaired resource fair in Las Vegas on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Beginning in May and continuing into June, T-Mobile will be doing a PSA on Speech-to-Speech services that will air on various television stations.

### **Communication Access Service Centers**

Nevada Telecommunication Equipment Distribution Program, co-sponsored with Nevada Hands & Voices are hosting Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Speech Impaired Resource Fairs. One will be held on May 28, 2022, from 9am to 2pm in Las Vegas while the 2<sup>nd</sup> event will be held in Elko on June 4, 2022, from 10am-1pm. Purpose of this event is for UNR's program and other partners to share resources with vendors and participants that attend this event. More details on flyers attached.

CSD's ASL Instruction program has extended their 6-week course to 8-week instead based on feedback provided by consumers. They are working on the next courses that will be provided either end of August or beginning of September. They have a waitlist, for those interested to be added to their waitlist for next ASL courses available, they can be contacted to be added to waitlist.

NVCC resource centers had a meeting on 4/20/22, Bi-monthly team huddle, led by NVCC ADSD staff where they pick a topic and invite presenters to provide information on specific topic. This meeting was an open discussion that gave opportunity for NVCC resource centers staff to ask questions based on their experience serving target population. Present at this meeting was Salvatore Fiorentino from CAS, Obioma Officer from the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission and Michelle Cordova, volunteer. Michelle Cordova is an individual that is deaf, who will volunteer to provide hands on training to NVCC resource centers.

## CASC Data for April 2022

Service	Number of People Served
Telecommunication Equipment & AT	6
Access to Services, 0-21	87
Access to Services, 22+	33
Language Acquisition – Deaf Coaching	6
Language Acquisition – ASL Instruction	30

Contact information for all partners listed below:

- **University of Reno (UNR)**- 833-427-1672 or [cas-telecom@unr.edu](mailto:cas-telecom@unr.edu)
- **Nevada Hands & Voices (NVHV)**- 775-351-1959 or [info@nvhandsandvoices.org](mailto:info@nvhandsandvoices.org)
- **Nevada Care Connection (NVCC)**- Dial 211/or text 898-211, contact information on NVCC's 4 resource centers can be found here <https://www.nevadacareconnection.org/contact-us/>
- **Communication Service for the Deaf (CSD)**- Those that are interested in learning ASL, please contact CSD at [learns@csd.org](mailto:learns@csd.org) or [Communication Service for the Deaf \(CSD\) - Contact Us](#) to be placed on the wait list for the next available course offered during summer of 2022.

### Additional information

If you would like to subscribe to CAS mailing list for latest information and updates, please see link: [Communication Access Services Program Mailing List](#)

### State Interpreters and Mentoring

The CAS interpreters/mentors continue to provide mentoring services to 5 community and 15 educational interpreters across the State, in both rural and urban areas.

The CAS interpreters/mentors continue to provide their Practical Interpreter Training Series (PITS) workshops. March and April workshops were continued series of the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA). This test assesses K-12 educational interpreters in 36 different interpreting skills. March and April workshops participants were given explanation on 16 skills of what they look like in direct communication, what an interpretation using each skill can look like and opportunities to practice the skills. Feedback that was received from the evaluations were positive. Participants felt that they are much more prepared to take the EIPA. The final series of workshop will take place on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

The CAS team provided a workshop to interpreters in the Washoe County School District (WCSD) on their professional development day focused on horizontal violence and bullying in the interpreting profession. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> time the CAS team has provided a workshop in this topic as this is becoming a popular topic in the interpreting profession. Participants from WCSD appreciated the CAS presenters' willingness to show vulnerability as discussing their own experiences and making the workshop a safe space.

The CAS team continues to work with Washoe County School District (WCSD) and Douglas County School District (DCSD) during their interpreters' Professional Learning Communities (PLC) time.

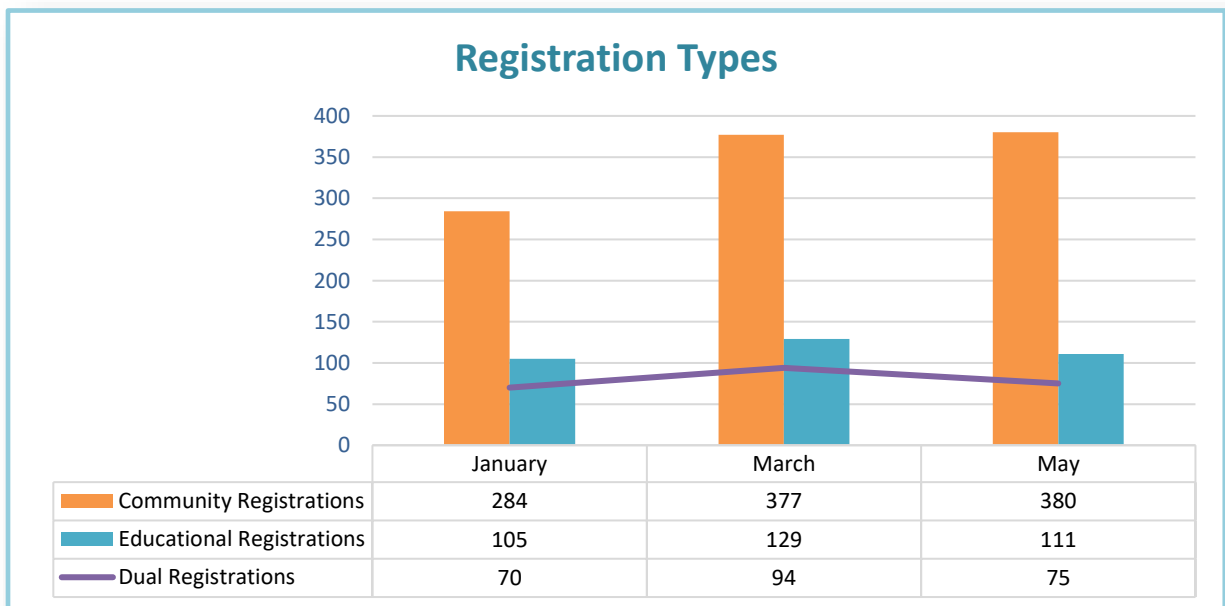
The CAS team began a pilot group for interpreters who are interested in preparing for the National Interpreter Certification performance exam, in which community interpreters are tested on their interpreting skills. There are 6 participants in the pilot group. They are our current and former mentees, and some of them were also from the past pilot group for knowledge test. This is another opportunity to increase the number of nationally certified interpreters in Nevada, as well as the quality of interpreting services for Nevadans who are Deaf or hard of hearing.

## Registry

Community Registrations – 380

Educational Registrations – 111

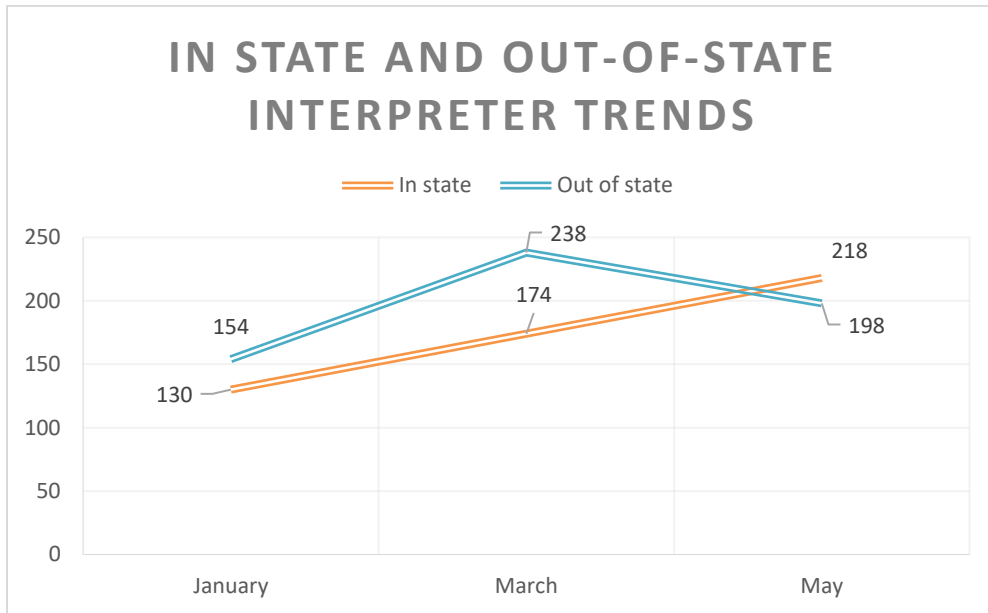
Dual Registrations – 75



Total Number of Individual Interpreters in the Database – 416

In State Registrations – 218

Out of State Registrations – 198



### Additional Information

The CAS team is currently waiting for the final draft to NAC 656A from the Legislative Counsel Bureau. Once the final draft is received, the CAS team will plan to host a hearing open to the community to inform of the new changes.