

Communication Access Services – Program Report – 1/13/2022

Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Relay Nevada

T-Mobile's current outreach contractor, in the Reno area, continues to provide Webinars on Relay Nevada several times a month. This is accessible for residents all over Nevada. She has also started going out to various senior facilities promoting Relay Nevada in-person. T-Mobile is on target to meet or exceed the required number of outreach presentations.

T-Mobile and the CAS program are still discussing about a new outreach/advertising campaign using Val-Pak that will include a postcard size ad about Relay Nevada and UNR's Nevada's Telecommunications Equipment Distribution program. We are waiting for the UNR Equipment Program to complete their website so it can be listed on the postcard. They are also discussing a TRS/IP Relay Television and/or Radio commercial. These have been successful in educating the public about CapTel and other TRS equipment available through Relay Nevada. Further discussion will take place to determine best advertising methods.

Community Challenges

T-Mobile has hired a second outreach specialist which will be based in the Las Vegas area. Her name is Alexis. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been a struggle hiring.

Communication Access Service Centers

ADSD has transitioned all Communication Access Service Centers services which were formally provided by Deaf Centers of Nevada, and for a short time by temporary staff through ADSD, to our new community partners. These services include:

- **Telecommunications Equipment and Assistive Technology** - includes distribution and training on equipment and assistive technology to help individuals who have hearing and speech disabilities access the telecommunications system.
 - Services are available statewide through the University of Nevada's equipment distribution program.
 - Phone: 883-427-1672
 - Email: cas-telecom@unr.edu
- **Access to Services** – helps individuals with speech and hearing disabilities in accessing services, specifically employment, education, health and social services.
 - For age 0-21, services are provided statewide by Nevada Hands and Voices
 - Phone: 775-351-1959
 - Email: info@nvhandsandvoices.org
 - Website: www.nvhandsandvoices.org
 - For age 22+, services are provided by Nevada Care Connection, which has four different locations throughout Nevada.

- Visit www.nevadacraeconnection.org/contact-us/ to identify the location serving your county
- **Language Acquisition** – includes deaf coaching and American Sign Language (ASL) classes.
 - Deaf Coaching – provides role modeling for children and families to help in language development. This service is provided statewide by Nevada Hands and Voices
 - Phone: 775-351-1959
 - Email: info@nvhandsandvoices.org
 - Website: www.nvhandsandvoices.org
 - ASL classes – provides ASL instruction for individuals who have a hearing disability, family members of individuals who have a hearing disability, or those who provide services for individuals who have a hearing disability. This service is provided statewide by Communication Services for the Deaf (CSD). Classes will begin at the end of February 2022.
 - Email: learns@csd.org
 - Website: csdlearns.com

CASC Data for November 2021

Service	Number of People Served
Telecommunication Equipment & AT	18
Access to Services, 0-21	46
Access to Services, 22+	14
Language Acquisition – Deaf Coaching	1
Language Acquisition – ASL Instruction	Service begins Feb 2022

State Interpreters and Mentoring

The CAS interpreters/mentors continue to provide interpreting services for press conferences by the Governor as well as mentoring services to 4 community and 16 educational interpreters across the State. Out of 20 mentees total, 15 are from urban and 5 are from rural.

The CAS interpreters/mentors hosted their monthly Practical Interpreter Training Series (PITS) in November and the workshop topic was on the CAS Mentorship Program and Curriculum which provided an overview of the activities and holistic approach the CAS mentors engage in with their mentees. Each step of the curriculum was expanded to explain the rationale and how mentorship activities build on each other to effect long-lasting learning. Feedback from participants who attended this workshop was positive. The next PITS workshop will be on January 11th. The topic is crossword puzzles which will help interpreters develop skills to gain linguistic knowledge, analyzing language for multiple meanings and recognizing typical English language patterns.

The CAS team had a total of 8 presentations in the month of November and 6 in December. These presentations included Professional Learning Communities with school districts and the national certification written exam study group meetings.

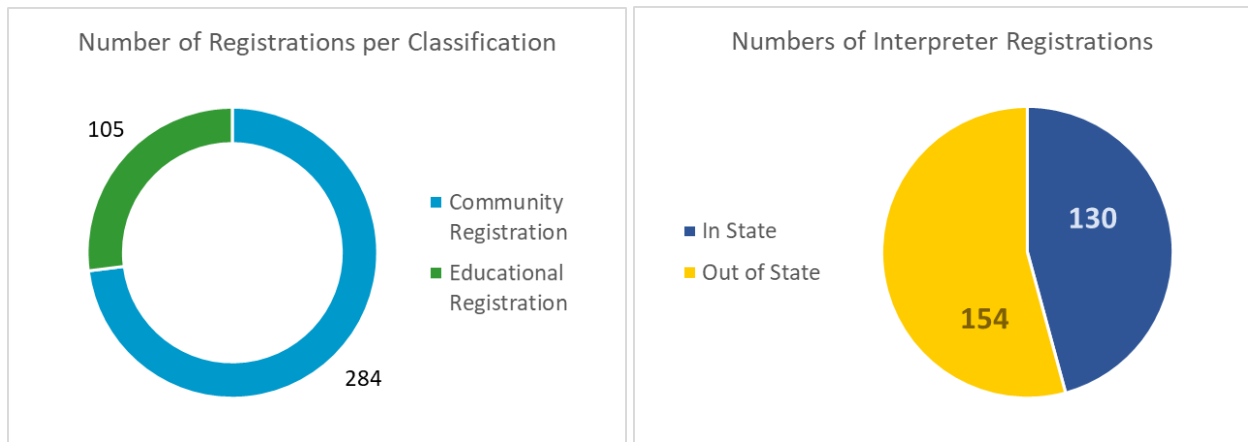
Registry

The CAS team is currently in the middle of updating the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 656A draft to align with Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 656A. Once the NAC is approved, then the team will update the registry database. Ever since the pandemic, many interpreting work has shifted to remote. Our office has received an increase of registrations from out of state due to verification requirements from many states across the country.

Community Registrations – 284

Educational Registrations – 105

Dual Registrations – 70



Total Number of Individual Interpreters in the Database - 319

In state Registrations – 130

Out of State Registrations – 154

Additional Information

The CAS team is currently working on adding more workshops for the upcoming months. The team is collaborating with the State of Nevada Vocational Rehabilitation Deaf and Hard of Hearing team to offer another workshop for interpreters on providing services in the VR Setting. They are now in development of and plan to offer a workshop in the spring of 2022. The team will continue to provide monthly PITS workshops to include topics on EIPA and the use of space while interpreting.

The CAS team continues to work on the revisions to the NAC 656A based on the feedback that was given from the July 29, 2021 workshop.

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