

Director and Chair Report

November 8th, 2023

General Update(s)

Eric Wilcox, Chair

- Budget Update (FY24 Starting funds of \$26,528.00)
 - Total Expenses (thru 9/30/2023): \$1,933.96
 - Balance (as of 9/30/2023): \$24,594.04
- Townhalls Overview/Outcomes (Pahrump, Reno, Las Vegas) – Chair Address
 - Finalized Data Analysis to be completed and presented to the Commission and community for our next upcoming General Commission Meeting in 2024 by Executive Director.

Obioma Officer, ED

Jenn Montoya, CAS Program Director

- Communication Access Services Report Updates [CAS Report 11.8.23 \(nv.gov\)](#)
REMINDER: All CAS reports will be submitted for Commissioners review for quarterly meetings in advance due to meeting time restraints. Reports will be reviewed in advance by Commissioners for questions to be addressed during quarterly General Meetings. Presentations will be offered upon request for imperative topics of interest or need as outlined by the Commission or CAS team.
- At this time, if there are any questions or clarifications needed, J. Montoya can address them.

Membership Updates

Eric Wilcox, Chair

Susan Beckett, Vice Chair

Recently Filled Positions

- 10/2/2023 Catherine Neilsen – Under NRS 427A.750 you have been appointed to the following seat: One nonvoting member who is employed by the State and who participates in the administration of the programs of this State that provide services to persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired.
- 10/2/2023 Eli Schwartz – Under NRS 427A.750 you have been appointed to the following seat: One member who is a user of telecommunications relay services or services of persons engaged in practice.
- No other seats filled at this time.
- Please be sure to submit your appointment documents to Lorraine Belt for filing.



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Open position(s):

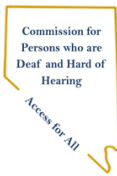
- (b) One member who is a member of the Nevada Association of the Deaf, or, if it ceases to exist, one member who represents an organization which has a membership of persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired – NVAD Board Member has applied (Under Review by the Governor) – VACANT since June 30th, 2022
- (c) One member who has experience with and knowledge of services for persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech-impaired – Term ends June 30th, 2023
- (d) One nonvoting member who is the Executive Director of the Nevada Telecommunications Association or, in the event of its dissolution, who represents the telecommunications industry – Term ends June 30th, 2023
- (g) One member who represents educators in this State and has knowledge concerning the provision of communication services to persons hearing or speech impaired in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary schools and the laws concerning the provision of those services. – VACANT since October 31st, 2022
- (l) One member who: (1) Is registered with the Division pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of sign language interpreting; and (2) To the extent practicable, has experience with and knowledge of interpreting in a primary or secondary educational setting and a post-secondary educational setting and freelance interpreting.

Outreach Efforts/Events/Announcements:

Obioma U. Officer, ED

- Statewide Townhall Tour Updates and Outcomes – TBA following Data Review
 - All Meetings were in person:
 - Tuesday, October 10th, 2023, at 6pm – 8pm at the Nye Communities Coalition Activity Center, 1020 E. Wilson Rd., Pahrump, NV 89048,
 - 4 Community Members in attendance. 4 Commissioners present to receive community's feedback.
 - Friday, October 13th, 2023, at 6pm – 8pm at the Aging and Disability Service Division – Reno Office, 9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 299, Reno, NV 89521, and
 - 10 Community Members in attendance. 2 Commissioners present to receive community's feedback.
 - Tuesday, October 24th, 2023, at 6pm – 8pm the Aging and Disability Service Division – Las Vegas Office, 3320 W. Sahara Ave., Suite 100, Las Vegas, NV 89102.
 - 109 Community Members in attendance. 3 Commissioners and 1 Subcommittee Member present to receive community's feedback.
 - Admin/Staff Needs – Notes and Feedback submission to ED:

Please be sure that you have submitted your notes and stories of your town hall experience. This is in efforts to get the data you all need to address the



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community's needs by regions, I will need the following for qualitative data analysis; a thematic analysis approach of your data recorded:

- **Please share notes from each townhall attended separately (i.e., Pahrump, Reno, and Las Vegas).** – research data will be used to address communities' thematic needs (commonly shared needs).
 - **Please share any engagements or listening sessions that may have occurred on a 1:1 basis by being present with the community in person.** – stories shared will be used in justifying future engagements of this nature and any fiscal obligations that may need to be adjusted as we move forward in our efforts.
 - **Please share your overall experience on this statewide tour. Include positive occurrences and areas of improvement that will aid in our initiatives to serve our community well.** – feedback will be used in the admin and Executive teams' efforts to improve or continue specific support for the Commission and their initiatives statewide.
 - **Please note:** Townhall CART will not be shared publicly per the request of attendees to keep their names and identities confidential within the safe space of their town hall. Notes and overall data analysis of all townhalls will be shared publicly for non-attendees to gain access to the needs of all constituents in the D/HH community that were in attendance Statewide.
- D/HH Empowerment Weekend Community Announcement (See flyers attached):
 - Friday, December 15th, 2023, 6pm - DNO- Area 15 – No Host Event – D/HH Community and Allies Welcome
 - Saturday, December 16th, 2023, 7:30am - NV Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Engagement Conference 2023 – Registration Required due to LIMITED SEATING
 - All Commissioners to be present and registered. Travel assistance available.
 - Registration Link: [Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired \(NVCDHHSI\) Engagement Conference 2023 \(google.com\)](#)
 - 2 Volunteers for the Vendor Booth needed.
 - Vendor Registration Link: [Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired \(NVCDHHSI\) Engagement Conference Vendor Registration 2023 \(google.com\)](#)
 - See webpage for more details: [Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Engagement Conference 2023 – Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities \(nevadaddcouncil.org\)](#)



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- Sunday, December 17th, 2023, 3pm – 6pm - NVAD Gingerbread Winter Gala – See NVAD for details and ticket sales.

Community Contact(s) – For Possible Action

Obioma U. Officer, ED

This section is being added for the Director to report major issues/concerns reported by the community to the Commission.

- DMV Concern in the North – Community member seeking driver license test in the North for 2 years. This situation has been addressed and DMV has responded with setting up an interpreter for the constituent and informing their location of statewide practices of ADA Accommodations for the future.
- Statewide concern with Academic accommodations and accessibility for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students – OO, E. Wilcox, and C. Nielsen will be meeting with the Office of Inclusive Education’s Director J. Bowers at the Nevada Department of Education November 9th, 2023.

Networking Efforts: Resources/Collaborations/Potential Partner/Partners

Network System

- If you are interested in one of our networking options, please email us at NVDeafCommission@adsd.nv.gov and we will get you started TODAY!
- For more information and to learn more about the Commission’s ongoing vision, please check us out at [Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov/DeafHardofHearing/SpeechImpaired).

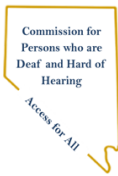
Recent Resources/Collaborative relationships/efforts

All efforts outside of the current Engagement Conference 2023 efforts.

- Hearing Loss Association of America Southern Nevada Chapter – Collaborative efforts
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Potential Walk-4 Hearing Event
 - **Last Meeting:** August 15th, 2023
- Nevada Medicaid Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield – Collaborative efforts/resourcing
 - Current Efforts:
 - NDEAM Job Fair Planning Meeting
 - Following meeting – Referred them to DETR-VR D/HH
 - **Last Meeting:** August 17th, 2023
- Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD Council) – Collaborative efforts/resourcing
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Meeting to Discuss Conversation with Nevada Secretary of State (Obioma, Dora, and Catherine)
 - **Last Meeting:** August 23, 2023

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- Joel Barish, CEO of Deaf Nation Expo 205 – Collaborative efforts/Advocacy
 - Advocacy Request for Deaf Awareness and Tourism Office around the state of Nevada
 - **Last Meeting:** August 24, 2023
- Marc, Leveraging Nevada Mining Industry – Deafblind Inclusion
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Advocacy request for Deafblind Inclusion and Legislative Change for leveraging Nevada mining industry.
 - **Last Meeting:** August 31, 2023
- Nevada Secretary of State – Collaborative/Resourcing
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - NV EASE, incorporating ASL anywhere APP, ensuring website links are accessible and functional for everyone, and finally, ASL voter outreach.
 - **Last Meeting:** August 31, 2023
- Nevada Weather Service – Collaborative and Networking
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Seeking to see the Commission become an Ambassador and become a partner
 - Presentation in 2024 to the Commission along with seeking engagement with our next town hall.
 - **Last Meeting:** September 1, 2023; F/U November 3, 2023
- NV AFN Disaster Coalition Workgroup - Quarterly Meeting
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Resource accessibility and continuing to be aware of Disaster Awareness for Community notifications.
 - **Last Meeting:** September 12, 2023
- Legislative Council Bureau – Collaborative efforts
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Seeking Presentation for Engagement Conference and ongoing community resourcing.
 - **Last Meeting:** September 13, 2023
- Starship, the NV System of Higher Ed contractor for GrubHub – Resource/Advocacy
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Starship Follow-up due to SB 422 (2023) – Safety concerns and reports of delivery bots being a risk to Deaf, Blind, and Deafblind constituents near UNLV.
 - **Last Meeting:** September 13, 2023
- Innivee Strategies – Collaborative/Resourcing
 - **Current Efforts:**



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- Nevada’s current need for Deaf and Hard of Hearing strategics support to revise services.
- Attending the Conference to meeting community and observe for ongoing support and state approach revisions.
- **Last Meeting:** October 9, 2023
- Chris Soukup, Senior Disability Community Leader and CEO, CSD
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Seeking to find additional Deaf Centered services in the state of Nevada.
 - Potentially attending the conference to reacquaint himself with Nevada and observe for ongoing support in state approach to service provisions.
 - **Last Meeting:** October 25, 2023
- Nevada Care Connection State Reps – Collaborative/Resourcing
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Website needs for accessibility and revisions to include more ASL less advance English terminology, along with decreasing clicks/pages to request help.
 - Resources/Advocacy Services deficits
 - LV Townhall Outcomes
 - Las Vegas Deaf Seniors (LVDS) efforts to support the community due to a lack of services by NVCC.
 - D/HH Services history and NOFO – Nothing about us without us.
 - The trauma the community is recovering from and reported challenges with NVCC over the last 3 years.
 - Registering for D/HH Conference Dec 16th
 - Empowerment Weekend hosted by Community Dec. 15th and 17th.
 - Office of Deaf Services through the state possibilities
 - **Last Meeting:** November 7, 2023

2023/24 Meeting Schedule Reminder

Obioma U. Officer, ED

- General Commission Meeting 2024 TENTATIVE: February 14th, 2023, @9am
- **REMINDER!** Subcommittee Meetings have changed to 1 hour 15 minutes with new **TENTATIVE** dates. Please adjust.
 - Interpreter Subcommittee: Friday, November 17th, 2023, @4pm – 5:15pm
 - Accessibility Subcommittee: Tuesday, December 5th, 2023, @10am – 11:15am
 - Employment Subcommittee: Tuesday, December 5th, 2023, @11:30am – 12:45pm
 - Legislative Subcommittee: Tuesday, January 16th, 2024, @2:30pm – 3:45pm
 - Education Subcommittee: Tuesday, January 16th, 2024, @4pm – 5:15pm