



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Director and Chair Report

May 10th, 2023

General Update(s)

Eric Wilcox, Chair

- Budget Update
 - Total Expenses (thru 3/31/2023): \$10,763.45
 - Balance (as of 3/31/2023): \$3,926.56

Obioma Officer, ED

Jenn Montoya, CAS Program Director

- Communication Access Services Report Updates (**See attached Report: [CAS Report for 5-10-2023 \(nv.gov\)](#)**):
 - Moving forward, 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

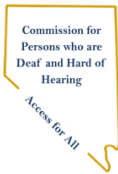
Eric Wilcox, Chair
Susan Beckett, Vice Chair

Recently Filled Positions

- No current seats filled.
- Please be sure to submit your appointed documents to Lorraine Belt for filing. We are currently missing some appointments and term end dates from the Governor's office.

Open position(s):

- (a) 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 – VACANT since December 31st, 2022
 - 1 application on file with Governor's office. – awaiting approval
- (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



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- 1 application received May 2022 in preparation for vacancy with Governor's office. – awaiting approval
- (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
 - 2 applications on file with the Governor's officer. – 1 awaiting approval; 1 needing notarized waiver.

BEFORE NEXT MEETING – August 16th, 2023:

- (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
 - 1 application (incomplete – notarized waiver needed) on file in Governor's office – resubmission of notarized waiver needed.
- (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
 - No applications on file.

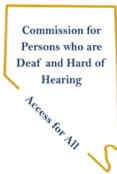
Recommendation/Request

- Bylaws revisions (for action):
 - See revised bylaws attached: **Proposed_changes_May-2023-DHHSI Bylaws (DRAFT).docx** (see page 5 – 6)
 - Concern and Request: 12th Seat adding potential tied vote outcomes. A bylaw statement will be needed if AB206 is passed. Seeking proposed language or actions.
- Commissioners' and Directors' Expressed Concerns/Request – For Possible Action
 - Concern: As stated above, Commission seats remaining vacant with projected vacancies before our next General Meeting, August 16th, 2023.
 - Request: Election postponement to allow for proper nomination protocols and elections during the August 16th, 2023, Meeting.

Community Contact(s) – For Possible Action

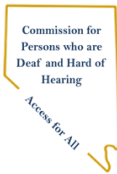
Obioma U. Officer, ED

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



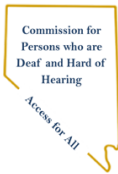
Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- Review, discuss and approve joint letter of support concerning State accessibility audit (For possible action) – See Attached Letter Started by Steven Cohen: **Steven Cohen Accessibility Audit Request 4-6-23.docx**
- Bills under consideration that include the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community and Speech Impaired and the Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing
 - **AB206**
 - **Summary:** Revises provisions governing the Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. (BDR 38-563)
 - **Sponsor:** Assemblywoman Tracy Brown-May
 - **Last Work Session:** Assembly Health and Human Services - Friday, March 31, 2023, 1:30 PM
 - **Actions:** Do pass
 - **Link:** [AB206 Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://state.nv.us/legislation/bills/206)
 - **AB133**
 - **Summary:** Revises provisions relating to drivers' licenses. (BDR 43-165)
 - **Sponsor:** Assemblywoman Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod and Assemblywoman Venicia Considine
 - **Last Work Session:** Assembly Growth and Infrastructure - Thursday, February 23, 2023, 1:30 PM – **Bill History:** Final Decision on April 15, 2023
 - **Actions:** Pursuant to Joint Standing Rule No. 14.3.1, no further action allowed.
 - **Link:** [AB133 Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://state.nv.us/legislation/bills/133)
 - **AB161**
 - **Summary:** Revises provisions governing the identification of persons. (BDR 43-635)
 - **Sponsor:** Assemblyman Cameron Miller and Assemblywoman Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod
 - **Last Work Session:** Assembly Growth and Infrastructure - Thursday, March 16, 2023, 1:30 PM
 - **Actions:** Amend, and do pass as amended
 - **Link:** [AB161 Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://state.nv.us/legislation/bills/161)
 - **SB43**
 - **Summary:** Makes various changes relating to services for aging persons and persons with disabilities. (BDR 38-219)
 - **Sponsor:** Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
 - **Last Work Session:** Senate Health and Human Services - Thursday, March 9, 2023, 3:30 PM
 - **Bill History:**



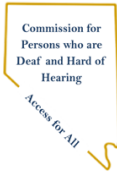
Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- **April 24th, 2023**, Taken from Secretary's desk. Placed on General File. Read third time. Passed. Title approved. (Yeas: 21, Nays: None.) To Assembly.
 - **April 25th, 2023**, In Assembly. Read first time. Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services. To committee.
 - **Actions:** Do pass
 - **Link:** [SB43 Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://state.nv.us/sb43)
- **AB331 (Amend. BDR186)**
 - **Summary:** Revises provisions governing court interpreters. (BDR 1-186)
 - **Sponsor:** Assemblywoman Bea Duran
 - **Last Work Session:** No Assembly or Senate Session to date.
 - **Actions:** Pursuant to Joint Standing Rule No. 14.3.1, no further action allowed.
 - **Link:** [AB331 Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://state.nv.us/ab331)
- **SB373**
 - **Summary:** Revises provisions relating to language access. (BDR 18-1034)
 - **Sponsor:** Senator Edgar Flores, Senator Fabian Doñate, Senator Rochelle Nguyen, Senator Dina Neal, Assemblywoman Cecelia González, Assemblyman Reuben D'Silva, and Assemblywoman Selena Torres
 - **Last Work Session:** Senate Government Affairs - Friday, April 14, 2023
 - **Actions:** Amend, and do pass as amended
 - **Link:** [SB373 Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://state.nv.us/sb373)
- **SB431**
 - **Summary:** Revises provisions relating to governmental administration. (BDR 18-1089)
 - **Sponsor:** Senate Committee on Government Affairs
 - **Last Session – Introduction:** Senate Government Affairs - Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 3:30 PM
 - **Actions:** Heard, No Action
 - **Link:** [SB431 Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://state.nv.us/sb431)
- **Budget 1006 – HHS- ADSD – Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf**
 - **Summary:** The Nevada Commission for Persons Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing is authorized to: 1) review services and practices of all state and local governmental entities relating to persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired and advise those entities directly; and 2) provide persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired with information concerning services and resources that promote equality of opportunity for such persons. Statutory Authority: NRS 427A.750.
 - **Department** 40 Department of Health and Human Services
 - **Agency** 402 DHHS - Aging and Disability Services



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- **Function** 035 Division Health and Human Services
- **Sub-Function** 402 Aging and Disability Services
- **Budget Number** HHS-ADSD - Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf
- **Fund Number** 101
- **Budget Number** 1006
- **Volume** 101
- **Exec Budget Page** DHHS-ADSD – 14
- **Sponsor:** N/A
- **Last Work Session:** Senate Finance - Friday, April 28, 2023, 8:00 AM
- **Actions:** None
- **Link:** [1006 - HHS-ADSD - Commission For Persons Who Are Deaf Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://www.state.nv.us/hhs/adsd/Commission%20for%20Persons%20Who%20Are%20Deaf%20Overview%20(state.nv.us))
- **Additional Bills to consider under ED Recommendation:**
 - **AB35** for communication access for inmates
 - **Commission possible actions:** assure ADA Compliance and specific App access for communication facilitation for Deaf and Hard of Hearing inmates.
 - **Link:** [AB35 Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://www.state.nv.us/hhs/adsd/AB35%20Overview%20(state.nv.us))
 - **AB202**
 - **Ongoing concern through a D/HH lens:** VP access and communication device access in our medical facilities in general.
 - **Need:** A law that permits two-way communication via video communication. The DHH/SI community could benefit with decreasing the communication breakdowns and isolation. This isolation occurs with visitation options being mandated according to immune sensitivities within our nursing/medical facilities.
 - **Commission possible actions/support:** Advocate to assure device accessibility with visual access for apps like ASL Anywhere for on demand communication and safety of consumer needs and rights to express said needs through us and access to devices that allow consumers to stay in contact with loved ones using preferred and effective communication modalities of choice. This would be provisions allowable to patients with rights left to the patient not the facility if the commission could assist in properly protecting rights of the consumer with verbiage recommendations that highlight the need of the D/HH/SI consumer.
 - **Link:** [AB202 Overview \(state.nv.us\)](https://www.state.nv.us/hhs/adsd/AB202%20Overview%20(state.nv.us))

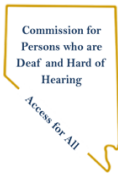


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Networking Efforts: Resources/Collaborations/Potential Partner/Partners

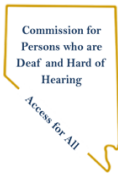
Recent Resources/Collaborative relationships/efforts

- **Camp SignShine meets CRAVE – Collaboration/Alliance**
 - **Current Efforts:** Transition Day/Deaf Camp 2023 (Camp SignShine meets CRAVE Camp - VR) – Includes ATAP, CCSD, LVDS, NVHV, Historians of both camps, and more! Commission presentation and Booth during Camp week and Transition Day June 30th. – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.
 - **Last Meeting:** Thursday, April 19th, 2023, at 9am – 11am
 - **Objective:** The intent is to help repair our transitional pipeline by exposing our students to their potential and options within our state and/or larger resource pool. These efforts are to bring back Deaf heritage and traditions to the state of Nevada. – Finalized Resource Roundtable agenda and outreach approach.
- **Diversity Equity Inclusion Access and Functional Needs Program (DEI/AFN) – Partnership/Alliance**
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Potential Collaboration and Training Opportunity ASL Anywhere and Nevada DEI/AFN – **Last Meeting:** Feb 10th, 2023
 - Collaborative conversations on Accessibility and presentations for emergency preparedness.
 - Deaf Camp efforts, stakeholder, and presenter.
 - Nevada AFN Disaster Coalition Workgroup Calls – **Last Meeting:** March 15th, 2023
 - Networking a Collaboration with ASL Anywhere options for Disaster Emergency Management and Responders
 - Severe Weather Event Coordination with NV DEM
 - Preparedness Zoom with DEM
 - **Last Meeting:** April 19th, 2023
- **Global Technical Communications (GTC) – Partnership/Alliance**
 - **Current Efforts:** Nevada Mobile Communication Access Project Grant. The Nevada Mobile Communication Access Project is a grant-funded opportunity in the State of Nevada and operated by Global Technical Communications, LLC (GTC), in collaboration with the Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NVCDHH).
 - **Last Meeting:** April 19th, 2022



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- Collaboration Meeting to adjust scope of grant use of funding to meet community demand. Outcome – adjustment to 60 total free minutes per Nevadan qualifying applicant. **Last Meeting:** March 22nd, 2023
- Deaf Day at the Legislature – Independently meet with Senator Fabian Doñate to aid in revision of Bills for Nevada D/HH Communication Accessibility through ASL Anywhere
- Deaf Camp Presenter and Booth Vendor for Transition Day – Tom DeAngelo
- For more information, please contact Patty Kuglitsch, Account Manager at pkuglitsch@gtcoms.com
- National Association of State Agencies of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NASADHH) – Potential Collaboration/Resourcing/Alliance
 - **Current Efforts:** O. Officers has been asked to sit on panel in AL for the 2023 NASADHH Policy Summit on August 8, 2023 – **ACCEPTED**
 - **Last Meeting:** On going email stream. Last received: May 1st, 2023
- Naomi Rosen, Nevada State Ambassador for National Association of Interpreters in Education (NAIE) – Potential Partner/Allyship
 - **Current Efforts:** Presentation on August 16th, 2023 – TENTATIVE, for General Commission
 - **Last Meeting:** January 23rd, 2023
- Nevada Black Deaf Advocates – Collaboration/Alliance
 - **Current Efforts:** Joined the Deaf Camp efforts as the aiding hiring agent for Camp Counselors alongside Las Vegas Deaf Seniors.
 - **Last Meeting:** April 27th, 2023
- Nevada Care Connection
 - **Current Efforts:** Review and support webpage updates with ASL Accessibility. NEW ACCESSIBILITY DISCRPTION CLIPS LOOK GREAT! Utilized agency with CDIs. – Awaiting launch.
 - **Last Meeting:** None; Email Correspondence with feedback – April 24th, 2023
- Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD Council) – Collaborative efforts/resourcing
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Deaf Day at Legislature accommodations monetary donation
 - Deaf Camp Collaboration - Transition Day/Deaf Camp 2023 (Camp SignShine meets CRAVE Camp - VR)
 - legislative bill support through educational public comments/letters



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- O. Officer Partners in Policymaking Class 2023 Presentation on April 19th, 2023 – Complete.
- **Last Meeting:** April 28th, 2023
- Nevada Office of the Attorney General – Stephanie Parker, Grants Project Analyst III
 - **Current Efforts:** Come together to collaborate and to make an application for the OVW Fiscal Year 2023 Training and Services to End Violence and abuse Against Individuals with Disabilities and Deaf People Program grant.
 - O. Officer sits on the OVW Disability Grant Program Multi-Disciplinary Collaborative Team – added to MOU
 - O. Officer Presentation during the End Abuse in Later Life Project Coordinated Community Response Meeting March 21st, 2023 – Complete.
 - **Last Meeting:** March 21st, 2023
- Office of Suicide Prevention within Bureau of Behavioral Health, Wellness, and Prevention (DBPH); Misty Vaughan Allen, Nevada Suicide prevention Coordinator – Collaboration/Alliance
 - **Current Efforts:** Presentation on May 10th, 2023, for General Commission.
 - **Last Meeting:** February 24th, 2023

Network System REMINDER

- 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/Commission-for-Persons-Who-Are-Deaf-Hard-of-Hearing-or-Speech-Impaired).

Outreach Efforts/Events/Announcements:

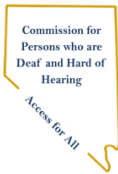
Obioma U. Officer, ED

- 2023 Commission Outreach Efforts/Announcements
 - **Deaf Day at Legislature (SUCCESS!) – April 10th, 2023**
 - Approximately 100 Deaf and Hard of Hearing self-advocates, their families, and supporters from across Nevada were in attendance in Carson City to participate in Deaf Day at the Legislature on April 10, 2023.
 - A formal thank you to the following donors for their support of Deaf Day at the Legislature:
 - Claggett & Sykes
 - NV Governor's Council on Development Disabilities
 - Las Vegas Deaf Seniors



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- Nevada Association of the Deaf
 - The Echols Family
 - The Fradianni Family
 - The Troth Family
 - The Harper Family
 - The Wilcox Family
 - The Longre Family
 - The Jones Family
 - The Cafferata Family
- **Deaf Camp & Transition Day “Camp SignShine meet Camp CRAVE” (CONFIRMED) – June 26th – 30th, 2023 – Updates.**
 - 25 students registered.
 - Camp Collaborative Non-Profits (LVDS and NVBDA) hiring Camp Counselors for the week.
 - 10 Staff needed (5 morning shift, 5 night shift)
 - Morning shift 5am – 5pm; Night shift 5pm – 5am
 - All paid positions (meals included)
 - Seeking presenters for topics such as:
 - Finance and Budgeting
 - Communication Breakdown Simulation & Accessibility
 - Empowerment & Self Determination: Accessibility
 - Career Exploration: Transferable Skills
 - Work Personality/Culture
 - Attitude & Resilience
 - Assistive Technology
 - Accommodation by Setting
 - Post-Secondary Understanding your Degree FAFSA
 - World of Work: 1-9 Applications & Interviews
 - DHH Commission & Board meeting, Legislature
 - Workforce Panel Members
 - **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Transition Day (CONFIRMED) – June 30th, 2023, 10am – 4pm**
 - Registration is required.
 - Attendee/General Registration link:
<https://forms.gle/2nbhQPkiwp8UxKtq7>



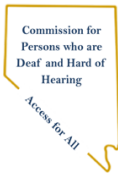
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- Vendor Booth Request Registration/Donation link:
<https://forms.gle/P4SaxXYkzdAeJB4y9>
- Nevada Weather Service & Emergency Responders Panel (Tentative) – August 21st, 2023 – all accommodations provided through NWS (currently no fiscal impact).
- 2023 Statewide Townhall Tour (Tentative):
 - All Meetings In-Person (unless otherwise stated):
 - **Tour 1 – CONFIRMED**
 - Deaf Day at the Legislature Statewide Townhall – April 10th 9am at Legislature Building in Carson City – **SUCCESS!**
 - Statewide (Virtual ONLY Option) – **CANCELED** – ED decision due to budgetary deficits.
 - **Tour 2 – TENTATIVE**
 - Rural – TBD, Tuesday, October 10th, 2023, at 5pm – 7pm
 - Commission Deaf Social (Non-Meeting Event) – TBD, Wednesday, October 11th, 2023; Location and Time: TBD
 - North – Reno, Thursday, October 12th, 2023, at 5pm – 7pm; Location: TBD
 - South – Las Vegas, October 24th, 2023, at 5pm – 7pm; Location: TBD
 - Statewide (Virtual ONLY Option) – Tuesday, November 21st, 2023, Time: TBD
 - Honorary guest Invite to NVAD Community Winter Gala – Saturday, December 16th, 2023
 - Hosted by statewide Non-Profits; honoring all who have contributed to the statewide initiatives and impact towards improvements for Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Speech Impaired community members. Includes and is not limited to bringing back cultural norms, DHH Nevadan heritage, legislative change, and more.

2022/23 Meeting Schedule Reminder

Obioma U. Officer, ED

- General Commission Meetings 2023: August 16th, 2022, @9am
- **REMINDER!** Subcommittee Meetings: The remaining meetings for FY 22/23 have been canceled. Please adjust to the new Subcommittee schedule approved at our last meeting, February 8th, 2023. - Additional Meeting Requests should be requested



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through recommendations made by subcommittee to the Commission during report for voting.

- Legislative Subcommittee: Tuesday, July 11th, 2023, @2:30pm – 3:45pm
- Education Subcommittee: Tuesday, July 11th, 2023, @4pm – 5:15pm
- Employment Subcommittee: Friday, August 18th, 2023, @2:30pm – 3:45pm
Tuesday, September 5th, 2023, @11:30am – 12:45pm
- Interpreter Subcommittee: Friday, August 18th, 2023, @4pm – 5:15pm
- Accessibility Subcommittee: Tuesday, September 5th, 2023, @10am – 11:15am