

Director and Chair Report

November 13, 2024

General Update(s)

Eric Wilcox, Chair

- Budget Update (FY25 Starting funds of \$26,528.00)
 - Total Expenses (thru 10/31/2024): \$4,464.13
 - Balance (as of 10/31/2024): \$21,744.07
 - ED Advised Bylaw adjustments to ensure agreements of attendance and cancelations of accommodations are transparent and adhered to.

Obioma Officer, ED

- Communication Access Services Report Updates: **(see attached meeting materials for supporting document)**.
 - CAS Team could not join us today but will make themselves available to address any questions following our meeting.

*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

Catherine Nielsen, Vice Chair

Recently Filled Positions

- No further updates or appointments to report. ADSD has started further investigation of how to support all Commissions/Boards in appointment request and inquiries.
- Please be sure to apply online if interested.
 - For additional support in the process, please reach out to O. Officer, D/HH Commission Executive Director, to support your efforts and appointment initiative. **Please Note:** Decisions are made by the Governor, at their pleasure and discretion. O. Officer is only available for further directional assistance in navigating the online submission process and can support if further clarification is needed on the waiting period. Boards should be contact directly for further assistance: Boards <boards@gov.nv.gov>.



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Current Open Position(s) Report from Boards (Dated: 10/29/2024):

Our records show the following vacancies for the Commission for Persons who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired:

(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

Potential candidate on File. Awaiting Governor Appointment.

(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

No applicants on File.

(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.

3 Potential candidates on File. Awaiting Governor Appointment.

(k) One member who is the parent or guardian of a child who is less than 6 years of age and is deaf or hard of hearing

No applicants on File.

(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.

Potential candidate on File. Awaiting Governor Appointment.

Outreach Efforts/Events/Announcements:

Obioma U. Officer, ED

- Engagement Conference 2024 – December 13th-14th
 - **Event:** Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired Engagement Conference 2024: “Putting Unity in CommUNITY based Advocacy for Legislative Change.”
 - **Objective:** The Nevada Commission for Person who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired is seeking to unite, empower, and magnify the Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing message for legislative change. Becoming one voice by uniting our message of Access, Engagement, and Advocacy.
 - **Location:** Santa Fe Casino and Resort, Las Vegas, NV
 - **CEUs Offered:** RID/NIC Sign Language Interpreters, Marriage Family Therapist, Professional Counselors, American College Healthcare Executive (Self-Reporting), and Social Workers.

Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- **OPEN FOR DISCUSSION:** Statewide Townhall Tour 2024 – All Meetings to be in person:
Tour 2 OUTCOMES – Tuesday, October 1st, 2024, in Elko, NV (Rural); Wednesday, October 3rd, 2024, in Reno, NV (North); and Thursday, October 22nd, 2024, in Las Vegas, NV (South)
 - **HIGHLIGHTED TOPIC(S):** BDR Concepts and Community Check in.
 - **Locations:**
 - **Rural:** Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS), 1020 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 102, 89801, Elko, NV
 - **5** Commission/State Staff Participants
 - **6** Community Participants
 - **North:** University of Nevada Reno (UNR) (Joe Crowley Student Union), 1664 N Virginia St., Reno, NV
 - **10** Commission/State Staff Participants
 - **17** Community Participants
 - **South:** College of Southern Nevada (CSN) – (W. Charleston Campus), 6375 W. Charleston Blvd., D-101, Las Vegas, NV
 - **8** Commissioners/State Staff Participants
 - **110** Community Participants

*Formal Annual Report will be available of 2024 October Townhall Feedback at our next General Meeting.

- **Reminder: D/HH Empowerment Weekend Projections (Dates subject to change pending venue availability and according to demands of Commission/Community engagement):**
 - Friday, December 13th, 2024 – Conference Day 1: 1pm – 6pm, and Community Evening Deaf Night Out (DNO) hosted by Sammy’s DEN
 - All Commissioners to be present and registered for conference. Travel assistance available.
 - Further DNO details and planning to be announced by Community Partner Sammy’s DEN.
 - Saturday, December 14th, 2024 - Conference Day 2: 8am – 6pm
 - All Commissioners to be present and registered. Travel assistance available.
 - Sunday, December 15th, 2024, Nonprofit/Community Winter Gala and Fundraiser hosted by Las Vegas Deaf Seniors (LVDS).
 - Further details and planning to be announced by Community Partner LVDS.

Community Contact(s) – For Possible Action

Eric Wilcox, Chair
Obioma Officer, ED

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



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Executive Director:

Obioma U. Officer, ED

- 2025 Calendar Announcement **(see attached meeting materials for supporting document)**. – For Action
- Emphasis to updates to the Bylaws to include the new Commission seat and ASD Administrative Assistant advised guidelines **(see attached meeting materials for supporting document)**.

Chair and/or Vice Chair:

Eric Wilcox, Chair

Catherine Nielsen, Vice Chair

- Deaf School Needs and Research Tour w/ O. Officer, L. Ledet and C. Nielsen in response to D/HH Education request of the community UPDATE. – Project pivot to include potential legislative activity of support for a research project. More details at our next meeting.
- Civil Legislative Engagement OUTCOMES – August 2024 Council Meeting attended to encourage voter engagement.
 - Community Legislature Advocacy Engagement – August 26th, 2024, D/HH & Disabilities Community Rally at the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults with Special Needs (SVAN) Meeting outside the LCB Buildings in the North and South 9am-4pm
 - Over 76 Disability Community members/constituents attended statewide.

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).

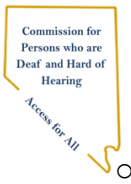
Recent Resources/Collaborative relationships/efforts

All efforts current 2024 efforts.

- American College Healthcare Executives (ACHE)
 - UWSN/ACHE Nevada DEI Subcommittee Co- Chairs attended the LV Townhall as support for data collection to bring to the American College of Healthcare Executives Council for additional action/review.
 - Allyship and Qualifying Education for Conference for 2024 Engagement Conference with Corey Axelrod, CEO of 2axend.
 - Last Meeting: October 4th, 2024
 - Scheduled to meet the week of the 12th of November.

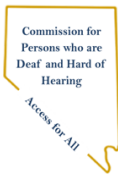
Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- Assemblywoman Brown May – Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults with Special Needs
 - **Current Efforts/Request:**
 - Assemblywoman Brown May who is the Vice Chair of the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults with Special Needs has confirmed attendance and joining the Panel for 2024 Engagement Conference breakout session per Community Partner request.
 - **Last Email:** November 1, 2024
- Clark County Elections Department
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Election poll collaboration and outreach through the Deaf Commission Subcommittee on Accessibility.
 - **Last Meeting:** October 21, 2024
- Clark County School District (CCSD) Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Leadership
 - **Current Efforts/Request:**
 - Reviewing and strategizing the current concerns of the community as it pertains to D/HH staffing deficit and perceived education provisional gaps for D/HH students and families.
 - **Last Meeting:** August 22nd, 2024
- Deaf Community Advocacy Resource Center Discussion
 - **Current Efforts/Requests:**
 - Monthly meetings to network and support the Deaf Ecosystem in development, cohesion, and support of Deaf advocacy and resources.
 - **Last Meeting:** September 25, 2024
- Deaf Equality
 - **Current Efforts/Request:**
 - Representative, Jacob Salem, Senior Policy Manager will be Presenting and engaging in our 2024 Engagement Conference on the topic of D/HH Policy development.
 - H. Rosenblum, CEO of Deaf Equality, has confirmed his commitment of support in collaboration with his colleague, Jacob Salem, in support of Medical Accessibility Access and Advocacy. The details of that support have yet to be determined.
 - **Last Contact:** November 4-5, 2024 (via text)
- DeafNation World Expo – Joel Barrish Event
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Outreach Collab and advocacy.
 - Preparation for next year’s outreach through advocacy and networking with local entertainment resources.
 - Last Event/Outreach collab: October 11, 2024
- DETR Vocational Rehabilitation – 2024 Engagement Conference



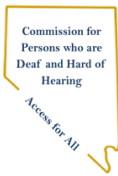
Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- **Current Efforts:**
 - On planning team, hosting youth development engagement, and providing oversight for all volunteers and contracted interpreters.
- **Last Contact:** November 7, 2024
- Dolores Consulting – Networking and connections to LAS Airport and Language Access development/Hospitality in medical settings through ACHE
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - LAS Airport Resource and Advocacy – last discussion was to introduce O. Officer to the ADA compliance officer of the Airport and discuss community concern and ongoing educational allyship as new laws are implemented.
 - **Last Meeting:** October 24, 2024
 - Check in and Updates on Airline Accessibility, Conference, and Pillar Awards clarification
 - **Last Meeting:** November 4, 2024
- F2F – Fiorentino 2 Fiorentino
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Networking and preparation for upcoming holiday community outreach event.
 - Efforts ongoing for allyship, resources, and networking.
 - **Last meeting:** September 27, 2024
- GTC Updates 8/26/24
 - **Current Efforts/Requests:**
 - Continued collaborative efforts to connect with the community and updates on newly awarded grant.
 - **Last Meeting:** November 1, 2024
- Innivee Strategies – Collaborative/Resourcing
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - 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.
 - O. Officer attending their Deaf Organization Executive Summit 11/7/24-11/8/24
 - **Last Meeting:** October 31st, 2024
- Las Vegas Deaf Seniors (LVDS)
 - **Current Efforts/Request:**
 - Ongoing collaborative efforts in Policy and Legislative Advocacy in BDR efforts.
 - Collaborating in the 2024 Empowerment Weekend.



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- Hosting the 2024 Community Winter Gala that will collaboratively house the networking event, 2024 Gratitude Ceremony, that will recognize this year's Pillar Award nominees and winners.
- **Last Email:** November 7th, 2024
- LCB – Legislative Contact
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Materials for 2024 Engagement Conference
 - **Last Meeting:** October 23, 2024
- Nevada ASL Accessible Therapist Network
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Collaborate or develop a co-op network for ASL Accessible Therapist in the state of Nevada. Hopes are to include workshops, resourcing, presentation opportunities, and outreach.
 - Presenting and providing mental health support during the 2024 Engagement Conference.
 - **Last meeting:** November 2nd, 2024
- Nevada Assistive Technology Resource Center (NATRC)
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Commission seeking additional referring resources for the Speech Impaired community.
 - Last Meeting: August 30, 2024
 - New office site tour in the north.
 - **Last Contact (day of the tour):** October 3, 2024
- Nevada Association for the Deaf (NVAD)
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Assisting in transition and resignation of Board President and contact support from National level through the local region representative. Further details can be shared by contacting NAD Regional Representative.
 - **Last Meeting:** November 1st, 2024
- Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Ongoing D/HH Support and Resources
 - Awarded the 2024 Engagement Conference funding for conference. – Gratitude and appreciation should be publicly noted for their ongoing support and advocacy for our Deaf and Hard of Hearing community.
 - Assisting and actively engaging as presenters and volunteers over vendor booths at the 2024 Engagement Conference.
 - **Last Contact:** November 8, 2024
- Nevada EHCI and Partner Alliance – Perry Smith, EHCI Coordinator
 - **Current Efforts:**



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- This group of EDHI annual meeting attendees will continue to meet to discuss pertinent topics related to Nevada EHCI and items learned at the annual meeting. D/HH Commission ED will continue to resource and ally to provide D/HH expertise resources and community partner options for insight.
- **Last Meeting:** September 26, 2024
- Sammy's DEN
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Networking and resources.
 - Seeking accessibility in entertainment and allyship with advocacy.
 - **Last Meeting:** October 9, 2024 (Private Event and Introductory Meeting)
- State Innovation Exchange (SiX) Stacey Shinn, NV State Director
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - D/HH Policy Advocacy and BDR Development.
 - Seeking a collaborative event on December 2nd, 2024. – O. Officer seeking additional guidance on engagement terms for the Commission.
 - **Last meeting:** October 30, 2024
- United Way – Language Access Plans Grant with nonprofits
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Ongoing efforts to aid in effectively utilizing recent grant award for Language Access Plans Grant with nonprofits. Special emphasis on Deaf and Hard of Hearing access through American Sign Language. Providing ongoing advice as the content experts.
 - **Last Meeting:** Have missed the last two meetings due to accessibility. The continue to work to improve this aspect to allow for better collaboration. – Very open to ongoing learning and implementation.

2024 Meeting Schedule Reminder

Obioma U. Officer, ED

- General Commission Meeting 2025: Please see the new proposed Calendar for 2025 **(see attached meeting materials for supporting document)**.
- **REMINDER!** Subcommittee Meetings have changed to 1 hour 15 minutes with new dates. Please adjust **(see attached meeting materials for supporting document)**.
 - Accessibility Subcommittee: Friday, November 15th, 2024, @2:30pm – 3:45pm
 - Interpreter Subcommittee: Friday, November 15th, 2024, @4pm – 5:15pm
 - Legislative Subcommittee: Please see the new proposed Calendar for 2025.
 - Education Subcommittee: Please see the new proposed Calendar for 2025.