

Director and Chair Report

March 27th, 2024

General Update(s)

Eric Wilcox, Chair

- Budget Update (FY24 Starting funds of \$26,528.00)
 - Total Expenses (thru 1/31/2024): \$11,443.50 (Pending & Projected add on \$191.88)
 - Balance (as of 1/31/2024): \$16,946.53
- Upcoming Elections for FY23/24 will be held at the **May 2024 General Commission Meeting**
 - Nomination requests have been sent prior to this meeting in preparation for elections to ensure nominees have time to properly prepare.

Obioma Officer, ED

Jenn Montoya, CAS Program Director
& CAS Team Program Representatives

- Communication Access Services Report Updates (see full report here: [CAS Report 2.14.24 \(nv.gov\)](#)). 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

- Lance Ledet has been appointed by Governor Lombardo to the seat for someone who has experience with and knowledge of services for persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech-impaired. Welcome, Lance!
- Both the Chair and the Executive Director have written to the Governor's office encouraging him to fill the seat reserved for a representative from NVAD. Several seats on this commission remain open. We encourage the community to volunteer for the commission and to speak up to encourage the state to fill these seats with pending applications. Open seats are listed below.
- 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. Decisions are made by the Governor, at his 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.

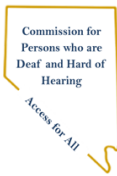
Open position(s):

- (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
 - **CONFIRMED application(s) on file.**
- (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 application(s) 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. – VACANT since October 31st, 2022
 - **CONFIRMED application(s) 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.
 - **CONFIRMED application(s) on file.**

Outreach Efforts/Events/Announcements:

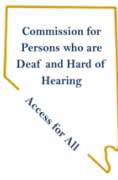
Obioma U. Officer, ED

- Engagement Conference Outcomes
 - Engagement Conference, Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Engagement Conference 2023: Empowering Advocacy in Policy Making and Legislative Change
 - Over 150 people registered – with venue change impact sustained 113 attendees, 20 vendor booths, 8 presenters, 2 panel presentations from our D/HH community partner leaders and youth, over 20 volunteers, and catered breakfast, lunch, and sponsored snacks. **GREAT SUCCESS!**
 - Additional information, outcomes, and materials found on the conference webpage: [Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Engagement Conference 2023 – Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities \(nevadadccouncil.org\)](https://nevadadccouncil.org)
- Townhalls Overview/Outcomes (Pahrump, Reno, Las Vegas) – Chair Address
 - Finalized Data Analysis and ED Annual Report 2023



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- Review Townhall Data Analysis, Outcomes, Annual Report, and ED Recommendations for current concerns regionally and statewide (See Meeting Materials attachments: [Commission for Persons Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing General Meetings \(nv.gov\)](#)).
- **OPEN FOR DISCUSSION:** Next Statewide Townhall Tour 2024 – All Meetings to be in person:
 - **TENTATIVE Tour 1 – Tuesday, April 9th, 2024, in Ely, NV (Rural); Tuesday, April 16th, 2024, in Reno, NV (North); and Thursday, April 25th, 2024, in Las Vegas, NV (South)**
 - **HIGHLIGHTED TOPIC(S):** BDR Concepts and Community Check in.
 - **Locations:**
 - **Rural:** White Pine County Library, 950 Campton St, Ely, NV
 - **North:** ADSD Reno Office, 9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 100, Reno, NV
 - **South:** College of So. NV 6375 W Charleston Blvd., D-101, Las Vegas, NV
 - **TENTATIVE Tour 2 – Tuesday, October 8th, 2024, in Elko, NV (Rural); Thursday, October 10th, 2024, in Reno, NV (North); and Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024, in Las Vegas, NV (South)**
 - **HIGHLIGHTED TOPIC(S):** BDR Concept Updates and Additional Community Needs – Will result in Annual Report 2024.
 - **Locations:**
 - **Rural:** TBD – Elko, NV (NEIS?)
 - **North:** TBD – Reno, NV (ADSD Reno Office)
 - **South:** TBD – Las Vegas, NV (Nevada State College?)
- D/HH Empowerment Weekend Projections (Subject to change according to demand and Commission/Community engagement):
 - Friday, December 13th, 2024 – Conference Day 1 & Community Evening DNO (TENATIVE)
 - All Commissioners to be present and registered. Travel assistance available.
 - Saturday, December 14th, 2024 - Conference Day 2 (TENATIVE)
 - All Commissioners to be present and registered. Travel assistance available.
 - Sunday, December 15th, 2024, Nonprofit/Community Winter Gala (TENATIVE)
 - Further details and planning to be announced by Community Partners.
- 2024 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Conferences and/or Nevada Conferences with D/HH components
 - 2024 EARLY HEARING DETECTION & INTERVENTION CONFERENCE
 - March 17-19, 2024, Denver, CO
 - [EhDI Annual Conference \(ehdiconference.org\)](#)



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- ADSD's the Force Awakens: Nevada's Service Saga Conference – Las Vegas Deaf Seniors and DHH Commission ED Presenting
 - April 16-18, 2024, Reno, NV
 - [2024 Aging and Disability Services Conference | Nevada Public Health Foundation](#)
- 2024 ADARA Conference
 - May 29 - June 1, 2024, Atlanta, GA
 - [2024 ADARA Conference - ADARA](#)
- HLAA 2024 Convention
 - June 26–29, 2024, Phoenix, AZ
 - [HLAA 2024 Convention - Hearing Loss Association of America](#)
- NAD 57th Biennial Conference
 - July 1-6, 2024, Chicago, IL
 - [Government Registration – 2024 Biennial Conference \(nad.org\)](#)
- Silver State Self-Advocacy Conference 2024 – DHH Commission ED Presenting
 - August 6-7, 2024, Reno, NV
 - <https://forms.gle/i1vUBNEtgtW3ueaZ9>
- Deaf Organization Executives Summit (Executives of D/HH Organizations/Services ONLY)
 - November 7-8, 2024, New Orleans, LA
 - [Deaf Organization Executives Summit | Innivee Strategies](#)

Community Contact(s) – For Possible Action

Eric Wilcox, Chair
Susan Beckett, Vice Chair

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

Executive Director:

- See ED Annual Report.

Chair and/or Vice Chair:

- No additional information at this time.

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 \(nv.gov\)](#).

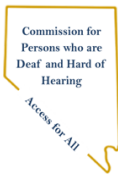


Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Recent Resources/Collaborative relationships/efforts

All efforts current 2024 efforts.

- 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 was interested in a presentation from the Nevada Deaf. She is looking to have a 20-30 minute presentation on the services that the Commission provides, gaps in care/service seen, trends and policy recommendations if possible. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 30th.
 - ED Suggested approach: Co-presentation with the following involved:
 - Legislative Subcommittee Chair, Eli Schwartz
 - Las Vegas Deaf Seniors, Shelly Freed
 - **Last Email:** March 5, 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.
 - **Last meeting:** February 10, 2024
- DHHS DPBH award for the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI) grant administering assistance and resources support.
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Resourcing for the following:
 - Is the Commission able to identify and/or contact persons who identify with any of the intersecting characteristics of “indigenous and deaf and/or hard of hearing populations throughout rural and frontier NV”?
 - A consultant will be sought to manage aspects of the three deliverables, specifically the feasibility study. Would the Commission be interested in pursuing this opportunity?
 - Are you/the Commission interested in revisiting a “Training of Trainers” concept for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community that was previously discussed with Misty Allen and OSP at a prior Commission meeting?
 - **Last Meeting:** January 29, 2024
- Hearing Loss Association of America Southern Nevada Chapter – Collaborative efforts
 - **Current Efforts:**



Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

- BDR Concept Discussion through E. Schwartz, Chair of Legislative Subcommittee
- **Last Email Correspondence:** February 27, 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.
 - Referrals for Mental Health Grant Support
 - **Last Meeting:** January 29, 2024
- Las Vegas Deaf Seniors Leadership
 - **Current Efforts:**
 - Direct services resources and support presentation Networking with OCL
 - ADSD Conference 2024 Presentation Proposal for April 16th – 18th 2024
 - **Last Meeting:** January 16, 2023
- **Unite Way**
 - **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.
 - **Last Meeting:** February 27, 2024

2024 Meeting Schedule Reminder

Obioma U. Officer, ED

- Recent meeting changes due to schedule conflicts with Legislative dates.
 - The community is encouraged to engage all Legislative focused discussions for the Disability community to remain an active participant in our community’s needs.
- General Commission Meeting 2024 TENTATIVE: May 8th, 2024, @9am
- **REMINDER!** Subcommittee Meetings have changed to 1 hour 15 minutes with new **TENTATIVE** dates. Please adjust.
 - Legislative Subcommittee: Tuesday, March 26th, 2024, @2:30pm – 3:45pm
 - Education Subcommittee: Tuesday, March 26th, 2024, @4pm – 5:15pm
 - Accessibility Subcommittee: Friday, March 29th, 2024, @10am – 11:15am
 - Employment Subcommittee: Friday, March 29th, 2024, @11:30am – 12:45pm
 - Interpreter Subcommittee: Friday, May 10th, 2024, @4pm – 5:15pm