



Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Bulletin March 2013

VISION

Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, in concurrence with the Colorado Department of Human Service vision, seeks to become the nation's leader in empowering Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals, families, and communities to become safe and independent.

MISSION

To promote the interests of our constituents and to work to ensure the quality of communication access for individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing living in the state of Colorado.

Communication Access Fund survey on legal services

The Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is conducting this survey to gather information about the barriers that deaf or hard-of-hearing people face when requesting interpreter or CART services for communication access to lawyers. If you are deaf or hard-of-hearing and have requested services when you contacted a lawyer, please complete this survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BVBHL7R>.

Wireless equipment now available!

The Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program is pleased to announce that the program is now offering wireless equipment, as well as amplified accessories, to qualified deaf or hard-of-hearing Coloradoans.

The program provides the consumer with a wireless device at no charge, while the consumer is responsible for the monthly plan, either an unlimited data-only plan or a voice and data plan package. Such devices include iPhone 5 16GB, Samsung Galaxy S III 16GB, HTC EVO 4G LTE and Samsung Galaxy S II. For hard-of-hearing individuals who are in need of phone amplification, the consumer can add on either a headphone or neck loop as an optional accessory.

For more information or an application, contact JoAnne Hirsch at (720) 949-7457 (VP), (303) 866-2097 (V) or joanne.hirsch@state.co.us.

Announcements from the community

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is seeking a couple of deaf and hard-of-hearing community members to serve on its provider and community relations advisory sub-committee for its newest Medicaid program called Accountable Care Collaborative. If you are interested in serving on the sub-committee, please contact Richard as indicated in the announcement and email us of your interest at email.ccdhh@state.co.us.

For more information about this opportunity, go to:

http://www.ccdhh.com/pdf/Announcements/ACCrecruitletter_PCRGH.pdf.

The Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) sent a letter regarding its consumer waitlist effective March 1, 2013. This cutback is a result of the Congress' financial difficulties. Congress took no action on sequestration (budget cuts). The cuts became effective after March 1, 2013 because of no action on the pending cuts. Many consumers will not be able to obtain services from DVR for the time being.

To read DVR's letter to the stakeholders, go to:

<http://www.ccdhh.com/pdf/Announcements/DVR%20OOS%20Stakeholder%20Letter.pdf>.

The Mid-America Regional Interpreter Education (MARIE) Center is in need of at least three deaf individuals who could benefit from this mentor training this summer from June 7-14, 2013. MARIE has monies that will compensate individuals for the training in St. Catherine University, St. Paul, MN. The grant covers the training and accommodations, not the travel expenses. There is an employment opportunity following the training for distance mentoring.

Below is a link to the flyer and application regarding this program.

<http://www.ccdhh.com/pdf/Announcements/2013%20DMT%20flyer%20-%20FINAL.pdf> (flyer)

<http://www.ccdhh.com/pdf/Announcements/Deaf%20Mentor%20Training%20Application%20Form.pdf> (application)

The Department of Education at Gallaudet University offers a graduate certificate program in American Sign Language & English Bilingual Early Childhood in Deaf Education: Birth to 5.

For more information, go to:

<http://us4.campaign-archive2.com/?u=99cbcf14eb23ec525d978c58c&id=e7f13ecfc7&e=6e08d78836>

Commission meeting

The next quarterly Commission meeting and community forum will be held from **4 to 7 p.m.** on **Thursday, March 7, 2013** at Goodwill Industries of Denver. The address is 6850 Federal Blvd., Denver, CO 80221.

Our meeting notice and agenda are also posted at:
<http://www.coloradodeafcommission.com/commission/agenda.aspx>.

The CCDHH meetings and forums are always open to the public. You are more than welcome to come and be part of the informative and interactive sessions.

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