

# THE COMMUNICATOR



AUTUMN  
2018

Phil Murphy, *Governor*

Sheila Oliver, *Lt. Governor*

Carole Johnson, *Commissioner*

Ira Hock, *Acting Director*

## Motor Vehicle Commission Presents at DDHH Advisory Council Help is available for deaf and hard of hearing driver's license applicants

On July 27, the staff from the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, or the MVC, attended the **DDHH Advisory Council** meeting and gave a presentation on the written road test requirements and interpreter services for those tests. According to the MVC, it will secure an interpreter for a deaf and hard of hearing applicant who is unable to read nor understand English concepts and needs an interpreter to translate in their primary mode of communication, American Sign Language.

For example, when a deaf and hard of hearing applicant takes the written test, they should use the interpreter on the monitor screen. If this applicant fails, then they can request an on-site- interpreter. Applicants should call (609) 292-6500 if there are any issues with requesting an interpreter and/or to request an interpreter for the next test.

As for the road test, deaf and hard of hearing applicants can request an interpreter for communication before and after the test. This means that when a deaf and hard of hearing applicant arrives for the test, the applicant will have opportunity to use an interpreter to ask questions and receive instructions through American Sign Language.

If you need additional information on this topic or need assistance with other issues, please contact DDHH Deaf Specialist Jaclyne Brown @ VP 609-503-4862.



## DDHH Outreach Activities

### Congressman Donald Norcross' Constituent Services Fair

On August 6, DDHH staff attended U.S. Rep. Donald Norcross' **Constituent Services Fair** at Camden County Community College. About 1,200 people attended the event, while DDHH had an exhibit table with resources about hearing loss. Outreach staff member Wayne Roorda interacted with participants in responding to questions about cochlear implants, hearing aids, and the division's deaf casework services.

Congressman Norcross is seen here with Mr. Roorda.



# DDHH Outreach Activities...continued

## DDHH Supports Free Eye Screenings

DDHH staff member Baylie Sappir has been joining the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired's (CBVI) free eye screening events. On July 26 and 31, CBVI hosted free eye screenings at senior centers in Middlesex and Monmouth counties. Baylie was at both events on behalf of DDHH, with a table of demonstration items and information on different programs and services offered.



A Project Best eye screening event was also held on August 21 at the Freehold Senior Center. DDHH staff Baylie Sappir (r) is discussing technology with DHS Commissioner Carole Johnson.



DHS Deputy Commissioner Elisa Neira (third from left) attends CBVI Free Eye screening event. DDHH also provided an exhibit table.

## Upcoming Events

DDHH staff member Baylie Sappir will be giving a presentation about DDHH programs and services to the **Atlantic County Senior Social** on September 20 at the Stockton Seaview Hotel. This presentation is part of an afternoon of workshops informing senior citizens of available resources.

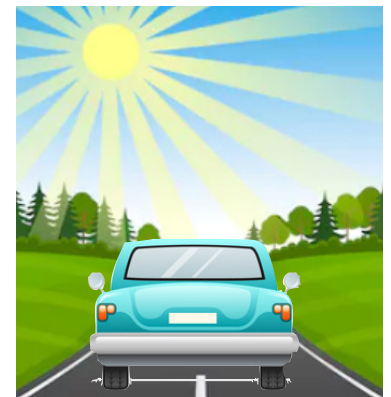
On Saturday, September 22 she will provide information and resources at the Union County senior health fair at the Rahway Senior Center.

On Wednesday, September 26, DDHH will also attend the Middlesex senior health fair and walk promoting healthy lifestyles and staying active. The event will take place at Roosevelt Park, Edison NJ.



## Warren County Senior Expo

For the second year in a row, staff members Baylie Sappir and Wayne Roorda attended the senior expo held at the Warren County fairgrounds. On July 30, DDHH shared a table with Division of Disability Services (DDS). It was well attended, and many people stopped by to learn more resources that DDHH provides.



## DDHH Meets with Rowan College Students

Cathy Grehlinger, the Coordinator of Communication Access Services for the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, gave a presentation to students in the interpreter training program at Rowan College at Burlington County in Mount Laurel on July 11. The students were in the final class of the program and had some very insightful questions, which lead to good discussions. Topics included making appropriate ethical decisions and choices as well as professionalism. The students demonstrated dedication and preparedness in taking the next step to becoming certified interpreters. We look forward to these students hopefully joining the New Jersey interpreting community in the near future.



**Rowan  
College**  
at  
BURLINGTON  
COUNTY

## DDHH Plans to Participate in the Following Community Events...

- Somerset County Senior Wellness Center – September 14
- Atlantic County Senior Social – September 20
- Assistive Technology Advisory Council of Disability Rights NJ in Summit – September 20
- Bergen County Senior Picnic – Paramus – September 20
- CBVI & DVRS College Health Fair- September 22
- Union County Health Fair – September 22
- Deaf Advocacy Project/Woman Space Meeting – September 25
- Disability Access Functional Needs Meeting – September 25
- Senior Health Fare and Walk – September 26
- Mercer County Transition Fair – September 29
- Communication Access Day, Aquarium, Camden - September 30
- Camden County CMO Resource Fair – October 9



## HLAA-NJ Hosts Walk

The HLAA **Walk4Hearing** is a national walk program that recognizes that there are 48 million people with hearing loss in the United States. The Walk4Hearing, held in cities across the country during the spring and fall, creates awareness about hearing loss prevention, screening, treatment and maintaining good hearing health.

Whether you're a person who has a hearing loss, someone who just needs some hearing help in a noisy world, or you are a friend or family member of someone with hearing loss, the Walk4Hearing is for you. The Walk4Hearing message is: You are not alone. You can do something about your hearing loss.

Since 2006, more than 90,000 walkers have raised more than \$13 million to support national and local programs to provide information, education, support and advocacy. Participants come in all ages with various interests in hearing health to form teams and walk in their communities. National and local sponsors support the Walk4Hearing and provide information about their products and services.



**Hearing Loss Association of America-NJ  
Walk4Hearing**

**October 14**

**10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Mercer County Park West, West Picnic Area**

**Hughes Drive, West Windsor NJ**

**For info - Ann Rancourt, Walk Manager 301.657.2248**



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## Morris County Domestic Violence Agency Provides Text Access

The **Jersey Battered Women's Service** in Morris County is a domestic violence agency that provides various services to those who live or work in Morris County and have experienced domestic abuse.

The services include a 24-hour helpline, counseling, safe house, transitional living, children's services, life skills education, vocational counseling, batterers' intervention, legal assistance, teen dating violence services, and professional training, education and youth prevention programs. They have launched a 24-hour Texting Helpline in an effort to ensure the accessibility of their services. The Text Helpline number is 973-314-4192, which is also listed at <http://www.jbws.org/>. Although they serve individuals who live or work in Morris County, they can provide information and referrals for the other domestic violence agencies in the state or other community resources.

### Other Counties That Have Texting Hotline for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

| COUNTY    | TEXTING NUMBER |
|-----------|----------------|
| ATLANTIC  | 609-569-5437   |
| HUNTERDON | 908-455-2927   |
| MIDDLESEX | 876-658-7713   |
| MONMOUTH  | 732-977-2832   |
| SOMERSET  | 866-685-1122   |
| SUSSEX    | 973-222-2593   |



**DDHH Advisory Council Meeting**  
**Friday, October 26, 2018**  
**9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**  
**East Brunswick Public Library**  
**2 Jean Walling Civic Center**  
**East Brunswick NJ 08816**

**DDHH Office Hours:** Monday – Friday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

**Office Closed:** Labor Day – Monday, September 3, Columbus Day - Monday, October 8  
Election Day – Tuesday, November 6, Veterans Day – Monday, November 12  
Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 22

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

The NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
PO Box 074  
Trenton NJ 08625  
Ph: 609-588-2648 Fax: 609-588-2528  
[monthlycommunicator@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:monthlycommunicator@dhs.state.nj.us)