

Monthly Communicator

New Jersey Department of Human Services
Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing



March 2005

Vol. 26

No. 3

RICHARD J. CODEY,
ACTING GOVERNOR

JAMES M. DAVY,
COMMISSIONER

BRIAN C. SHOMO,
DIRECTOR

2-1-1 Hotline Serves All New Jersey DHS Commissioner Unveils 24/7 Free Phone Line

TRENTON - COMMISSIONER JAMES M. DAVY dialed 2-1-1 today and asked for information on New Jersey's Earned Income Tax Credit program for low-income residents.

By pressing three simple buttons, Commissioner Davy launched the statewide hotline for social services information.



"2-1-1 is a single, simple, statewide phone number that all residents can use to get information on any number of social services, governmental services and community resources," Commissioner Davy said. "2-1-1 can provide the 'where-to-go' and 'how-to-apply' for such programs as Food Stamps, NJ FamilyCare, substance abuse assistance and homeless shelters," he said.

In 2002, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities designated the NJ 2-1-1 Partnership, a subsidiary of United Ways of New Jersey, with the task of making the national 2-1-1 information line operational throughout New Jersey.

This free, confidential service is available via landlines and cell phones throughout the state 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Information is also available via TTY services and in various languages including Spanish.

"New Jersey has a sound offering of social programs, thanks to the services provided by community organizations and local, county and state governments," said Assemblyman Louis D. Greenwald (D-Voorhees). "It is appropriate that we make this network stronger and more efficient by enabling one-stop shopping through the 2-1-1 system."

"Every hour of every day, people in our communities need essential services. Faced with a number of agencies and help lines, people might not know where to turn. We were afraid that in many cases, people ended up going without these necessary and readily available services because they did not know where to start. Now they will. 2-1-1 will be a vital resource and a critical link for thousands of local people in need of assistance throughout New Jersey," said Tom Toronto, Co-Chair, NJ 2-1-1 Partnership and President and CEO, Bergen County's United Way.

The program, including the United Way's 10 Regional Call Centers, is funded through the Department of Human Services, the state's United Way organizations and corporate donations from Verizon.

For more information on 2-1-1 in New Jersey, visit www.nj211.org

in this issue . . .

Page 3
ALDA Call

Page 7
West Interview

Page 10
*Communication
Access Guidelines*



Equipment Distribution Program

The Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing began its Equipment Distribution Program in 1993 by giving out 235 TTYs to people with hearing loss in New Jersey with low income. Since that time, the program has expanded to include Voice Carry Over (VCO) phones, amplified phones, smoke detectors, and baby cry alert systems. Listed below are the statistics for each fiscal year. If you are interested in applying, please contact DDHH at 800-792-9339 V/TTY, (609) 984-0390 Fax, or write DDHH Equipment Program, PO Box 074, Trenton NJ 08625.

	TTY/VCO	Smoke Detectors	Baby Cry Alerts
1993	235		
1994	263		
1995	269		
1996	10 <i>(telebrailles)</i>		
1997	146		
1998	113		
1999	202		
2000	197		
2001	216	62	
2002	232	200	
2003	230	227	13
2004	277	104	37
*2005	<u>211</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>16</u>
Grand Total:	2,591	666	66

(*as of January 2005)

READERS NOTE:

The Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing realizes that the Monthly Communicator may not always be received as quickly as we would like. Therefore, it is always posted promptly on the Web site for your perusal. Please check the Web site for the MC and other DDHH publications at:

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh

Although this is a monthly publication, the July and August issues are combined. In addition, in lieu of printing a special edition for the DDHH Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day at Six Flags Great Adventure, we will add a section in the April issue of the MC.

Monthly Communicator

Director: Brian C. Shomo

Editor: Ira C. Hock

NJ Department of Human Services

Division of the Deaf

and Hard of Hearing

PO Box 074

Trenton, NJ 08625-0074

609-984-7281 V/TTY

800-792-8339 V/TTY

609-984-0390 Fax

ira.hock@dhs.state.nj.us

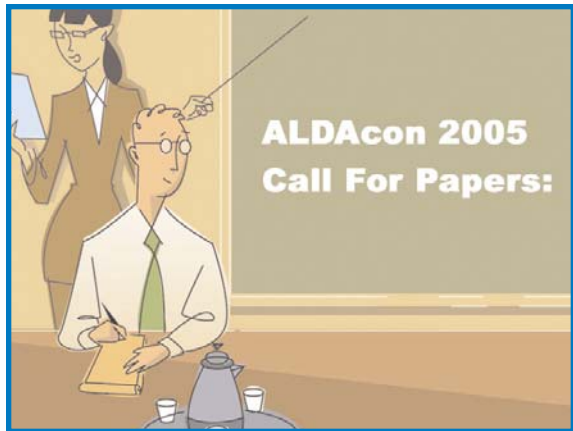
www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh

The Monthly Communicator is published by the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, a state agency. DDHH provides information, referral, and advocacy to service recipients. Information or articles provided by others does not imply endorsement by DDHH or the State of New Jersey. There are currently 8,300 copies of the MC distributed monthly.

Deadline for submissions: First of the month for the following month's edition

ALDAcon 2005 Call For Papers:

The ALDAcon 2005 is now accepting proposals for workshop presentations. Below are listed some possible tracks, but we welcome innovative and creative workshop ideas of all kinds. ALDA regrets that it is not able to offer stipends or honoraria to workshop presenters. Presenters may, however, attend other workshops on the day of their presentations but must pay registration fees. The deadline for proposal submissions is April 1, 2005.



Track and Theme Suggestions:

Technology and legislation, emerging technology in telecommunications, CART, voice recognition, cochlear implants, The American with Disabilities Act, advocacy, vocational rehabilitation and selection of order, hearing aids, insurance

Leisure and Personal Activities:

Arts and crafts, dance, Tai Chi/yoga/meditation, community involvements

Leadership and Organizational:

Chapter leadership: starting and maintaining groups, meeting facilitation, outreach, newsletters

Outreach, Activities Planning:

Conflict resolution and problem solving, parliamentary procedure and management skills

Living with Deafness:

Family relationships, self-advocacy and self-esteem, mental and physical health

Communication Strategies:

Diagnostic categories such as Meniere's or NF2, senior care issues, health care concerns, volunteering, retirement planning, mentoring, hearing loss and age

Instructions for Paper Submissions:

1. Fully complete the application form that follows.
2. Attach to the form a description of your workshop/presentation proposal of not more than 300 words.

Please include:

WHAT you propose to accomplish in the presentation.

HOW do you propose to present your material.

WHY you feel your presentation would be helpful or beneficial for those attending an ALDAcon.

3. Please attach an abstract of 50 words or less to be included in the program book.
4. Include a brief bio with your submission of approximately 50-100 words.
5. If submitted by e-mail, should be in MS Word or RTF plain text format.
6. Send the above to the program chair, (e-mail submissions are preferred) Carolyn Piper, wicwas@wcvr.com (case sensitive) or 82 Piper Place, Huntington, Vermont 05462 or (610) 604-3364 Fax.
7. All questions concerning a submission may be sent to the above name and address(es).

ALDAcon 2005 Workshop Proposal: *Workshops will run 75 minutes.*

Include; presentation title, theme or track, name of lead presenter, names of co-presenters, contact information for lead presenter, e-mail, phone (Voice, TTY), USP mailing address.

Check your audio- visual needs: LCD projector, (laptops not included for PowerPoint), overhead, flip chart.

NOTE: The cost of telecommunication needs and/or internet access/phone line, including a TV and/or VCR if desired, will be the responsibility of the presenter. The per day charge for setting up a meeting room for a Direct In Dialing phone line is \$150. The cost per diem for a high-speed internet connection is \$100. Every effort will be made to ensure, if at all possible, that all workshops requiring such access are scheduled so as to enable multiple presenters to share the per diem expense.

It should be understood that all workshops accepted for presentation will be considered for inclusion in "The Proceedings" of ALDAcon '05 and published on the ALDA Web site. There are exceptions, of course, and this policy may be modified on a case-by-case basis by contacting the Editor of The Proceedings (who is also this year's program chair). In addition, no transcript will be placed on the ALDA Web site without the full approval of the workshop presenter.

Deaf Leaders Show the Way

By Todd R. Olsen, Interpreter Referral Coordinator, Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

People who are Deaf generally do not have communication access to events because entities do not provide the required services. This is especially true for religious entities which, unlike public and private entities, are not mandated under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide equal access for people who are Deaf.

Religion plays a vital role within our society. It provides comfort, counseling, and direction. It can explain our past and give us hope for the future. Religion offers opportunities for people to socialize and develop identification. Foremost, religion facilitates the development of support systems.

The Deaf Community, like other members of society, have a need to take part in religious activities. But, for this group to take full advantage of religion, strong leaders from the community are needed. Although there is a great need not being met, through my research, I have discovered three people who are Deaf that serve as role models in providing access to religious activities; Robert Flood, Sheila Shuford and Sally Cohen.

ROBERT “BOBBY” FLOOD was born Deaf and became involved in religion when he was 19 years old. One day, Rev. Jim Norton told Bobby that he should consider becoming a preacher. Rev. Norton encouraged him to establish a Deaf church, Hope Baptist Church, in Flanders, New Jersey. Bobby became an acting preacher and teacher of Bible study for one and a half years. Then, he was called to go to seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.



Bobby Flood

Bobby enrolled at Boyce Bible College at Southern Seminary in 1992 and received an Associate of Arts in Christian Ministry. He continued his education at Campbellsville University and in 1995 received a Bachelor of Arts in General Studies. Bobby then spent one year at Gardner-Webb University in North Carolina, before transferring back to Kentucky. In 2001, he earned a Master's Degree of Theology from Campbellsville University.

Upon completing a Master's Degree, Bobby returned to New Jersey to share his education and experiences with the Deaf Community. He attends the Fellowship Baptist Church of the Deaf at First Baptist Church in Rockaway, where the Deaf preacher, Rev. Lincoln Geake, ministers. Bobby's ministry focuses on teaching Bible study to the Deaf Community at church and in Deaf people's homes. He hopes to establish a ministry for Deaf people who are in prison. If you would like to contact Bobby, e-mail him at Olds56Blue@aol.com.

SHEILA SHUFORD was born hearing and became Hard of Hearing from a medical error at about age 13. Sheila became profoundly deaf at about age 30, again from a medical error. She took lip reading classes and audio therapy. But, when she moved to North Carolina, she met members of the Deaf Community who encouraged her to learn American Sign Language. When Sheila returned to New Jersey, she felt a need to become involved with a ministry of reaching out to the Deaf Community.



Sheila Shuford

Sheila has always been an Episcopalian, but when she lost her hearing she felt like she was an outsider in the church. She would attend services and could follow with the prayer book, but during sermons, Sheila would read a paperback novel. In North Carolina, she had her first experience with an Episcopal outreach person to the Deaf Community. There was an Episcopal Missionary for the Deaf that conducted monthly services in American Sign Language. She became involved in that ministry while she was there, but missed it when she came to New Jersey. Sheila, along with Cliff and Nancy Rowley, decided to approach St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lakes about setting up a Deaf ministry. From 1989 to 2002, Sheila was the Director of St. Peter's Bible Club for Deaf Children. At St. Peter's, Sheila was a member of the vestry and a lay reader, but soon realized a definite call to work for an inclusive ministry within the Episcopal Diocese of Newark.

Through experiencing the transition of being hearing, Hard of Hearing and then Late-Deafened, Sheila became

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

sensitive to the religious needs of people who are Deaf. She is in the process of becoming a deacon. When she is ordained, Sheila will be the second Deaf deacon in the Episcopal Church in America. And, she is currently employed part-time as a Chaplain to Deaf patients at Greystone Park Psychiatric Hospital. During the year to come, Sheila will be assisting the Rev. Dr. Cathy Deats in developing a D/deaf ministry at St. James in Hackettstown and throughout the diocese. If you would like to contact Sheila, e-mail her at OLShu10@aol.com.

SALLY COHEN was born hearing and became Deaf at the age of three by a high fever. She was mainstreamed through public school and did not wear a hearing aid until entering college. Sally's mode of communication is oral and she did not meet another Deaf person until her husband, Joel.

Sally received a Bachelor's Degree in Theatre Arts/Technical Design from University of Miami, Florida. In 1988, she started working with Prudential. One of her duties at Prudential is to advocate on behalf of people with disabilities. She is currently involved with Livingston (NJ) Advisory Committee on the Handicapped. This is a committee that advises her town council regarding the needs of people with disabilities.

Some of Sally's biggest accomplishments have been accomplished through serving on the Jewish Deaf and Hearing Impaired Council; which raises funds and produces yearly newsletter. Sally has been President of JDHIC since 1994. Sally writes for foundation grants to provide interpreters



Sally Cohen

and other services for the Jewish Deaf. These activities enable Jewish Deaf children and adults to participate in Jewish life cycle events such as weddings, funerals, synagogue services, bar and bat mitzvahs, and educational classes within their own families and communities. JDHIC co-sponsors Adult Jewish Learning Groups in conjunction with Our Way, a part of the National Jewish Council on Disability. JDHIC is a resource organization for Jewish Deaf/Hard of Hearing. They maintain a listing of interpreters who have some familiarity and experience with Jewish life and customs. If you would like to contact Sally, e-mail her at sally.cohen@prudential.com.

Central Jersey Job Developers Association (CJJDA) Job Fair

The 21st Annual Job Fair of the Central Jersey Job Developers Association (CJJDA) will be held on Thursday, March 17, 2005 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Rutgers Labor Education Center, Ryders Lane and Clifton Avenue in New Brunswick.

Admission is free and open to the public.

A Spanish language translator and a sign language interpreter will be available. As a special service

to job seekers, workshops will be provided to assist in the job search process.

Job Fair '05 is a cooperative project of the 300 community based organizations who are members of the CJJDA. "The



Photo from CJJDA 20th Annual Job Fair held at Rutgers University 2004

Central Jersey Job Developers Association's Annual Job Fair is a wonderful community resource, providing access to employment opportunities for many local and county residents. Especially in these difficult times, it provides an efficient way for job seekers and employers alike to make the 'match'." states Jeffrey Vega, President of New Brunswick Tomorrow, a CJJDA member organization and a major supporter of the Job Fair.

Job seekers do not need to pre-register. Employers wishing to participate should contact Dorna Silverman, CJJDA Chairperson at (732)745-5300 ext. 4201.

The Central Jersey Job Developers Association is a network of employment specialists and career/vocational counselors. Founded in 1981, the network promotes the sharing of job information and labor market updates among non-profit community-based agencies offering career and employment counseling. For additional information about the Central Jersey Job Developers Association call Dorna J. Silverman, Chair, at the New Brunswick Public Schools Adult Learning Center, (732) 745-5300, ext. 4201 Voice, www.cjjda.org.

Saul Schiff Lived Life to Its Fullest

SAUL SCHIFF passed away on August 26, 2004. Born in the Bronx, Saul moved to Newark, New Jersey as a young man and later to Irvington, New Jersey and to Somerset where he and his wife, Bertha, made their home with their four sons, Leon, Sanford and twins, Kenneth and Edward.



Saul Schiff chats with John Pugni

Saul was totally deaf and blind his entire life, but that never stopped him. He led a full life having a family and working as a salesman.

In 1982, Saul was elected as the first president of the New Jersey League of Deaf-Blind, serving two terms. Saul was instrumental in forming a fellowship that is still in existence today. The organization changed the name in 1985 to the Deaf-Blind League of New Jersey because the New Jersey Department of Registry would not permit another organization to have a name beginning with "New Jersey" for fear of confusion with the New Jersey Association of Deaf-Blind.

After living in Margate, Florida from 1990 to 2003, he and Bertha moved to Whiting, New Jersey because they missed their family and friends. Saul passed away on August 26, 2004, exactly one year to the day after returning to the Garden State.

Last summer, at age 82, Saul spent a week from August 9 through August 13 at a special skills week at Diamond Springs Lodge designed for people who are Deaf-Blind. He had a blast and looking back, it was wonderful that he was able to attend and enjoy the program, seeing his long time and newly made friends.

Saul was a great conversationalist. He could talk (with his hands) about almost anything. I've heard the word "stubborn" used to describe Saul. But when you allowed him to get out his thoughts about what he wanted and why he wanted it a certain way, it always made sense. I've always enjoyed his tenacity to make whatever it is he is trying to do work so he can be independent in doing whatever it might be.

Saul will be greatly missed for his leadership, intelligence, friendship and humor. I, for one, will never forget the good times we had at the AADB Conferences, especially when we went to California and we toured Universal Studios and Disneyland. Saul was like a child enjoying the treats and new experiences.

Submitted by Lee Gares

The Guttenberg Scholarship

For Students with Physical Disabilities

New Jersey Institute of Technology, New Jersey's largest public research university, has a long history of providing access to education for the engineering, technological, and management professions to all students, regardless of economic, social, or physical disabilities. In keeping with this tradition, the Guttenberg Scholarship Fund continues to provide financial assistance for qualified students with physical disabilities. The annual award, a minimum of \$2,500, may be applied towards the cost of tuition, fees, room and board, and/or a range of coordinated services available at NJIT to meet the special needs of students with disabilities. The scholarship is renewed each year, provided the student remains in good academic standing. Interested candidates must apply to NJIT through the regular admissions process. Contact the admissions office for both the admissions application form and the application form for this scholarship. Students should also submit the FAFSA for financial aid, provide a letter from the doctor stating the nature of the disability, and include a teacher or counselor recommendation letter.

The admissions office can be reached at (973) 596-3300 Voice, or admissions@njit.edu. To learn more about The New Jersey Institute of Technology, consult www.njit.edu.



Getting to Know . . . *Mickelle West, Esq.*

By Traci Burton,
Field Representative, DDHH

MICKELLE WEST, ESQ. is a legal specialist for the New Jersey Department of Human Services in the Office of Regulatory and Legal Liaison. At a young age she began to understand that she is a person with hearing loss and only recently discovered the benefits of hearing aids.

Q: Are you a native of New Jersey?

A: Yes, I'm from Paterson, NJ, but I currently live in Ewing, NJ

Q: Please describe what your job entails.

A: I'm assigned to the six state psychiatric hospitals. In this capacity, I am the legal liaison to the Attorney General's office, which actually represents the department in court, on all legal matters related to the hospitals. I can become involved in a myriad of issues involving patients, employees and management, and I work very closely with the hospitals' CEOs on any legal issues that may arise. I also manage all litigation against state hospitals, facilitate trial preparation, make settlement recommendations and become involved with patient issues such as confidentiality, right to refuse medication and release of medical records.

Q: That is a lot of responsibility on your shoulders! Now, you also have a hearing loss; is that correct?

A: That's correct. I have a bilateral sensorineural hearing loss. I have been hearing impaired my entire life. It is a genetic loss. I've been assisted through hearing aids since 1998.

Q: So, while attending school, did you have any auxiliary aids, such as an assistive listening device, a notetaker? Anything?

A: Unfortunately, because of the type of loss that I have, there were no assistive devices that would help me, until very late in my education. Actually, while I was a student at University of Iowa Law, they were very helpful to me in providing accommodations because the Americans with Disabilities Act had been enacted. The university was very sensitive to my needs. They actually put me in contact with a professor in the speech and hearing center who had been studying my type of loss. The professor led me to believe that there might be hearing aids available to me that were not previously available.

When I wanted to become a trial lawyer in the Essex County Prosecutor's Office in 1998, I was actually able to secure the hearing aids that I needed. However, my entire education process, from

grammar school, high school, undergraduate, graduate school, and law school were done without the assistance of hearing aids. Although, at Iowa, I did have a notetaker for my first year of law school, which was a different experience for me. As well, all testing such as the SAT, LSAT and bar exams were done without any special accommodations.

Q: Obviously, that did not hinder your education.



A: I have a master's degree in politics from Rutgers and a law degree from Iowa. I finished my undergrad, graduate and law degrees in seven years - coursework that could usually take up to nine years to finish.

Q: Obviously, you were able to get through somehow. It was a challenge!

A: Right, with quite a bit of perseverance and tenacity, I was able to get through. People were extremely helpful to me, especially in the younger years. They would hear "for" me basically by giving and repeating information to me. I always sat in the front of my classes, made my situation known to my teachers and accommodated myself. If people had to repeat something, they would usually repeat it for me.

Q: You grew up self-advocating and that led you into the legal field, I guess. You took it upon yourself to sit in the front of the class and make sure that you could see the teacher.

A: Yes, this was just something that came to me when I was eight years old, which was the same time that I really began to understand that I was a hearing-impaired person and that my hearing loss was a part of me. I was studying with my father and I learned about Justice Thurgood Marshall and about legal occupations. I learned about what Justice Marshall did with the NAACP Legal Defense for public education and for fighting segregation and injustice in this country. I had to become a lawyer like him and try to make society better. Nothing was going to stop me.

I also benefited from my parents, who instilled and demanded excellence from me no matter what my personal circumstance. They required that I reach for the stars, push myself and bring home strong grades and accomplishments. Once I determined what my goal was going to be - to be a lawyer - I was really put on the track to do that. Although I did a lot of other things

and still had fun, many of my activities - reading lots of books, writing and studying, were geared toward my final goal. This is why I believe that high expectations can often be met! From the beginning, I wanted to become an attorney - not really for profit or gain, but to help the most disenfranchised, the most disadvantaged and the most vulnerable people in our society. At this time, I feel that many of those people are in institutional settings, like prisons, nursing homes or psychiatric hospitals. You can imagine how the work that I do now is consistent with the work that I set out to do years ago.

Q: Are you involved at all with any of the hard of hearing groups in the state, such as SHHH or ALDA, either on a personal or professional level? The question of "how do I advocate for myself" always comes up, and you are wonderful example of how to do that because you have progressed so well. Have you done any presentations to these groups?

A: I have not, but I am aware and admire the work that they do. I do subscribe, however, to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Attorneys list serv. Assisting such groups and their members is something that I'm very interested in. As a hearing impaired person, I am still hearing; I'm not deaf. I have gone out to the New Jersey Black Deaf Advocates several times and I thought that that was a great group. I want to learn sign language. I've taken classes, but my skills are not very advanced.

As far as advocating for yourself - if you have anything that you are trying to accomplish, you just have to make your needs known. You should never stop when you are presented with barriers. Barriers are to be overcome. If there is something you are trying to accomplish in any area of your life, you just persist until you meet your goal. Make it happen!

Q: That is excellent advice that many readers will take to heart and succeed because of it.

A: I know they can!

Deaf Professional Inspires Students at Governor Livingston High School

MR. CHRIS COUGHLIN, a guidance counselor at Governor Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights, New Jersey, recently invited his cousin, Jim Brune, to speak to students in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program. Mr. Brune, who is a social worker in San Francisco, spoke to the students on life after high school. He shared personal experiences and information with the students who are deaf and the American Sign Language students, as well. His presentation was powerful and informative because he clearly showed that despite obstacles in life anyone can achieve their goals through determination and perseverance. Mr. Brune is deaf himself and grew up in Toms River, NJ.



Mr. Jim Brune, center, and some students in the Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at Gov. Livingston High School in Berkeley Heights, NJ. Also pictured are some of the students from GL's ASL II and ASL III classes.

Communication Access and Content Guidelines for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Events

By NJ DDHH Advisory Council

Communication Access

When an event is described as being for “deaf and hard of hearing” people, the following forms of communication access should be provided and publicized without special request:

- ✓ Qualified sign language interpreters
- ✓ Assistive listening system (note that programs for the general public should always have an assistive listening system available and publicized; portable systems are available)
- ✓ CART (realtime captioning)

Arrangements for communication access should be made at least two weeks prior to the event to ensure availability. For information on how to procure these forms of access, contact the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 800-792-8339 V/TTY or (609) 984-7281 V/TTY.

Q: Our agency offers events for deaf and hard of hearing people. Everyone who has been attending uses sign language. We don't have the funds to pay for access that isn't needed. Can't we just provide an interpreter and offer to provide other forms of communication access by special request?

A: It can be difficult to attract all the populations to joint events because of the differences in needs. Interpreting alone can be provided at events for the culturally Deaf community, with other forms of access available if requested. But if an event is described as being for “deaf and hard of hearing” people, it should provide interpreting, CART, and an assistive listening system without special request.

Program Content

When an event is about “deaf and hard of hearing” issues, the needs of each of the groups should be factored into the content and sufficient time should be devoted to each. For example, a workshop for the police should include a discussion of hard of hearing and late-deafened needs (such as assistive listening devices and speechreading) as well as Deaf needs (such as interpreters and TTYs).

As mentioned previously, joint events for deaf and hard of hearing people may not be the most effective way to reach the different populations. However, when such an event is offered, the information should be relevant to each population. For example, a presentation on employment accommodations should feature both nonsigning hard of hearing employees and signing Deaf employees.

Using an Assistive Listening System

By NJ DDHH Advisory Council

How an Assistive Listening System Helps

Hard of hearing people may have difficulty understanding presentations at group events because of background noise, reverberation, and distance from the speaker. An assistive listening system overcomes these problems by bringing the words directly from the microphone (via a transmitter) to the ear (via a receiver). There are several types of assistive listening system, each of which uses a different medium to transmit sound. The most common are FM (which uses radio waves) and infrared (which uses light waves).

Receivers

The way the receiver delivers sound to the ear depends on the person's needs.

Some people use a hearing aid that contains a telecoil (also referred to as a "T switch"). They need receivers with jacks and a neckloop to plug into the jack. The neckloop converts the sound to a form that is picked up by the telecoil. Several neckloops should be available for those who may need one. (People with cochlear implants may use a "patch cord" instead of a neckloop.)

For other users, the sound is delivered by earbuds or headphones that are plugged into the receiver's jack. Some one-piece infrared receivers are also available.

Publicity

Mention the assistive listening system in all publicity about the event. Post a notice or sign at the entrance or registration table indicating the availability of an assistive listening system and where to pick up receivers.

Registration forms

Registration forms can be used to help to determine the number of assistive listening system receivers and neckloops to provide.

Setup

Before the event starts, check that the assistive listening system is working properly and that the receiver batteries are charged. Make sure that the sound from all microphones (including portable ones) is picked up by the system and have all speakers use a microphone. It is desirable to have a knowledgeable person present throughout the event to distribute receivers and troubleshoot the system if necessary.

For additional information about acquiring and using an assistive listening system, contact the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 800-792-8339 V/TTY or (609) 984-7281 V/TTY.

Available Jobs

Employment Specialist - We just keep on growing! Allies Inc., a non-profit full service community provider organization, serving the Deaf Community in more than 11 counties in New Jersey, is looking for a part-time employment specialist. We are currently working with DVR and CBVI to create and secure employment opportunities for members of the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind Communities. We have an immediate opening in the central and northern part of New Jersey. Qualifications include: ASL and English proficiency, understanding of deaf culture and deaf issues in the work place, strong written English skills, valid NJ driver's license and own car, creative thinking skills, great organizational skills, high school diploma or GED. If interested, contact Maria LaRocco, Coordinator of Deaf Services, marialarocco@aol.com or (609) 509-0796 Voice.

Volunteer needed - Volunteer needed for Spanish speaking family in Passaic. Great opportunity for student teacher of the deaf or sign language/interpreter student. Please call (973) 249-7560 Voice to speak with the Hernandez family. Family needs assistance learning sign, communicating with their nine-year-old deaf son or academic tutoring.

Full-time tenure track position - The Department of ASL & Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University seeks candidates for a full-time tenure track position for the 2005-2006 academic year. To be considered for tenure at Gallaudet University, a candidate must possess a terminal degree; applicants who lack a terminal degree may be required to spend up to three years in a pre-tenure position prior to being awarded a tenure-track position. Appointment date: August 16, 2005. Candidates should provide evidence of teaching at the university level, professional activity, and have experience in teaching and curriculum development. Fluency in ASL is required at the time of appointment. Application Procedures: Review of applications begins immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Send a letter of application clearly outlining your fit with the job description and requirements, evidence of teaching effectiveness, and your personal and/or academic connection to diverse communities. In addition to this letter, send your curriculum vitae, official graduate transcripts, and three letters of recommendation to: Office of the Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Sciences, and Technologies, 150 Hall Memorial Building, Kendall Green, Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002.

The following three positions are located in Burlington County College



Adjunct Faculty - (Part-Time)
American Sign Language & Interpreter Education

Requirements: bachelor's degree in English, Linguistics, American Sign Language, Deaf Studies, or related field. Applicants should have fluency in ASL; experienced interpreters who are RID certified and/or NJDDHH screened; experience teaching comparable courses at a college level is preferred. Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals are strongly encouraged to apply. To review the ASL/IE courses, course descriptions & options, access the BCC Web site at: <http://staff.bcc.edu/asl>. Info: Dr. Daniel B. Swartz, CI, CT, ASL/IE Program, Laurel Hall #113, Burlington County College, 601 Pemberton Browns Mills Road, Pemberton, NJ 08068-1599, dswartz@bcc.edu and/or Mr. Steve Bergonzoni, Coordinator of Adjuncts, Liberal Arts Department, Burlington County College, 601 Pemberton Browns Mills Road, Pemberton, NJ 08068, sbergonzoni@bcc.edu. No benefits. Starting in summer/fall 2005

Instructional Assistants - American Sign Language & Interpreter Education, Requirements: Associates Degree in English, Linguistics, American Sign Language, Deaf Studies, or related field, bachelor's degree preferred. Applicants should have fluency in ASL. Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals are strongly encouraged to apply. Responsible for providing personal ASL/Interpreting laboratory assistance to students. No benefits, will start in fall 2005.

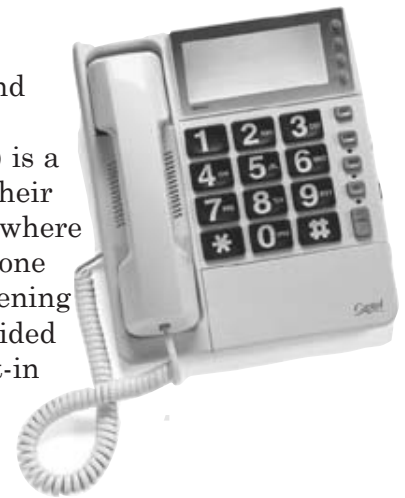
Tutors - Requirements: High School Diploma, with associates degree preferred in English, linguistics, American Sign Language, Deaf Studies, or related field. Applicants should have native/near-native fluency in ASL and its mechanics. Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals are strongly encouraged to apply. Responsible for providing personal and group ASL and interpreter training assistance to students. No benefits, will start spring/fall 2005.

For applications check, Staff.bcc.edu/forms or contact the Human Resources Department at (609) 894-9311, Ext. 7541 or jobs@bcc.edu. Forward the employment application to the address located at the top of the employment application and mail a copy to: Dr. Daniel B. Swartz, CI, CT, ASL/IE Program, Laurel Hall #113, Burlington County College, 601 Pemberton Browns Mills Road, Pemberton, NJ 08068-1599. For additional info: dswartz@bcc.edu

Events Around the Towns

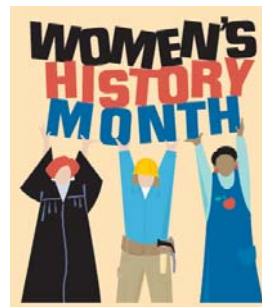
CapTel Available to Veterans

In every state, including New Jersey, all federal employees (active and retired), veterans and U.S. tribal members may obtain free CapTel phone and service. The Captioned Telephone (or CapTel™ for short) is a new technology that allows people to receive word-for-word captions of their telephone conversations. It is similar in concept to captioned television, where spoken words appear as written text for viewers to read. The CapTel phone looks and works like any traditional phone, with callers talking and listening to each other, but with one very significant difference: captions are provided live for every phone call. The captions are displayed on the phone's built-in screen so the user can read the words while listening to the voice of the other party. If the CapTel phone user has difficulty hearing what the caller says, he can read the captions for clarification.



The New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will hold its advisory council meeting on Friday, April 29, 9:30 a.m. - noon at the East Brunswick Public Library. The public is invited to attend and contribute to discussions about how to improve services in New Jersey for people with hearing loss. Please contact DDHH at 800-792-8339 V/TTY if you would like to join us. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, and realtime captioning will be provided.

Celebrating Women's History Month, the Passaic County Cultural & Heritage Council at



Passaic County Community Colleges presents Quilts by artist Lynn Bagley. Broadway & LRC Galleries, March 3 - April 29, 2005. Reception: March 12, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Broadway at Memorial Drive, Paterson, NJ (973) 684-5448 Voice.

Info: www.pccc.edu/art/gallery.

Artificial Larynx Devices

The NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is including in its Equipment Distribution Program, an Artificial Larynx Device. This apparatus is used by some people who have had their larynx surgically removed due to cancer. If anyone is interested in details of this initiative, please contact DDHH at 800-792-8339 V/TTY.



Raritan Valley Community College will host Sign Language Intensive Communication Weekend on March 11, 12 & 13, 2005.

This total immersion program studies American Sign in straight English word order (with voice). Three levels of study are available: Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced. The cost is \$177 per person. Please contact Carol Clark at (908) 526-1200 ext. 8377 for more information or email cclark@raritanval.edu.



Communicator Signboard

N W J A D

Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.

Kids' Easter/Spring Holiday Party!

Saturday, March 12

1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Magic Show, Deaf ASL Bunny,
Candy Guess, Easter Eggs!**

FREE Admission for all
Everyone is welcome!

Co-chairs: Lori Adams & Bonnie Thomas
St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 215 Boulevard,
Mountain Lakes, NJ

Info: directions: www.nwjad.org, nwjad@nwjad.org



Jewish Deaf and Hard of Hearing Singles

An exciting program will be held for the Jewish
deaf and hard of hearing singles
including widowed and divorced worldwide of any level of
Judaism and mode of communication in West Orange, NJ

March 18 - 20, 2005

Outings, workshops, activities, and meals are included.
We offer options: private housing at no charge and hotel (separate charge).
There will be no registration at door.

For registration or information, Landau9@optonline.net, (908) 352-7395 Fax,
or write to JDSR, PO Box 2005, New York, NY 10159-2005.

Communicator Signboard

Real ASL Weekend

Celebrating the Diverse Deaf Community

Hosted by NJAD & NJRID

March 18, 19, & 20

Holiday Inn, 700 Hope Road, Tinton Falls, NJ, 1-732-544-9300 Voice

Activities and workshops for all ASL levels.

For information and registration materials go to www.njrid.org or contact Carla Gombosi, carlarae1014@yahoo.com or (856) 313-6063 Voice.

Community Outreach Day Job Fair

Thursday, March 17

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Camden County College Papiano Gym
Peter Cheeseman Road, Blackwood, NJ

Easily accessible by public transportation

Bring at least 20 resumes; business attire suggested

Sponsored by:

HireAbility, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Bancroft NeuroHealth,
SEED Program, Camden County College, US Department of Labor's
Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs,

JobTech, Works Rite, Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

If you need accommodations for a disability, or need more information,
contact HireAbility at (856) 374-4921 Voice. Interpreters provided by S.E.E.D.

Communicator Signboard



Jersey Shore Deaf Bowling Association 2nd Annual Individual Handicap Bowling Tournament Saturday, March 26 Lanes At Sea Girt

2106 State Highway No. 35, Sea Girt, NJ 08750

Men \$1,000 (Based on 40 Entries);

Women \$500 (Based on 20 Entries);

Men - 80% Handicap From 210;

Women - 75% Handicap From 200;

Ratio: 1 to 4 Prizes Fee Returned 100%

Fee is \$40 by March 12th, after March 12th,

late fee \$45; Re-Entry \$40

Sanctioned By ABC/WIBC; Check the time you want to bowl

11:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

Info: Martin Blomquist at *blomqui4@aol.com*

Capital Area Narcotics Anonymous Convention April 1 - 3, 2005

At the Ramada Inn
399 Monmouth Street
Hightstown, NJ 08520

Narcotics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women for whom drugs had become a problem. Sign language interpreters will be provided.

For more information regarding the convention and local meetings,

visit <http://www.capitalareaofna.org/>

For immediate help, the Narcotics Anonymous Helpline

is: 800-992-0401 Voice.

Capital Area of NA's mail can be sent to: Capital Area Convention,

PO Box 2464, Trenton, NJ 08607

Communicator Signboard

Deaf Senior Citizens of Northwest Jersey

DAWN, Inc. is sponsoring a monthly social for all Deaf Senior Citizens of Northwest Jersey.

Non-seniors and interpreter students are welcome!

Social Gathering

Friday, April 1, 2005

St. Peters Episcopal Church (**note new meeting place**), 215 Boulevard, Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

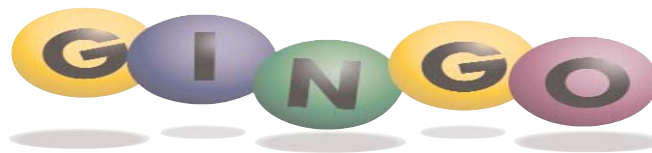
This is our first meeting of the new year, so we will not have a guest speaker. This will be a social gathering. Join us after a winter break for refreshments and friends. We will discuss what you would like our group to accomplish during the year, such as guest speakers, trips, and issues of concern.

ASL interpreters will be provided.

Parking is available in the church parking lot.

For special accommodations, call the office at the numbers listed below at least two weeks prior to the event.

Info: contact Lila Taylor, Deaf Outreach Specialist, ltaylor09@aol.com, DAWN, Inc.,
400 S. Main St., Suite #3, Wharton, NJ 07885 or (973) 361-5666 Voice,
(973) 361-7086 Fax, (973) 361-6032 TTY, 888-383-DAWN, info@dawninc.org



Hosted by Deaf Ministry

Saturday, April 9

6 p.m. - 12 a.m. Game starts at 7:30 p.m.

\$7 per person if paid in advance; \$10 per person if paid at door

St. John of God School Gym, 1145 Delsea Drive (Route 47), Westville, N.J. 08093

Doors will open at 6 p.m.- No early birds, please!

If paying at door, cash only. Food will be on sale until 7 p.m.

Dessert will be on sale during intermission.

Info: (856) 795-6481 V/TTY, (856) 482-5657 Fax, deafministrynj@yahoo.com

Make a check/money order payable to Deaf Ministry and mail with your name, address, and e-mail address to: 525 Doe Lane, Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034.

Mail no later than April 2, 2005.

Please note: Adults only (21 years old and up).

No children! No refunds!

Communicator Signboard

The Miss Deaf New Jersey Pageant presents
Murder Mystery Dinner Show!

Saturday, April 16

at Browns Mills Community Center, Arbutus St, Browns Mills NJ 08015

Doors open at 5 p.m. Dinner served 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Murder Mystery Show - 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Dinner/Show ticket: \$30 per person

Deadline: April 2, No walk-ins!

We will hold your tickets for you.

Just come, and your names will be on our list if you paid before April 2nd.

Proceeds will go to the Miss Deaf New Jersey Pageant Fund for our 2005 Pageant. Make a check or money order payable to: MDNJP and mail to: MDNJP, c/o Grace Samis,

4 Brynmore Road, New Egypt, NJ 08533

Include your name, address, e-mail and fax.

Info: MMurderShow@aol.com or GMSamis@aol.com

20th Annual Employment Opportunity Day

Tuesday, April 12

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Campus Center, Rutgers University, 3rd st. between Linden & Cooper Sts., Camden, NJ

45 participating employers

Bring at least 20 resumes.

Business attire is highly suggested!

free admission, no charge for job seekers

free parking in lot 7 at Delaware & Cooper Sts.

free shuttle bus, parking lot to Rutgers Campus Center

Sign language interpreters provided by

SEED Program at Camden County College

Info: Angela Lucas, (856) 374-4921 Voice, Demeri Minkoff (856) 858-5900 x 404 Voice

Sponsored by: Mayor Gwendolyn A. Faison, City of Camden,
and a coalition of government, community & business organizations

Communicator Signboard

NJDEAF

New Jersey Deaf Education Affiliates 2005 Spring Workshop

Saturday, April 16, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Locations: Bergen County Community College, Paramus, NJ
and

The New Jersey School f/t Deaf: MKSD, Ewing, NJ

Guest Speakers on ITV from two sites:

Therese Sheehan at Bergen County Community College
Update on N.J.A.C.6A:Professional Licensure & Standards:
The Impact for Teachers of the Deaf in New Jersey
and

Jan Niedermaier at The New Jersey School f/t Deaf: MKSD
Highly Qualified Teachers and High Quality Professional Development

Registration information: Trish Mellott, mellottfamily@verizon.net
All communication access graciously provided by DDHH



TREASURE ISLAND

April 30 - June 11

This adaptation utilizes actors who are hard of hearing as well as actors who are deaf.

All performances will use sign language as well as the spoken word to illuminate this fascinating tale.

For Tickets call (732) 548-0582 voice

\$12.50 (all seats)

**Buy one, get one free, when you mention this ad in the
Monthly Communicator.**

Forum Theatre

314 Main Street

Metuchen, NJ 08840

www.forumtheatrecompany.com

We are still seeking actors who sign.

Please call Ellen at (732)548-4670 Voice.

Calendar of Events 2005

Friday, April 29
DDHH Advisory Council Meeting
9:30 a.m. - noon
E. Brunswick Public Library
Open to the Public
Contact: 800-792-8339 V/TTY

April 30
Northwest Jersey Assn. of the Deaf, Inc.
(NWJAD)
Get-Em Poker Tournament
A Fund-Raiser for Deaf Youth Programs
www.nwjad.org

May 7
Northwest Jersey Assn. of the Deaf, Inc.
(NWJAD)
ASL Comedy Night
www.nwjad.org

May 12
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day
Trenton Thunder Baseball
7:05 p.m., Fireworks after the game!
Trenton, NJ

May 15
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day
Liberty Science Center
Jersey City, NJ
Details TBA

Saturday, June 4
DDHH 21st Annual Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Awareness Day
Featuring CJ Jones
Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, NJ
Tickets info: Lauren Lercher
GATickets@aol.com

DDHH Office Closed
March 25, May 30, July 4

NJ DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING
PO BOX 074
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0074

FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Trenton, NJ
Permit #21

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material Please Rush