



Advisory Council to the Division of Services of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Wednesday, January 17, 2024
Via zoom meeting 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Advisory Council Members: Joe Helfrich, Jim Berardino, Morgane Vincent

DSDHH Staff: Melanie Sperry, Sarah Brenna, Annette Stewart, Pamela Mower, Kelly Boehmer, Melody Fico

Guest: Maclain Drake

Agenda Item	Discussion	Recommendations/Actions
<p>Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>Meeting started at 5:24 PM</p> <p>Excused: Megan Frowick-Morgan, John Galli</p> <p>Chair, Joe Helfrich welcomed all to the Advisory Council meeting.</p> <p>Approval of Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ October 18, 2023 meeting minutes. 	<p>Joe called for a motion to approve the 10/18/2023 minutes.</p> <p>Jim motioned. Morgane seconded the motion.</p> <p>Minutes approved unanimously.</p>
<p>Discussion and Vote on Bylaw Change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● incorporated changes from the email sent 2 weeks prior into to the bylaws ● Click HERE to see the bylaws. The changes are in pink/red. 	<p>Joe called for a motion to approve the Bylaws change.</p> <p>Joe motioned Jim seconded the motion.</p> <p>Bylaw change approved unanimously.</p>
<p>DSDHH Roadmap Overview</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Click HERE to see Sarah’s Roadmap ● Click HERE for the screen reader friendly Roadmap ● DSDHH is purchasing a security emergency notification system in the building (similar to USDB) ● Deaf representatives are needed for Advisory Council (a vice chair is needed) ● Maclain offered technical assistance to DSDHH for the new sound system ● UIP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Certification Testing (can be nationally recognized) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 454 certified interpreters currently in Utah of which 382 have passed the Utah Certification ■ 270 out of state interpreters with Utah recognition 	

- 2023
 - 113 potential interpreters took the knowledge exam
 - 102 potential/current interpreters took the performance exam
 - 71 potential/current interpreters took the mock exam
 - Accountability for interpreters in Utah
 - Process Continuing Education Hours (CEHs)
 - From November 2023 up to January 2024, 270 requests have been processed
 - Staff will be sent out to interpret workshops and presenting at workshops as well as presenting at high schools and local interpreter training programs (ITPs)
 - Provide staff interpreters for DSDHH and Vocational Rehab
 - July 2023 to July 2024 it is expected that staff interpreters will provide approximately 3,000 hours of interpreting
- Community Advocacy Services:
 - Communication assessments have increased
 - Testing literacy, receptive and production skills for ASL
 - Presentations
 - More information about assessments on the website
 - referral forms
 - success stories (will be added when more assessments have been done)
 - 20 assessments have been done
 - 2 hour sessions
 - assessments are filmed
 - Employment specialist resigned
 - will be promoted soon
 - help community get and retain jobs
 - Case management
 - survey through Qualtrics
 - Southern Utah office is expanding the youth program and providing family friendly activities
 - Hard of Hearing Program
 - Promoting
 - Improving assistive technology
 - Becoming more familiar with the different technologies available
 - Provide support groups
 - Provide training to service providers and helping them understand how to work with individuals with hearing loss/losing their hearing

- Collaborating and partnering with community entities and helping them understand about the Hard of Hearing issues
- Changes have been made in the program
 - Part time assistant positions across the state have been done away with due to them being hard to fill without benefits
 - In the process of hiring a full time Hard of Hearing Specialist to cover Northern Utah region and will be located in Logan with a lot of travel
- Improving outreach
 - A new tracking system has been created
 - Who are we reaching?
 - What info are we sharing?
 - Getting out and talking to people
 - Senior centers
 - Aging Services
 - DCFS
 - USDB
 - Audiologists
 - ENTs
 - Providing yearly trainings to the team to keep up to date on info
- Continuing Education and Outreach
 - Instructional/Educational activities, events
 - Reduces isolation
 - Provide access to information
 - Direct communication in ASL
 - Provide interpreting services for access
 - Enrichment
 - Improving skills and knowledge
 - Outreach
 - Presenting at different locations and educating about:
 - accommodations
 - strategies that may help with needs
 - advocacy
 - feedback on what might work in different work sites
 - social media presence
 - Facebook
 - Instagram
 - X
 - community connections
 - outreach plan
 - how many posts daily?
 - audience?
 - track what's effective?
 - what do we need to work on?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ list of organizations that provide services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing ■ provide opportunities for networking and education/resource sharing ■ Outreach Specialist position <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● changing/adding responsibilities ■ Develop more requests for presentations from community ■ Increase amount of people attending activities ■ New activities are being added where information and services can be shared <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Futsal ● Pickleball ● Remote presentations ■ Increase numbers of presenters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● community members with skills/expertise ■ Expand number of volunteers for events ○ Consumer experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Surveys ■ More events in other locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adam will start to go to Ogden and Provo areas using USDB facilities ■ More events for the youth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● resources can be shared with the youth ■ Keep website updated/accessible ■ Salesforce is a new program we will be using <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● one site database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ events ○ emails ○ information ● video for the community is being developed on how to use the new system ○ Employee Success <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Recognition in the display case by the conference room 	
<p>Roundtable/Public Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maclain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ will hopefully be joining the Advisory Council ○ working with SkullCandy who wants to work with Deaf and Hard of Hearing community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ activities in Park City at their headquarters ■ tickets will be given away to Deaf and Hard of Hearing ○ acting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Deaf and Hard of Hearing roles will be coming up in movies and TV ■ Classes might be a good idea 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ possible partnership between Vibe and DSDHH for youth and family friendly events	
Adjournment	<p>Meeting ended at 6:22 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next Meeting Wednesday, March 20, 2024 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Joe called for a motion to adjourn.</p> <p>Joe motioned. Jim seconded the motion.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned.</p>