



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

Wednesday, October 18, 2023
Via zoom meeting 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Advisory Council Members: Joe Helfrich, Jim Berardino, Cody Simonsen, Brad Jones, John Galli, Megan Frowick-Morgan

DSDHH Staff: Melanie Sperry, Sarah Brenna, Jes Nelson-Julander

Guest:

Agenda Item	Discussion	Recommendations/Actions
<p>Welcome, Introductions and Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>Meeting started at 5:13 PM</p> <p>Excused: Morgane Vincent</p> <p>Chair, Joe Helfrich welcomed all to the Advisory Council meeting.</p> <p>Approval of Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> August 16, 2023 meeting minutes. 	<p>Joe called for a motion to approve the 8/16/2023 minutes.</p> <p>Cody motioned. Jim seconded the motion.</p> <p>Minutes approved unanimously.</p>
<p>Vote on Proposed Bylaw Change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assets and money of the Advisory Council will be removed as they don't exist ● Title changes such as department name ● Role of Executive Committee (Chair, Vice Chair and Division Director) for screening nominations for the Council ● Annual meeting section will be removed as the August meeting is the same as others ● No vote will happen at this meeting as the changes were not sent out previous to the meeting for review 	
<p>Utah Interpreter Program Overview</p>	<p>Jes Nelson-Julander</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UIP was established in 1993 as Utah passed a law that stated interpreters must be certified to provide services in the state of Utah and was the first to do so ● 3 core principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide certification exam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 3 testing groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● novice for beginning interpreters ● professional for advanced interpreters ● certified deaf interpreters ■ Knowledge Exam ■ Performance Exam 	

- Raters will screen and score each performance exam
 - Provide interpreter support
 - trainings
 - mentoring
 - workshops
 - education
 - Provide interpreting services for DSDHH as well as other State agencies
- Virtual Interpreting Services are now available
 - Helps provide services for rural areas
 - Has increased interpreting demand making less availability for current interpreters
- Recruiting students from ASL classes in high schools and colleges to become ASL interpreters
- Interpreter Training Programs (ITPs) geared to help students become interpreters (few pass and go on to become interpreters)
 - 3 programs in Utah
 - SLCC
 - UVU
 - UTU
- Many challenges
 - Old laws with verbiage that doesn't fit current technological capabilities
 - Many people don't know the ADA law
 - Some people haven't even even seen a deaf person and therefore do not know how to use the interpreter. Especially the need for a deaf interpreter
- How best to use an interpreter:
 - Speak directly to the deaf individual
 - Don't look at the interpreter and say "Tell them this"
 - Make sure the deaf person has a space that fits their needs
 - Speak normally
 - No need to speak louder
 - No need to speak more slowly
 - Make sure lights are dimmed and not off for presentations as the deaf person may not be able to see the interpreter
 - Share slides or notes with the interpreter prior to appointment/event
 - Please understand the interpreter will interpret EVERYTHING. If you don't want the deaf person to know something, then don't say it. Please don't say "Please don't interpret that" as it is disrespectful
- Deaf Interpreters are vital and under utilized

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Situations may require a more in-depth understanding of the language and culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The client could have a disease or physical limitation such as Parkinsons ■ The client could have a mental limitation ■ The client could be on medication and have a hard time processing/expressing themselves ■ The client could be older ■ Complex situations that could impact the client’s livelihood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Legal ● Complex medical ● Mental health ○ Require lots of training ○ Deaf interpreters work with hearing interpreters as a team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ situations and communication will go more smoothly ○ UIP provides workshops so that hearing interpreters can better understand how to work with a deaf interpreter ○ UIP educates companies as to why it is beneficial to hire interpreters and deaf interpreters 	
<p>Strategic Plan Overview</p>	<p>Sarah Brenna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cornerstones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Operational Excellence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Well planned activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● well executed ● on time ● clear communication ● consistent ■ Relevant, rigorous, valid, reliable ASL testing system that is easy to access and is efficiently operated. ■ Ensure facilities are clean, safe and available for the community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● implementing a mass notification system ● Sanderson Center was recently remodeled ● a new sound system in the gym that will also be wired into each of the classrooms ○ Employee Success <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Recognizing employee success ■ Performance management ■ Professional development ○ Customer Experience 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Strengthen Hard of Hearing services by enhancing accessibility, support and advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Looking to hire another full time Hard of Hearing staff member ■ New computer system will be implemented <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● will be more like membership ● will help make tracking numbers more accurately ■ Increase number of communication assessments ○ Community Connection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Expanding the Youth Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● meaningful activities and opportunities ● will partner more with USD ■ Annual needs assessment of the community ■ Improve the website 	
<p>Roundtable/Public Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HLAA - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coffee Chats on Fridays needs more participants ● USD - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ USD has enjoyed the events that we have provided at the center ○ USD students have finished the first quarter of the year ○ Football and volleyball are finished for the year ○ Basketball is starting up soon 	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Meeting ended at 6:27 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next Meeting Wednesday, January 17, 2024 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Joe called for a motion to adjourn.</p> <p>John motioned. Megan seconded the motion.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned.</p>