

November 1, 2012

Springfield, Illinois

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMISSION**

The sixtieth meeting of the Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission (IDHHC) was held on Thursday, **November 1, 2012**, at the University of Illinois at Springfield, Public Affairs Center Building, 1 University Plaza, Springfield, IL 62703, and broadcasted live via IDHHC’s website.

**Call to Order:**

Chairperson Childress called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**Commissioners Present:**

Nancy Abbott	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Joseph Culpepper	Yes
Emma Danielson	Yes	Haydee Garcia	Yes	Hershel Jackson	Yes
Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes	Anil Phadke	Yes
Laura Thomas	Yes				

**Public:**

NONE

*Joseph Culpepper moved to accept the August 16, minutes as corrected; seconded by Hershel Jackson. Motion passed.*

Nancy Abbott	Abstained	Tina Childress	Yes	Joseph Culpepper	Yes
Emma Danielson	Abstained	Haydee Garcia	Abstained	Hershel Jackson	Yes
Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes	Anil Phadke	Abstained
Laura Thomas	Yes				

**Special Reports/Presentations:**

Deaf Self-Advocacy Training  
Richard Laurion, Director, Catie Center

The Catie Center is one of the Regional Interpreter Education Centers that covers Illinois for the National Interpreter Education Center (NIEC). NIEC received a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, for the training of sign language interpreters and deaf self-advocacy training. As deaf training was new to NIEC, a work group was formed consisting of two (2) Deaf, two (2) hard of hearing, one (1) child of deaf adult (CODA) and a hearing interpreter.

Phase 1 focused on data collection. It included focus groups with deaf consumers, surveys of deaf consumers and rehabilitation counselors and review of the data with prominent deaf leaders. The data reflected that a lot of deaf consumers are passive in

requesting interpreters. There is a lot of misunderstanding within the deaf community of the specifics of the law related to requesting a sign language interpreter. They understand the law requires an interpreter but not specifics of when and where the interpreter must be provided. The findings were published and titled “The Case for Deaf Self-Advocacy Training.”

Phase 2 was developing the curriculum. Research showed the best training for deaf consumers includes both computer training and either group activity or one on one. The curriculum consists of both written materials and videos. The videos focus on areas identified by the deaf community where there is the highest level of frustration. The video goes on to show the success of when and interpreter is provided and communication access is achieved.

Phase 3 is focused on delivery of the training and its effectiveness. Illinois had two (2) master trainers. Originally, it was not designed for deaf-blind but now a special training was hosted for deaf-blind consumers to become trainers. As a result of testing during the Illinois Deaf-Blind retreat, the training is being expanded to include the deaf-blind and will be reflected in the training distributed nationwide. A second edition of the curriculum will be available shortly.

More information about the curriculum including the data reports and statistics is available at [www.deafselfadvocacy.org](http://www.deafselfadvocacy.org).

***Haydee Garcia moved to recess from 2:05 – 2:20 p.; seconded by Mindy Joy Mayer. Motion Passed.***

Nancy Abbott	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Joseph Culpepper	Yes
Emma Danielson	Yes	Haydee Garcia	Yes	Hershel Jackson	Yes
Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes	Anil Phadke	Yes
Laura Thomas	Yes				

National Black Deaf Advocates’ 30 Years of Advocacy: The People, The Leadership, & The Movement  
 Benro Ogunyipe, NBDA President

National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA) is a non-profit, consumer organization that acts as the leading advocacy organization for thousands of Black Deaf and Hard of Hearing Americans. Its mission is to promote leadership development, economic and educational opportunities, social equality, and to safeguard the general health and welfare of Black deaf and hard of hearing people. NBDA has led advocacy efforts for civil rights, equal access to education, employment and social services. The goals are for black deaf and hard of hearing people to be better informed about their rights and responsibilities; identify, examine and disseminate information; and to encourage increased leadership

development and job opportunities. It works with over 30 local chapters throughout the U.S.

The National Association for the Deaf (NAD) is a civil rights organization for deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the U.S. and has been in existence for more than 130 years. However, in 1925 the NAD prohibited membership of Black Deaf individuals. It was not until 1965 that NAD opened up membership for Black Deaf individuals. At the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NAD at the 1980 Convention, the first Black Deaf caucus presented issues about NAD's lack of attentiveness to the concerns of Black Deaf individuals and the lack of representation of Black convention delegates.

Black Deaf individuals continued to advocate for themselves. In 1981, the first Black Deaf Conference was held in Washington, DC and the first National Black Deaf Conference in 1982. It was from there six (6) founding members were instrumental in establishing NBDA. During 1982 – 1999, NBDA developed its organization structure, positions, policies, establishment of local chapters, hosted National Conferences, and Youth Empowerment Summits. In 2004, NBDA continued to expand and went to a regional system.

There are about 500 members nationwide. The membership is very diverse and includes not only Black Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals, but also parents, professionals, and sign language interpreters who work with Black Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and adults. The NBDA works in partnership with other organizations including, but not limited to, Gallaudet University, Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers, and Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc.

### **Chairperson's Report:**

- In October, attended the Guide by Your Side walk in Springfield, IL. During the event, a parent was passing around a petition for legislation mandating insurance coverage of hearing aids for kids. More information can be found at [www.ilkidscanhear.org](http://www.ilkidscanhear.org).
- IDHHC is always looking for presenters for our meetings. Past presentations have highlighted diverse issues facing the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. It would be nice to see more presentations focusing on the hard of hearing community such as maybe information on the loop system and expand on the previous Assistive Technology presentation.
- Attended the Association of Late Deafened Adults conference in Columbia, South Carolina. It was a wonderful conference. I encourage individuals to attend next year. ALDA is partnering with Telecommunication for the Deaf, Inc. The conference is October 16-20, 2013 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

## **Director's Report:**

- Welcome to two (2) new Commissioners – Haydee Garcia & Theresa Fuller-Sakolsky. There are four (4) terms that have expired. Individuals can apply for those positions at [www.appointments.illinois.gov](http://www.appointments.illinois.gov). Unfortunately, there are three (3) Commissioners who are not eligible to seek reappointment: Hershel Jackson; Benro Ogunyipe; and Mindy Joy Mayer.
- CART Registry has been established on IDHHC's website. Individuals can download the Registration form and additional information about CART services. It is voluntary but it is important to encourage providers to registry to help establish the number of CART providers in Illinois.
- A total of six (6) SSP Task Force members have been appointed. The Task Force's first meeting was October 31, 2012. The focus is how to implement a program including funding and the structure. The next meeting is scheduled for January 31, 2013.
- IDHHC staff had an in-service training related to the issues of Deaf-Blind by Laura Thomas. This will assist in future work with Deaf-Blind individuals and the SSP Task Force.
- IDHHC has two (2) vacant positions: Interpreter Coordinator and Program Coordinator. Both positions have been approved to post.
- The Office of Management and Budget is already working with IDHHC on the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014) and the impact of a possible 10% reduction. No final decisions have taken place.
- IDHHC's office lease expires at the end of December 2012. Still waiting on final arrangements for the move.
- In collaboration with the Department of Corrections and Central Management Services, IDHHC has completed an ASL version of the new Offenders Orientation video.
- The educational interpreter rules under the Illinois State Board of Education have been delayed due to additional changes ISBE is making in that section.
- There is no immediate plan for the Division of Mental Health Service under Department of Human Services to fill the Deaf Coordinator position.
- IDHHC sponsored a workshop with CHOICES to provide the Guide by Your Side training to parents.
- In collaboration with Mt. Sinai and Statewide Independent Living Council, IDHHC spent two (2) days of training preparing to develop a new ASL video on health care.
- The end of the year is when sign language interpreters renew their license. Even without the Interpreter Coordinator, staff has been able to process the renewals in a timely manner.
- New additions on the IDHHC's website include the "Accommodation Card" where individuals can customize the card to reflect their communication needs and the ASL Interpreter Licensure Video.
- The Annual Interpreter Conference will take place on May 31, 2013 – June 2, 2013.

- IDHHC will host a Commission Orientation which will involve all Commissioners, not just those newly appointed.

**New Business**

*Laura Thomas moved that IDHHC adopt the Deaf Self-Advocacy Training curriculum for the State of Illinois and plans for information dissemination; seconded by Nancy Abbott. Motion passed.*

Discussion: The DSAT is all inclusive training which is already prepared. What will be IDHHC role? Will they merely promote the training or become trainers themselves?

Nancy Abbott	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Joseph Culpepper	Yes
Emma Danielson	Yes	Haydee Garcia	Yes	Hershel Jackson	Yes
Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes	Anil Phadke	Yes
Laura Thomas	Yes				

**Open Discussion:**

None.

**Announcements:**

- Mindy Joy Mayer through the Chicago Lighthouse will be providing training for Deaf-Blind individuals on using technology. The dates have not been set but anticipated towards the end of November.
- Deaf Latino Awareness Day on November 10, 2012, from 9:00 -2:00 p.m. at the Polk Conference Center in Chicago, IL.
- Deaf Community Thanksgiving Dinner on November 17, 2012, from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Davenport, sponsored by the Quad Cities IAD chapter.
- Deaf Community Bowl – “Crazy Bowling” in December, date to be determined, sponsored by the Quad Cities IAD.
- Illinois/Iowa CIL is hosting an indoor carnival on December 8, 2012, 11 – 2:00 p.m.
- Broadway in Chicago has several open captioned shows including Les Miserables on November 24, 2012.
- ALDA Chicago is sponsoring several locations in Chicagoland as part of the “Show us the Captions!” campaign for theater captioning advocacy campaign on November 17, 2012.

*Nancy Abbott moved to adjourn at 3:58 p.m.; seconded by Mindy Joy Mayer . Motion Passed.*

Nancy Abbott	Yes	Tina Childress	Yes	Joseph Culpepper	Yes
Emma Danielson	Yes	Haydee Garcia	Yes	Hershel Jackson	Yes
Mindy Joy Mayer	Yes	Benro Ogunyipe	Yes	Anil Phadke	Yes
Laura Thomas	Yes				

**(Signature on file)** \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**(Signature on file)** \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Final