Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission





Deaf Self Advocacy Train-the-Trainer Workshop



2014 Annual Report Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

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Commissioners

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Janet Lambert, Assistant Director
Patty Greene, Personnel Manager
Tonia Bogener, Legal Counsel
Brandie Belford, Executive Secretary
Brandy Hayes, Program Coordinator
Carol Christensen, Interpreter Coordinator

Message from the Director . . .

In presenting the 2014 Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission's Annual Report, I am proud of the accomplishments IDHHC continues to make during these challenging economic times.

During a two day meeting, Commissioners and staff joined together in reviewing the future goals and mission of IDHHC formalized in the new Strategic Plan. IDHHC is undertaking a new goal to increase community capacity for cultural competence. The new objectives strive to increase access to information through digital tools and development of resources through communication and collaboration with area stakeholders.

Additionally, it was a privilege to watch the Senate confirmation hearing of Dr. Janice Smith-Warshaw as the first Deaf woman Superintendent for the Illinois School for the Deaf. Congratulations Dr. J!

On behalf of Illinois' Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind citizens, I thank you for your strong support of IDHHC. I encourage you to visit IDHHC's website at http://www.idhhc.illinois.gov.

Sincerely,

Je milh

John Miller Director

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

IDHHC expanded its ASL information videos with a new 2 part series on the "Affordable Care Act" developed in collaboration with the Jacksonville Area Center for Independent Living.

A new 5 year Strategic Plan was established containing a new goal to increase community capacity for cultural competence. The new objectives strive to increase access to information through digital tools and development of resources through communication and collaboration with area stakeholders.

EVALUATION & MONITORING OF OUTSIDE PROGRAMS

IDHHC and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) provided education and awareness of the adoption of the Illinois Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) Sign Language Certification as an accepted credential for Educational Interpreters. This will increase the opportunities for interpreters to be licensed to work within the community as well as seek ISBE approval to work in the educational settings.

The Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health requested IDHHC's assistance in recruiting and interviewing qualified candidates for the Statewide Deaf Coordinator position. At the same time, the Department of Children and Family Services filled its Statewide Deaf Services Coordinator position. IDHHC looks forward to working with both agencies on future projects.

TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

IDHHC coordinated and hosted Deaf Self Advocacy Train-the-Trainer Workshops in Central and Northern Illinois for community service providers. The curriculum was developed by the National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers (NCEIC). As a result, Illinois now has 12 additional certified trainers that can provide this nationally developed workshop to consumers throughout Illinois.

In a new and growing partnership with the Department of Public Health and the American Red Cross, IDHHC made recommendations related to emergency preparedness training for the deaf and hard of hearing community and coordinated trainings throughout the state at various Centers for Independent Living locations.



FY 15 Initiatives

- Provide specialized legal training for Advanced and Master level Licensed Sign Language Interpreters in collaboration with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts.
- Redesign of IDHHC's website to optimize the availability of information and generate additional consumer interest.
- Collaborate with medical and emergency response providers to increase cultural competence when interacting with the deaf and hard of hearing community.
- Increase awareness of how to file and what to expect during the IDHHC investigation process of an interpreter complaint.
- Develop guidance and support to community service providers to improve consumer selfadvocacy skills.



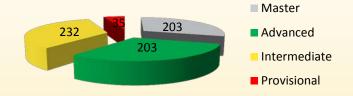
SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS

Licensed Interpreters

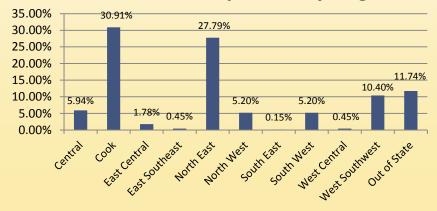
2014	673

	New Licensees	Renewals	Proficiency Level Upgrade
2014	49	593	24

Licensed Interpreters by Proficiency Level



Licensed Interpreters by Region



Congratulations to Jonathan Aguilar pictured below with IDHHC Director John Miller.

Jonathan Aguilar is a senior at the Illinois School for the Deaf. He was the winner of the IDHHC Art Contest and his design (shown bottom right) was used as the cover of the Program Book for the 2014 IDHHC Interpreter Conference.



Illinois Board of Interpreters

Lisa Caringer, Herrin
Teri Hedding, Lombard
William Lee, Chicago
Thomas Russell, Wood River
Deborah Sampson, Glenview
Susan Sanders, Peoria
Shelley Williams, Champaign

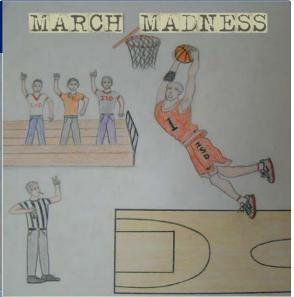
Area Interpreter Training Programs

Columbia College, Chicago
Illinois Central College, East Peoria
John A. Logan College, Carterville
MacMurray College, Jacksonville
Moraine Valley Community College,
Palos Hills

Quincy University, Quincy
Southwestern Illinois College, Belleville
St. Louis Community College,
St. Louis, Missouri
Waubonsee Community College,

William Rainey Harper College, Palatine

Aurora



Communication Leading the Way