

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Happy Holidays,

There are many of us who celebrate with our families throughout the holiday Season. We hope you are all enjoying the holiday!

IVRS (Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services) is serving the Deaf/ Hard of Hearing Community:

Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services is striving to communicate with Individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing using their preferred method of Communication. Such individuals can access information through Carrie Baker, Counselor, who works with Iowa School for the Deaf (ISD) and many other individuals with disabilities through the Council Bluffs office. Carrie may be contacted by email: carrie.baker@iowa.gov. Individuals may also access services through their local office, as IVRS serves every county in the State. Individuals are encouraged to review the IVRS website for information on how to contact their local office.

Services available to eligible individuals who are not on our waiting list and who require the service to be employed include:

1. Vocational counseling and guidance to understand ones' optimal vocational level of employment.
2. Plan development that is consistent with an individual's interests, preferences, capabilities, abilities etc.
3. Vocational training that may range from on the job training to a formal academic post-secondary program.
4. Training supports that may range from personal attendant services, assistance in advocacy for post-secondary supports, job coaching etc.
5. Mental and physical treatment not covered by insurance but required in order to be employed.
6. Job development and placement assistance.
7. Other individualized services necessary to achieve employment.

Submitted by Kenda Jochimen, Bureau Chief, IVRS.

Visit DSCI website: www.deafservices.iowa.gov Questions or Comments? Email us: dhr.dsci@iowa.gov

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



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The Legislators are coming up January 2013

Think about how you really want to see the state of Iowa improve in providing for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community on such things as hearing aids, insurance, Children's Bill of Rights, mental health and other issues. Remember, you decide what type of advocacy best suits your personality and comfort level. You can write, phone, or talk face-to-face with your Legislators. Talk to your friends or DSCI Commissioners and ask them to support/help each other to make a call, write/e-mails or contact your legislator. Also, you can ask your Legislator to meet and talk about issues over coffee or visit them at the Capitol. Invite your legislator to local events, an open house or plan discussions with friends or Deaf Clubs. How do you find your local Legislators? Go to the Iowa Legislature website at www.legis.iowa.gov . You will see in the left column, type your address or zip to find out who your Senator or Representative is. If you need our assistance in finding your Legislator, we will be more than happy to help you.

Volunteer Needed:

We are looking for volunteers to help teach ASL to refugee families. We have three Bhutanese families with nine people who are deaf. Sonja Kayser has been working with one family for several months and we realized there are more in need! Sonja has all the lesson plans set, so no extra work for our volunteers! These families have come a long way and have no English or ASL language base. Please consider volunteering your time once a week!

Contact :

Lynsie Crawford at Lynise.Crawford@iowa.gov

Susan Hardine at deafac@aol.com

Sonja Kayser at asl4dm@aol.com

Stephanie Lyons at Stephanie.Lyons@iowa.gov

Visit DSCI website: www.deafservices.iowa.gov Questions or Comments? Email us: dhf.dsci@iowa.gov

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Study conducted for IBSSS, ISD

Feasibility Committee Recommendation.

11/27/12: Feasibility Committee Recommendation

A committee appointed by the Board of Regents to study the future efficiencies and effectiveness of Iowa's educational services for students with sensory impairments is recommending three regional centers be added to the continuum of educational options for the state's visually impaired, blind, deaf-blind, hard-of-hearing or deaf students. The recommendation came Nov. 26 in Johnston, Iowa from a feasibility and planning study committee which has met monthly since June.

The committee's recommendation includes keeping the current Iowa School for the Deaf campus in Council Bluffs as a regional and residential school, as well as using the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School in Vinton. Both schools will be used for regional programs that will include classrooms for blind and deaf students. Additionally, the committee decided to recommend combining the administration of Iowa Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired and ISD.

Locations have not been determined for the regional centers, which are planned to provide enhanced services to students with sensory impairments, using specialized teachers of the visually impaired and teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing. Structure of the regional sites will be determined by the state's management team for the blind/visually impaired and executive team for the deaf/hard of hearing.

Recommendations will be brought to the Department of Management, and then advance to the Dec. 5 Board of Regents meeting for information purposes (meeting to be held telephonically). Action on these recommendations is anticipated at the Feb. 4, 2013 Regents meeting.

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Movie Theater Captioning

This website informs about MoPix Motion Picture Access, including Rear Window and CaptiView captioning systems that are now available in theaters around Iowa. There is a long list of movies currently available with closed captions, and also some set up for “descriptions”, which is intended for blind and low vision movie goers to hear descriptive information. In addition to checking a specific movie theater’s online web site or calling for captioned movie information, you can use this link to locate theaters with captioning: <http://www.captionfish.com/>

Netflix Agrees to Subtitle all Films by 2014

In 2010, NAD filed a class-action lawsuit claiming that Netflix's website was a "place of public accommodation" that was out of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In June, a Massachusetts federal judge ruled that all Netflix videos are to be subtitled by 2014. The online-streaming giant is already captioning 82 percent of its videos and is now bound to finish its entire library, reaching the 90 percent mark in 2013 and 100 percent by 2014. The company has also agreed to speedily caption new content. The agreement says that Netflix will put captions on new content within 30 days by 2014; within 14 days by 2015; and within 7 days by 2016, and eventually all captions will be provided simultaneously with launch at all times. “The National Association of the Deaf congratulates Netflix for committing to 100 percent captioning, and is thrilled to announce that 48 million deaf and hard of hearing people will be able to fully access Netflix's Watch Instantly services,” said NAD CEO Howard Rosenblum.”

Project Endeavor offering IPAD and iPhone

Project Endeavor is a program of CSD, funded by a two year contract with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). This program focuses on providing Deaf and hard of hearing Americans with access to broadband or high speed internet through discounted internet devices. A limited number of iPad and Sprint iPhone’s is available to offer NEW applicants until December 31st. These products are on a first come, first serve basis!

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

NAD Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is an annual workplace giving program for employees. You can make a tax-deductible donation to thousands of non-profit organizations and charities in the CFC program. Many workplaces offer giving or matching programs. It's easy to give back to the NAD through a payroll deduction, which allows you to have a small amount deducted each pay period. Contact your Human Resource Coordinator to ask about adding the NAD to your payroll deduction!

Transportation for People on IowaCares

The Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) public transit agencies are now offering transportation to IowaCare members through a new program called TransitCares. This program offers IowaCare members transportation to their medical appointments and pharmacy visits for a one-way fee of \$1. (Regular fare will continue to apply to nonmembers). Contact your local public transit agency for specifics on the TransitCare scheduling and service availability. For a list of Iowa's public transit agencies please visit <http://www.iowadot.gov/transit/agencies.html> or call Laurie Carnahan at 515-233-7870.

Friendly Remember about Deaf Services Video Relay Service, VRS #

Starting November 21, all hearing callers trying to reach the Office of Deaf Services through videophone will need to call our local phone numbers. Due to a change by the FCC, the toll-free Video Relay Service (VRS) number will be disconnected. Please begin using these numbers:

Stephanie's videophone # at 515-598-7326

Lynsie 's videophone # at 515-598-7327

Deaf users are not charged for their call. Hearing users will be charged by their phone provider if they live outside the local area. This change does not affect the Office of Deaf Service's standard toll-free number, which hearing and Deaf/HOH users may call. That number is 888-221-3724.

Visit DSCI website: www.deafservices.iowa.gov Questions or Comments? Email us: dhr.dsci@iowa.gov

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services



Legislative Training for Iowa Association of the Deaf and Deaf Community by National Association of the Deaf

**Two nationally known speakers will be
Kim Bianco Majeri of Indiana, the legislative trainer & Tawny
Holmes of Maryland, the national Deaf Education advocate & NAD
Appointed Board Member**

Don't Miss this OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME!

**Saturday, December 15, 2012
8 am to 4:30 pm**

Free Admission – Limit to 80 participants

**Stoney Creek Inn & Conference - Meadows Room
5291 Stoney Creek Court, Johnston, IA 50131 – 515-334-9000**



If you are interested in attending this important training, please RSVP to:
IAD President Kathy K. Miller at iadpresident@aol.com or VP (712) 266-
3486 by 12/10/2012

Visit DSCI website: www.deafservices.iowa.gov Questions or Comments? Email us: dhr.dsci@iowa.gov

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 1, 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

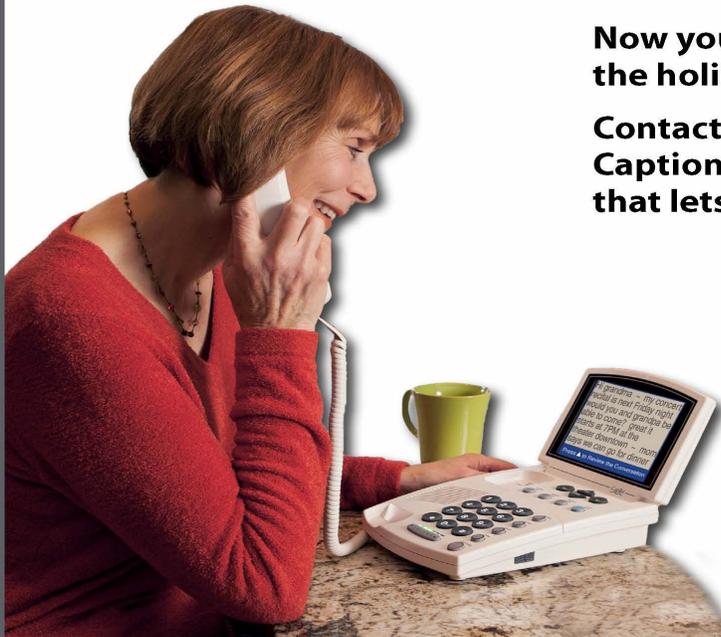
This Holiday Season

See what they say[®] with Captioned Telephone

Do you or someone you know have difficulty hearing over the telephone?

With Captioned Telephone (CapTel[®]) you don't have to worry about missing what is said to you over the phone.

Captioned Telephone allows you to listen to as well as read every word the other party says throughout your conversation on the bright display screen of a CapTel[®] phone.



Now you can stay connected - through the holidays and all year long.

Contact Relay Iowa to learn more about Captioned Telephone — the free* service that lets you see what people are saying!



relayiowa.com

Relay Iowa is a service of the Iowa Utilities Board.

**Captioning service is free, and long distance charges may apply.*

Call 888.269.7477 V/TTY • iarelay@hamiltonrelay.com

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That's what I'm talking about



Hamilton Relay Scholarship Guidelines

Hamilton Relay Scholarship: \$500

Preface

The goal of the Hamilton Relay Scholarship is to support individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or have difficulty speaking in their post-secondary education. The Hamilton Relay Scholarship is extended to qualifying high school students living within each of the states where Hamilton Relay is the contracted telecommunications relay and/or captioned telephone service provider. Hamilton Relay selects one recipient from each state annually.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Applicant must be a graduating high school student who is deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or has difficulty speaking.
2. Applicant must be a resident of one of the following states: CA, GA, ID, IA, KS, LA, ME, MD, MA, MT, NM, PA, RI, TN, UT or VA.
3. Applicant must complete and submit application, essay, signed talent release form and letter of recommendation to be eligible.
4. Scholarship will be awarded to the selected applicant in each state after the Hamilton Relay Scholarship Committee reviews all applications submitted on or before the posted deadline.



That's what I'm talking about



Guidelines for Hamilton Relay Scholarship

- A.** Application packet must be completed and postmarked by **March 1, 2013**, and must include all of the following items:
- Scholarship Application
 - Letter of recommendation from faculty staff member at high school or employer
 - One page essay as required (topic assigned on application)
 - Signed Talent Release Form
- B.** Mail the application and attachments to:
Hamilton Relay Scholarship Committee
Hamilton Relay, 1001 12th Street, Aurora, NE 68818
- C.** Scholarship award recipients will be determined on or before **April 30, 2013**.
- D.** Scholarship award recipients must complete and return a “Scholarship Recipient Agreement Form” and provide a copy of their Letter of acceptance from the post secondary school they will attend, allowing Hamilton to process payment directly to the school.

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Hamilton Relay Scholarship Application School Year 2012-2013

(You may print or type responses on this form, or reproduce form on computer.)

Deadline is March 1, 2013 (application must be postmarked by this date).

The scholarship will be awarded to a *graduating high school* senior who is deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or has difficulty speaking.

Applicant must complete this application in its entirety and include:

Response to Essay Question

Letter of Recommendation

Applicant and/or a parent or guardian, if under the age of 18, must read and sign the enclosed talent release form and submit with application.

Please clip all attachments together with application. Do not staple. Do not include binders or report covers with your submission.

If a question is not applicable to you, please write "NA" (do not leave question blank).

Applicant Information:

Name (First, Middle, Last): _____

Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY): _____ Gender: M ___ F ___

Address: _____

Student E-mail: _____

Home Telephone (Voice/TTY/Internet Relay/Video Relay/Captioned Telephone):

Parent/Guardian Name (s):

Visit DSCI website: www.deafservices.iowa.gov Questions or Comments? Email us: ahr.dsci@iowa.gov

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

High School Attended / Graduation Date:

High School Counselor's Name: _____

High School Telephone Number: _____ Current GPA _____

High School Address: _____

How did you hear about the Hamilton Relay Scholarship?

The \$500 scholarship is intended for a graduating senior who is Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf-Blind, or has Difficulty Speaking. Please indicate your position.

Deaf _____ Hard of Hearing _____ Deaf-Blind _____ Speech Difficulty _____

Essay: Please write a short, one page essay in answer to the question below:

Of all the services available from Hamilton Relay, which would you find most beneficial to you in your college career and how will that impact your future career / volunteer goals?

List clubs, sports, organizations, community service and activities that you have been involved in during your high school years:

Work Experience:

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SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Please list the school you plan to attend in the Fall of 2013. If you have not chosen a school, please list the schools you have applied to/been accepted for admission:

Please list your potential field of study:

Please read before submitting your scholarship application: By submitting this application, I certify that the information contained therein is correct to the best of my ability and understand that false information or omission of data may result in denial of my application. I will provide all materials to the Hamilton Relay scholarship committee to be postmarked by March 1, 2013. If chosen for the Hamilton Relay \$500 Scholarship award, I agree to complete the Scholarship Recipient's Agreement Form and return it to Hamilton Relay. I understand that if I do not comply with this requirement, my scholarship funds will be awarded to the selected alternate.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

For minors (students under the age of 18):

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____

_____ I have included a Letter of Recommendation from a faculty/
staff member at my High School or from a current or past Employer.

_____ I have included the Application Form with a one page Essay.

_____ I have included the signed Talent Release Form.

Please return the required materials collectively by mail on or before March 1, 2013 (application must be post-marked by this date) to:

Hamilton Relay Scholarship Committee
Hamilton Relay
1001 12th Street
Aurora, NE 68818

Visit DSCI website: www.deafservices.iowa.gov Questions or Comments? Email us: dhr.dsci@iowa.gov

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Hamilton Relay 2012/2013 Scholarship Award Talent Release

I hereby submit my application for the 2012/2013 Hamilton Relay Scholarship Award (“the award”). I acknowledge that if I am selected to receive the award, my name and/or image may be published or used in relation to receiving the award and I (we) do hereby irrevocably authorize Hamilton Relay Inc., a Nebraska corporation (“Hamilton Relay”), its successors and assigns, and those acting under its permission or on its authority, in perpetuity, to use, publish, advertise, or use in any other lawful purpose whatsoever, the photographic commercial film, videotape, audio tape, written/verbal testimonial, digital images or pictures of me (us) (collectively, the “materials”) taken or provided in relation to receiving the award in 2013. I (we) acknowledge that Hamilton Relay owns the copyright with regard to the materials and that the materials may be prominently displayed in any type of media without any compensation or other consideration. Further, I (we) waive any right to privacy and/or publicity that I (we) may have with regard to the utilizations of the materials, including, without limitation, utilization in any promotional materials of Hamilton Relay.

I (we) do hereby waive any right that I (we) may have to inspect or approve the finished product of advertising or other copy that may be used in connection therewith or the use to which it may be applied.

No utilization of the materials shall be the basis of any future claim, demand or suit against Hamilton Relay, its parent, subsidiary and affiliated companies, the officers, directors, agent or employees of any of these, or its successors or assigns, nor shall this Talent Release be the basis for any such claim, demand or suit.

I (we) do hereby warrant that I am (we are) of full age and have every right to contract in my (our) name in the above regard and that I (we) have read the above authorization release, prior to its execution, that I am (we are) fully familiar with the contents thereof and by these presents, authorize the use of the materials and release and relieve Hamilton Relay and its successors and assigns from any liability by virtue of the use of the materials.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Numbers: Work: _____ Home: _____

Signature: _____

Parents or guardians must sign for minor children.

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SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Check the DSCI website for further details on upcoming Commission meeting dates, locations, etc. If internet service is not available to you, please contact our office to request the information or check with the Commissioners in your area.

Our next DSCI Commission meeting will be: **Saturday, February 2, 2013, 10:00 A.M.– 1:00 P.M.** at the Pleasant Hill Public Library, 5151 Maple Dr., Pleasant Hill, IA.

In previous newsletters, we have asked the DSCI Commissioners to take turns writing an article for E-News. These articles are written to share information with you, the community, and other interested individuals or even ask the community to share with us. An article appears below from Commissioner Chairperson, Theresa Legg

Commissioner, Theresa Leg, Chairperson Report:

Hello! I'm Theresa Legg and I serve members of the Iowa Deaf community as a Chairperson for Deaf Services Commission of Iowa (DSCI). I have been on the board since 2006 and am also a member of the Iowa Association of the Deaf (IAD) and involved in my local Deaf community the Cedar Rapids Association of the Deaf (CRAD). My passion is to work with and support the Deaf community of Iowa and my work with the DSCI has empowered me to do that. If you should see me at events, please feel free to talk with me! I am happy to serve my community and bring any concerns and suggestions to share with other members of the commission.

Deaf Service E-News:

If you 're interested in receiving E-News, please email your request to dhr.dsci@iowa.gov Please share with your friends or families who might be interested in receiving the E-News.

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SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012– February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Signing Santa

is coming to your videophone!



Tell Signing Santa ...

how good you've been, and what you want most of all.

Mark your calendar so you don't miss out, he's waiting for your call!

Just call 877.507.2682 from any videophone!

Signing Santa will take your calls live from his workshop at the North Pole on the dates listed below. *(All times are EST)*

Wednesday, Dec. 5, 6–10 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 7, 6–10 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 8, 12–2 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 6–10 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 14, 6–10 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15, 12–2 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 19, 6–10 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 21, 6–10 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 22, 12–2 p.m.

Go to WWW.ZVRS.COM/SIGNINGSANTA for more info

(NOTE: All Signing Santa calls are point-to-point, NOT VRS calls.)



So Easy. So Simple.

Visit DSCI website: www.deafservices.iowa.gov Questions or Comments? Email us: dhr.dsci@iowa.gov

SIGN of the TIME An E-NEWS

December 2012-February 2013



Iowa Department of Human Rights



Office of Deaf Services

Office of Deaf Service will be closed December 25 and January 1, 2013 due to the holidays.



*Happy Holiday and all the best in 2013
From Staff and Commissioners!*



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

December 31, 2012: Council Bluffs Silent Club, 536 Bluffs Street, Council Bluffs, IA. Starting time 7:00P.M. Admission: Each Couple \$ 8.00 ~ Single \$ 5.00

February 2, 2013 : 9: A.M.–1 P.M. ,DSCI Commission Meeting, Pleasant Hill Public Library, 5151 Maple Drive, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327.

February 23 2013: Iowa Association of the Deaf Board's regular meeting hosted by Cedarloo Club of the Deaf, at North Star Community Services, 3420 University Avenue, Waterloo, IA 50701

March 5, 2012: Deaf Capitol Day, Des Moines Iowa, 50131 (will be announced soon)

March 13–April 2013 is the period for Deaf History month. It celebrates deaf history, particularly key events in deaf tradition

May 4, 2013: DSCI Commission Meeting will be announced soon.

May 11 2013: Iowa Association of the Deaf Board's Regular Meeting hosted by IAD Board at Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston, IA

June 15, 2013: Iowa Association of the Deaf' (Marshalltown Picnic) 55th Annual Picnic in Reunion Hall, Riverside Park, North Highway 14, Marshalltown, Iowa

July 25-27,2013: IAD Conference, Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center, 5291 Stoney Creek Ct, Johnston IA

The deadline for submission for the February 2013 issue is March 1,2013. Send e-mail submissions to dhr.dsci@iowa.gov

Questions or Comments? Email us: dhr.dsci@iowa.gov