

NORTHWEST REGIONAL LIBRARY - DEAF SERVICES

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SIouxLAND DEAF GATHER TO LEARN ABOUT THEIR LEGAL RIGHTS

Twenty-five members of the Siouxland Deaf Club attended a daylong workshop to learn about federal and state laws pertaining to the deaf. The program was held March 19th at Sioux City Public Library's Morningside Branch. Presentors were Diana Leonard, Director, Deaf Services Commission of Iowa and John Baker, an attorney from South Sioux City, Nebraska.

Ms. Leonard began the program by stating that some federal and state laws in certain situations provide deaf individuals the right to a qualified interpreter. She expressed the view that qualified interpreters are highly desirable over using family members or friends. She disagreed with the practice of having hearing children interpret for their deaf parents on occasions such as doctor visits. She thought such a situation could be very stressful for the child if the parent had a serious or terminal disease or was suffering from a highly personal illness. Additionally, children may not be the best interpreter because they could have difficulty in fingerspelling or translating medical words and phrases.

Leonard stressed the need for interpreters to be proficient both in American Sign Language (ASL) and English. Members of the audience described bad experiences they had in communicating with thoughtful but unqualified interpreters. She stressed that a qualified interpreter meant that the deaf

individual be able to communicate with him.

She next spoke on Iowa law's 622 b.2 and 804.31. 622 b. 2 states "if a hearing impaired person is a party to, or a witness at, a proceeding before a grand jury, court or administrative agency of this state, the court or administrative agency shall appoint an interpreter without expense to the hearing impaired person . . . the deaf person however may waive this right."



Speakers John Baker & Diana Leonard hold a copy of the Iowa Code following the day long workshop on Deaf's legal rights.

804.31 describes protection available to the deaf if they should be detained for questioning or are arrested. It states a deaf person can require an interpreter before they have to answer any questions. However the arresting officer can administer, before the arrival of the interpreter, breath and chemical tests for alcohol or for illegal drugs. When the interpreter arrives, the officer shall explain the reason for the testing, the consequences of the person's consent or refusal, and the ramifications of the test, if one was administered. When an interpreter is not readily available and the hearing impaired person's identity is known, the person may be released by the law enforcement agency to a family member or other reliable person until an interpreter arrives. Under 804.31, the fees for the interpreter shall be paid by the governmental subdivision which funds the law enforcement agency.

Also discussed was the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Section 504 of the Act states programs that receive federal dollars have to make their services available to handicap persons. For example, a hospital that receives federal dollars would have to provide an interpreter if a deaf patient requested it. A hospital may also be required to supply tdds or decoders.

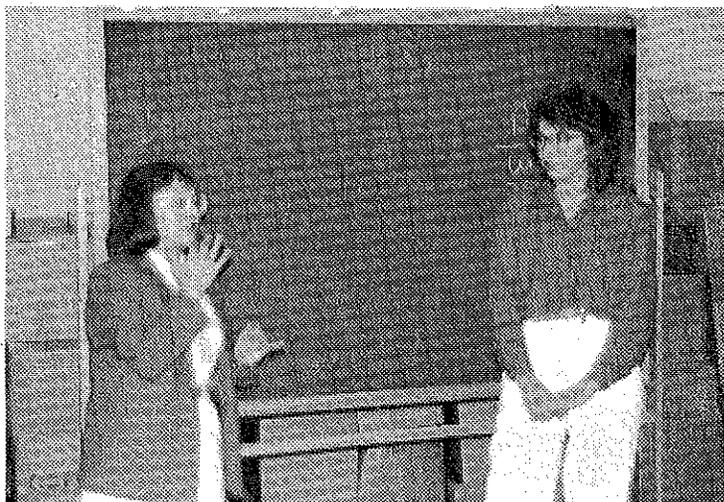
If a program doesn't receive federal funds, the individual or business is not required to provide the deaf specialized services. For example, a private law firm is not required to provide interpreters to answer questions about wills, contracts, divorce or any other legal matter.

John Baker an attorney from South Sioux City, Nebraska was the featured speaker during the afternoon session. His firm serves clients in Nebraska, South Dakota and Iowa. While Leonard spoke on state and federal laws, Baker spoke on civil and criminal laws. Civil Laws concern persons dealing with one another; criminal laws regulate

how persons act toward society. Violation of criminal laws can result in jail sentences or fines, civil violations may result in lawsuits.

INTERPRETING...YOU AS AS A PROFESSIONAL

The second meeting of area interpreters was held at Sioux City Public Library on May 7, 1988. The daylong program on interpreting as a profession was cohosted by the Deaf Services Commission of Iowa and the Northwest Regional Library.



Presentors Janice Hawkins, Consultant, Deaf Services Commission of Iowa (DSCI) and Kathy Bowman, Interpreter, NW Iowa Office of DSCI, discussed the development of interpreting over the past two and half decades.

During the past 25 years, interpreters have evolved 4 models. The first was popular until 1965. This model was called the Helper. Interpreters saw their role as one in which they had to make decisions on what was said and when. American Sign Language (ASL) was seen as a "lower language."

Next came the Conduit model, an extreme reaction to the first model. From 1965-1972, interpreters were machine-like. They were not to take responsibility for anything and to

remain distant from their client.

The third model was popular from 1972-1979 and is known as the Communication Facilitator. The need for interpreters exploded during this period, in part because of the passage of Equal Rights, the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the advancement of the "Disabled Movement". Interpreters saw themselves as facilitators and saw ASL as a true language.

The fourth and current model began in 1979 and is known as Bi-lingual, with interpreters serving as bi-cultural mediators. Interpreters must be immersed in both hearing and deaf cultures.

A major portion of the workshop focused on such issues as ethics, confidentiality, professional development, networking with other professions and economics. The number 1 ethic in interpreting is confidentiality. Failure to maintain confidentiality can hurt clients, damage interpreters reputation, make one liable to possible lawsuits, and hurts the profession.

Another major topic of discussion was impartiality and faithfulness in the performance of services. Interpreters are expected to be accurate in their interpreting and to be non-judgmental about the content of the communication. There was much discussion about a news item concerning Missouri interpreter who refused to sign profanity. Those attending the Sioux City workshop saw this as a violation of impartiality and faithfulness to translations.

Other issues discussed were appropriate dress and manner for the interpreter. Participants were advised to dress according to the setting and circumstances that the interpreting was to take place. Women were instructed not to call attention to their appearance with excessive jewelry and makeup. Men were advised to trim facial hair to

permit ease in viewing lip movements.

The DSCI compiled an excellent manual for the workshop. It features a program outline, relevant sections of the Iowa Code, rulings on the qualifications and compensation of interpreters, summaries of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and a listing of interpreting resources. To request a copy of this manual contact Janice Hawkins, Consultant, Deaf Services Commission of Iowa, Iowa Dept. of Human Rights, Ground Floor, Lucas State Office Bldg, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 515-281-3164 Voice/TDD.



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AWARENESS BEGINS AT HOME

At the American Library Association convention in July in New Orleans, librarians attended a workshop aimed at raising their consciousness about serving deaf patrons.

Billy Seago, an actor from Seattle and member of the National Theatre of the Deaf, started the program with a signed folk tale. His presentation was a wonderful display of his talent and the beauty of Sign Language. He told the fable of how the sun proved stronger than the wind by creating change in a man through love and openness.

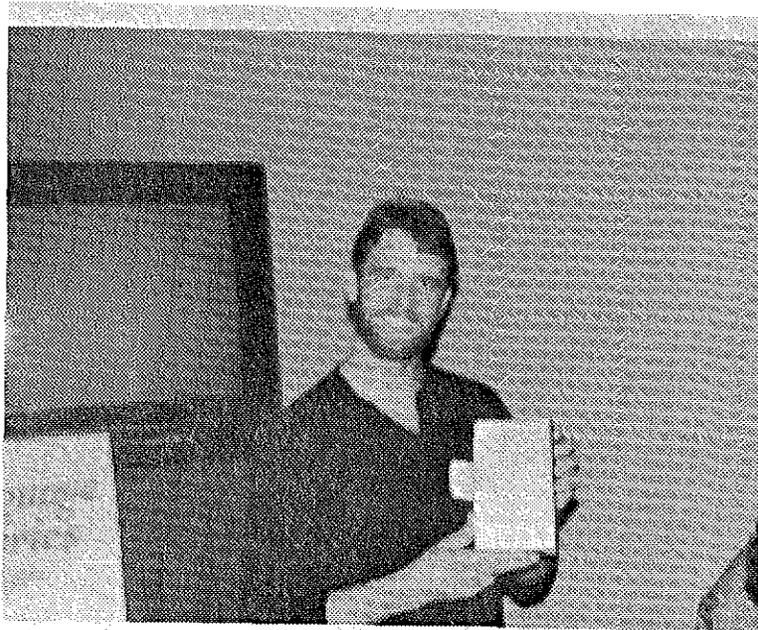
Alice Hagemayer, Librarian for the Deaf Community, District of Columbia Public Library, spoke at length on myths about the deaf. She described 11 myths and facts about the deaf. Myth 8 states "Libraries are of no use to deaf people who cannot read and write." Her response was that 98% of the parents and guardians of deaf children who use the library are hearing. Additionally some of these parents and guardians use the library as their first source for information to help them manage with their child's deafness. Many hearing and nonhearing members of the deaf community are not aware of the language, culture and history of deaf people. And lastly there are some libraries that have built good collections on deafness and deaf culture but parents and the public do not know about them. A four page leaflet prepared by FOLDA (The Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action) and distributed at the meeting describes these eleven myths and the real facts behind them.

The FOLDA handout was only one of many helpful resources that was shared that day. There was a brochure on ACCESS, a federally funded program of the Eastern Shore Regional Library in Maryland. Eight county libraries in this region were provided tdds, had meeting rooms equiped with FM sound or audio loop systems, and were given books,

brochures, pamphlets, and posters on hearing impairment and deafness.

The video, "Sensitivity to the Disable Patron" was promoted. It showed how libraries can best meet the needs of patrons with hearing, vision and mobility disabilities. This video was produced by the Library Video Network and the Howard County Library in Maryland. It is available from ALA Video in Chicago. Other videos on display were those by Sign-a-Vision of Seattle, Washington. Their Visual Tales is a series of five children stories in sign language by program keynoter, Billy Seago.

Also promoted was "Growing Together: Information for Parents of Hearing Impaired Children." Prepared by National Information Center on Deafness at Gallaudet University, the \$6.00 packet includes information on acceptance, amplification devices, books for parents, education, discipline, newly diagnosed deaf children and other topics.



Billy Seago holds a copy of the video The House that Jack Built. This video is available from the Northwest Regional Library.

GROWING LIST OF LIBRARIES PROVIDING DEAF SERVICES

In the April 1988 issue of Silent News, Alice Hagemayer reported that only nine library systems throughout the nation have employees with the full responsibility of providing services to the deaf community. The list includes the State Libraries of Tennessee and New Jersey and District of Columbia. City, county, and regional libraries with staff exclusively working with the deaf are San Francisco, Chicago, Baltimore, Westerville, Ohio; Montgomery County (Md) and Northwest Regional Library in Sioux City, Iowa.

While the above may have staff members who have the singular task of providing services to the deaf community, the recent ALA convention and a review of the library literature shows there is an increasing number of libraries nationwide who are or soon will be reaching out to the nation's deaf. For example, the Bettendorf, Iowa Library recently received Library Services Construction Act (LSCA) monies to purchase closed captioned videos, books and other materials. In addition funding is being provided to hire a part-time coordinator/interpreter for the library.

The Brooklyn, NY Public Library has a tdd reference service which provides information about jobs as well as educational and training opportunities. In the January 1988 Library Journal was a report that the Queen's NY Library celebrated Deaf Heritage Month with programs examining deaf culture and the information needs of the deaf. "A discussion of the legal issues of the Constitution was signed by deaf attorney Michael Schwartz, the Little Theatre of the Deaf offered performances, and a program exploring deaf culture and sign language was presented for both deaf and hearing audiences."

Also, during December's Deaf Awareness Month it was reported in March's Wilson Library Bulletin that Newark, NJ sponsored a "Hearing Ear Dog" program. There was a demonstration on how specially trained dogs can assist deaf people in their daily life. Library Administrator Digest reported that Hennepin County Library in Minnesota has a collection of some 150 closed captioned videos while Broward and Manatee counties in Florida do a heavy business in closed captioned videos.

NEWS ROUND UP

SILENT NETWORK ADDED TO SOOLAND..... Pictured right is Russ Gifford (l) and Sam Attolico of Sooland Cable reviewing news release with Ileen Dunnington about Sooland Cablecom adding Silent Network to its program schedule. The seven year old Silent Network is the only national network providing programming in American Sign Language, open captioned (no decoder needed) and normal sound, making it totally accessible to both deaf and hearing viewers. The network features 4 different programs; "Festival", an educational children's series; "Off Hand", an informational/celebrity interview series; "A Partnership with Man",



series on dogs that work with people for a living; and "Say it With Sign", an instructional program on sign language.

The Silent Network can be seen on Cable Channel 12, Tuesday thru Friday, 5PM to 5:30 PM and Saturday 7PM to 9PM.

FREE-LOAN CAPTIONED MOVIES AVAILABLE
The NAD has recently announced that it has received a 3 year grant from the U.S. Dept. of Education to screen and evaluate movies for the free-loan Captioned-Film Program.

Deaf people can participate in the program, which enables them to watch many of the latest films which are open captioned. There is a large assortment of new films that are open captioned, do not need a decoder, can be viewed with a VCR & are available on a free basis with the viewer only paying the shipping. For an application and complimentary catalog of movies available contact: Captioned Films for the Deaf, 5000 Park Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33709.

UPCOMING EVENTS.....

August 4, 1988: "Making Libraries Accessible to the Deaf Community." This program is sponsored by the State Library of Alabama and will be held at the State Library offices in Montgomery. Featured speakers are Alice Hagemayer, Senator Gerald Dial, a sponsor of funding in that state for tdds in libraries; Mark Skelton, Regional Director for the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind; Hugh Lewis, Gallaudet Regional Center, Flager College, St. Augustine, Florida; and Mark Barlow, Library Assistant, Birmingham Public Library.

August 11-13, 1988: "Expanding Horizons" is a Registry of Intrepretors for the Deaf workshop which will be held at Ramada Inn in Denver, Colorado. Sessions include Performing Arts Interpreting; Marketing and Business Strategies;

Panel on Ethical Dilemmas, and Educational Interpreting. For additional information contact Ann Topliff or Lynda Rimmel, Interpreting Training Program, Front Range Community College, 3645 W. 112th Avenue, Westminster, Co. 80030 (303) 466-8811.

August 15-19, 1988: MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD will be closed-captioned for the hearing impaired as the 1988-1989 season begins, the program's 21st on PBS. Captioning begins with MISTER ROGERS GOES TO SCHOOL, a week-long dedicated to helping children as they start school.

September 24, 1988: "Deaf Awareness Walk-a-Thon and Deaf Awareness Day at Adventureland in Des Moines." These two events begin at 8:00 AM with a five mile walk from Southridge Mall to the State Capitol. At 1:00 PM people will be going to Adventureland with a 7:30 PM social at the Hub on the Adventureland campgrounds. For additional information contact Don Miksell c/o Deaf Awareness Committee P.O. Box 35541 Des Moines, Ia. 50315 (515) 279-5437 TDD, 246-6596 Voice.

October 14-15, 1988: "Deafness and Mental Health Symposium: Bringing It All Together." The program sponsored by DSCI and funded by an Iowa Humanities Grant will feature lecturers in deaf literature, culture, and ethics of interpreting.

NEW FILMS AVAILABLE FROM NORTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

170. Sign-Me-A-Story
171. Remarkable Rocket
172. Little Mermaid
173. Happy Prince
174. Selfish Giant
177. Say It By Signing
178. Greenthumb's Guide to Gardening
179. Name of the Rose
180. Coca Cola Kid
181. Beverly Hills Cop
182. Power
183. Stand By Me
184. For a Few Dollars More
185. Mosquito Coast
186. Women in Business
187. Hitcher
188. We Are the World
189. Vision Quest
190. Boy Who Could FLY
191. Ladyhawke
192. Blue Velvet
193. Gronmies
194. Aliens
195. Pale Rider
196. Crimes of the Heart
197. Irreconcilable Differences
198. View to Kill
199. Friday the 13th Part VI

