



Welcome to Deaf Services Commission of Iowa



"Equal Communication, Education, and Access"

# SIGN of the TIMES

JANUARY 2007

## COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES

### AUGUST "Gus" CORDERO



Here we are at the beginning of a New Year. 2007! This is the time of the year when everyone looks ahead making plans, goals, and resolutions for the new year's beginning.

These may be new ways to eat or exercise, may be plans for home renovations, may be new things you want to learn, may be new ways to reach out to other people who have needs due to poverty, may be new ways to share with other people. There are many ways we might want to improve ourselves. When we enter the new year, we might also be reflecting on the past. As I reflect on my life 's journey, and growth of the Deaf Service Commission of Iowa, I realize that I have had the opportunity to watch the growth and development of DSCI and its service to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community for about 20 years. I was pleased to be chosen to join the DSCI. I look forward to learning new avenues of service in the state of Iowa. While I have had the pleasure of working with state in the area of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, I look forward to serving the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community in new ways through my involvement with DSCI. DSCI has several areas of emphasis such as adult services, youth services, collaboration with the interpreting communities. I firmly believe that as we work together to develop and expand interpreting services for the D/HH, we provide a channel for D/HH members to be given more access to higher education and new opportunities for career development informed medical care, spiritual growth/training and opportunities for wellness. I feel motivated and eager to work together to provide services for Deaf/HH community. I will close my message to you at this time merely saying that I look forward to the opportunity to serve.

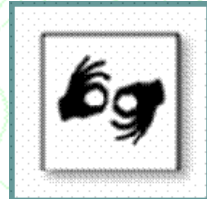
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**JANUARY 1/13: 8:30 am - 4 pm** - Medical Vocabulary Class Series—Admission and Social Work" located at Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines  
**1/20: 10 am - 3 pm** - Empowerment Workshop located at Crown Point Community Center, 6300 Pioneer Parkway, Johnston, presented by DSCI, Barb Jones and IAD, Don Miksell.

## NEWS

### CONTRACTUAL PROGRAM

FUNDING FOR EVENTS NOT COVERED BY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW.



#### WHAT IS THIS PROGRAM?

This program is available to help purchase interpreting services for events such as funerals, weddings, etc. This program has limited funds each year. It can only be used for events not covered by the State or Federal law such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Each fiscal year the DSCI Commission sets a dollar limit that can be requested for each event. For June 30, 2006 through July 1, 2007, the dollar limit is \$150.00. There are limited funds available each year. Requests are taken on a first come, first served basis. When the funds are gone, the program ends until the next fiscal year.

#### HOW DOES IT WORK?

There are 5 steps.

1. Contact DSCI:

Toll Free Phone: 1-888-221-3724 V/TTY

Phone: 515-281-3164 V/TTY

Fax: 515-242-6119

E-mail: [dhr.dsci@iowa.gov](mailto:dhr.dsci@iowa.gov)

2. Tell DSCI that you would like to have assistance paying for an interpreter. Tell DSCI what the event is, when it is, where it is, and who is Deaf that will be attending.

3. Contact and choose an interpreter that you prefer. You must choose an interpreter that is qualified by the State of Iowa, List is available on DSCI's website.

4. **\*IMPORTANT\*** Remember to tell the interpreter to contact DSCI and tell us that he/she has been hired by you for your event. DSCI will send out a letter to the interpreter saying that we will pay up to, but not more than, \$150.00 for this event. **Anything over and above the \$150.00 would be the responsibility of the hiring family or party.**

5. **Follow-up with both the Interpreter and DSCI to make sure that both have been contacted.**

Visit the DSCI website: <http://www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/ds/index.html>

Questions or Comments?

Email us at [dhr.dsci@iowa.gov](mailto:dhr.dsci@iowa.gov) or call 515-281-3164 V/TTY or Toll-Free: 1-888-221-3724 V/TTY