



Welcome to Deaf Services Commission of Iowa



"Equal Communication, Education, and Access"

# SIGN of the TIMES

July / August 2006

## COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES



### Jan Fletcher, Chairperson

I talked with staff at Great River Medical Center (GRMC) in West Burlington, Iowa about how it'd be a good idea to hire a staff interpreter. However, the only disadvantage is that there are not very many deaf patients at GRMC like Mercy Hospital in Des Moines does. That did not provide a good justification to hire a staff interpreter. In spite of this, they do call for an interpreter when a deaf patient requests for one.

I want to remind you there will be the 125th Anniversary for IAD on August 26th. For those who plan to attend the IAD Board meeting from 9-12, please also attend our DSCI meeting from 1-3. If you have any suggestions, concerns or questions, this would be a good opportunity for you to bring it to the DSCI Commission. I ask you, deaf people in Iowa, to please help express your needs and desires. That way we will know and can try to accomplish our mission. Please help fight for your rights, we are entitled to have equal opportunities and rights as much as everyone else. The DHR 20th Anniversary at Drake University with theme, "Prejudice isn't Welcome" that was supposed to take its place on June 30th had been postponed to a later date. It will be announced once it is set up with firm date. I still encourage you to attend this event as Congressman John Lewis and Governor Vilsack will be speaking. Our DSCI Administrator, Kathryn Baumann-Reese, will also brief about DSCI and plan to introduce the Commissioners. Let's give DSCI our support and also it would be a great experience for us and a great opportunity to see diversity of people there.

## NEWS

DSCI offices have been reconfigured. There is more space in the offices, the library has been moved, and an office for clerical staff has been set up. DSCI is in the same location, just rearranged.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JULY

- 7/3-8: 13th Annual Deaf Pilots Association Fly-In at South Sioux City, NE
- 7/8: Deaf Breakfast Brunch Day 8a.m. -2 p.m. at APWU, Des Moines

### AUGUST

- 8/5: Deaf Ice Cream Day 1-9 p.m. at APWU, Des Moines
- 8/21: Meeting of Iowa Board of Interpreter Examiners, Des Moines
- 8/26: IAD Board Meeting
- 8/26: DSCI Commission Meeting
- 8/26: IAD 125th Anniversary Banquet in Des Moines

## MEDICARE CONSUMER FRAUD ALERT

There are tips for People with Medicare to Protect against Scams information available on our website:

<http://www.state.ia.us/government/dhr/ds/Webpages/NEW.What%27s%20New.htm>

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