

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL  
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
Quarterly Council Meeting**

Wednesday, November 1, 2017 – Thursday, November 2, 2017

**MINUTES**

CART Captioning by [www.VolusiaReporting.com](http://www.VolusiaReporting.com)  
CART Captioner: Mary Graybosch, RPR, CRR, CRC

**Call to Order and Roll Call:** 9:00 A.M. EST

*Council members present:* Debbe Hagner, Glenna Ashton, Chris Littlewood, Mary Hodges, Darlene Laibl-Crowe, John Jackson, Karen Goldberg, Gina Halliburton, Cecil Bradley

*Via phone & Chat:* Cindy Simon, Debra Knox, Rosie Finigan, Julie Church

*Staff present:* Michele Franklin, Megan Callahan, Kim Ingram

*Presenters:* Dr. Sherry Shaw – UNF’s ASL/English Interpreting Program; Tyler Morris – Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC)

**Staff Updates:**

*Megan Callahan* – Presented a follow up of action items from the previous meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

*Web Committee* – Requested that the Council send any updates for the website that are needed; Committee will have a meeting via conference call before next meeting

*Technology Committee* – Reported that the PSA is still being worked on and Megan will send any updates that are received.

*Education/Medical/Outreach (EMO) Committee* – Reported that the quarterly letter from the May & August meetings was sent; the letters will be mailed via “snail mail” as well as email.

*Legislative Committee* – No Update Provided.

*Department of Children and families (DCF)* – No update provided.

*Budget Committee* – Reported that a new Council budget for the 2017-18 FY has been made.

*Biennial Report Committee* – began discussing the 2019 report layout and content. It was decided that the format would stay the same, more statistics should be included, and background info needs to be added to the website (i.e. scenarios).

## **Presentations:**

*Dr. Sherry Shaw (UNF's ASL/English Interpreting Program)* – Dr. Shaw presented on the various interpreting programs they offer at UNF as well as the Deaf Education Program offered. In 2007, UNF started their Interpreting Program which, at that time, was only the last two years of the Bachelor's Degree. Today, UNF offers a Bachelor's and two Master's programs, as well as a two-plus-two program which allows students to transfer from any of the three associates programs in the state and continue to get their Bachelor's. Their two Master's programs are the Master's in General Practice and the Master's Pedagogy (teaching the interpreting process). Dr. Shaw mentioned that the language of instruction is strictly ASL. This is to make sure that the students are able to process both ASL and English simultaneously and also helps for proficient training. As for UNF's Deaf Education Program, it is only one of two in the state.

*Tyler Morris (ILRC)* – Mr. Morris presented on the Independent Living Resource Center (located in Jacksonville, FL) giving the Council an overview of the ILRC and what they do locally in Jacksonville. The ILRC provides services to the five counties of Northeast Florida; Clay, Duval, St. Johns, Nassau, and Baker. Every Center for Independent Living around the state offers different services based on what the community needs specifically. The services that the ILRC offers falls under three categories; access, communication, employment. Mr. Morris noted that the ILRC is cross disability based meaning they serve everyone regardless of their disability. This allows them to serve any and all disabilities in the community. The top five services provided by the ILRC are as follows: vocational (getting people jobs), youth transition (transitioning into post-secondary education or technical careers), personal assistance services, assistive technology (FTRI), and advocacy and legal services. They also offer what is called the temporary loan closet. The temporary loan closet loans durable medical equipment to people that are in need whether it's a short-term or long-term disability. They also have a Youth Advisory Council composed of individuals with disabilities that advocates for the rights of people with disabilities. The last thing Ms. James mentioned was the certification exam for interpreters and how, even with this exam, there are still interpreters who should not be certified.

## **Public Comment:**

*DJ James (Postal Worker)*: Ms. James spoke about employment and the entrance exam that is required pre-hire, not only for the post office but other jobs as well. The entrance exam requires a high reading level that some individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may not obtain making the entrance exam difficult. She also mentioned that individuals who are hard of hearing believe they can take jobs that require speaking on the phone but supervisors are not aware of the different technologies, such as CapTel, that would allow said individual to work on the phone. Because employers may not be aware of this technology it is hindering individuals who are hard of hearing from being placed in these jobs.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held in Tallahassee on February 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018; location: Betty Easley Conference Center, Room 182, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, FL 32399

### **Exhibit Discussion:**

The Council will not hold its own exhibit but instead will attend other exhibits. Council members are to inform Megan Callahan of any exhibits they discover that they believe Council attendance would be beneficial at. Megan will then pass this information on to Glenna Ashton.

### **Legislative Visits Discussion:**

Visits to local legislators and visits to the Capitol were discussed. Five Council members have volunteered to visit with legislators at the Capitol the day before the meeting (Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>). These members are Glenna Ashton, Debbe Hagner, Karen Goldberg, Julie Church, and Cindy Simon. They will arrive in Tallahassee on the night of Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> and will schedule visits for Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Action Items:**

1. Send additional resources for phone calls – Karen Goldberg & Cecil Bradley
2. Send email & “snail mail” for EMO quarterly letters – DOH Staff
3. Send copy of 2017 Biennial Report to legislators – DOH Staff
4. Look up HB135 and send to members – Glenna Ashton & Megan Callahan
5. Secure hotel for Feb. Meeting & add rooms for those visiting legislators – DOH Staff
6. Inform Travel Coordinator of upcoming meetings to secure hotels – DOH Staff
7. Look into printing extra copies of the 2017 Biennial Report – DOH Staff
8. Send Megan events that would be beneficial for Council attendance – All Council Members
9. Figure out how much help the Council can offer for writing bills – DOH Staff
10. Arrange conference call meetings before Feb. meeting – Committee Chairs
11. Send members video of Manatee County interpreter – Glenna Ashton & Megan Callahan
12. Resend legislative talking points – Megan Callahan
13. Review local voting cards to see which voting district, county, and representatives are local – All Council Members
14. Invite Sharon Caserta to Feb. Meeting – Glenna Ashton
15. Write letter inviting Governor Scott to Tallahassee meeting – Glenna Ashton
16. Look up Council’s Strategic Plan – Darlene Laibl-Crowe