

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL  
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
Quarterly Council Meeting**  
Thursday, February 8, 2018 – Friday, February 9, 2018

**MINUTES**

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CART Captioner: Lisa B. Johnston, RMR, CRR, CRC

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

*Council members present:* Debbe Hagner, Glenna Ashton, Donna Drake, Chris Littlewood, Cecil Bradley, John Jackson, Karen Goldberg, Debra Knox, Eugenia Halliburton,

*Via phone & Chat:* Julie Church, Cindy Simon, Darlene Laibl-Crowe

*Staff present:* Shay Chapman, Megan Callahan, Shayla Kelly

*Presenters (Website Q&A):* David Blodgett (Division of Community Health Promotion System Administrator) & Joshua Ellis (Department of Health Webmaster)

**Staff Updates:**

*Shay Chapman* – Introduced Shayla Kelly, Shay's new assistant, to the Council.

**Committee Reports:**

*Web Committee* – Reported that new co-chairs have been established for this Committee (Darlene Laibl-Crowe & Debbe Hagner); requested that any updates/changes or new resources to add be sent to Megan, as has been done in the past.

*Technology Committee* – Reported that the veteran with hearing loss due to serving has been located and James and his team will travel to South Florida to film; a report consisting of four possibilities for future PSAs was included in the meeting binders and was discussed. It was decided that suggestions/decisions be emailed to Megan.

*Education/Medical/Outreach (EMO) Committee* – Reported that a very short conference call meeting was held and that a OneDrive has been set up.

*Legislative Committee* – Reported on Legislative Visits that took place the day prior. Information on this discussion is below.

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

*Budget Committee* – Reported that the Council has spent \$53, 324.04 which means the remaining balance left to spend is approximately \$80,000. The Council will use some of that money to travel to and exhibit at the Family Café conference in June.

*Biennial Report Committee* – No update provided.

### **Presentations:**

*David Blodgett (System administrator) & Joshua Ellis (DOH Webmaster):* David and Joshua attended the meeting for a website Q&A. Questions pertained to topics such as website accessibility, the website being mobile friendly, and how a form can be placed on the website for quick questions and comments to be submitted by members of the public. The web team is continuously working to make all of the Department's websites accessible and are always open to receive feedback from the Council regarding this. Megan Callahan is the Council's webmaster and is working with David and Joshua on any requests that come along.

### **Public Comment:**

*Reverend Mark Erlichman (Agency for Deaf Advocacy and Services Director)* – Reverend Erlichman recently moved to Crestview, FL from Maryland in 2016 where he was involved in deaf advocacy and prison ministry for over ten years. He is also on the board for an organization called HEARD (Helping to Advance the Education to the Deaf) for which he has served for seven years and was a past president. He attended the meeting to share some of what he has learned, discovered, and experienced since moving to Florida, including the two priorities he has noticed. The first one being the self-advocacy and empowerment of individuals who are deaf. This includes education for employers and families of individuals who are deaf. The second priority being an educational interpreting system considering the state does not require a certain standard for qualified interpreters and better communication access.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held in Ocala, FL on May 10-11, 2018. The location is the Hilton Ocala, 3600 SW 36<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ocala, FL, 34474.

### **Legislative Visits Discussion:**

Glenna Ashton, Donna Drake, and Karen Goldberg went and visited legislators in Tallahassee on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. They had a total of 14 appointments spread out from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. The legislators visited were Rep. Joseph Abruzzo, Rep. Bill Hager, Rep. Richard Stark, Rep. Amy Mercado, Rep. Evan Jenne, Rep. David Silvers, Rep. J. Cortes, Sen. Kevin Rader, Rep. Katie Edwards-Walpole, Sen. Greg Steube, Sen. Lauren Book, Sen. Travis Hutson, and Rep. Joseph Geller. They met with these specific legislators due to their support on the five bills related to Floridians who are deaf. Major bills that were discussed were the text to 911 bill as well as a bill for emergency announcements and the TV interpreters being used. Other bill-related discussions were had including the bills that were changing terminologies to match the ADA definitions of a disability so it will apply more broadly. There was also a discussion

regarding a bill that, if passed, will cover the cost for children's hearing aids. Adam Ledo, Florida Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (FRID) spoke on behalf of the emergency interpreting bill stating that he had a meeting with the representative who is sponsoring the bill. All that is being done is amending the existing statute to change the rules and requirements for the Division of Emergency Management to provide a qualified interpreter during these emergency broadcasts, defining "qualified interpreter" to be certified through the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID).

### **Action Items:**

1. Create a "Public Comment" form for Family Café – Megan Callahan
2. Complete the Family Café registration form – Megan Callahan
3. Create templates for the different committees – Committee Chairs
4. Think of future PSA recommendations and send them to Megan – All Council Members
5. Look into printing 150 more reports – Megan Callahan
6. Email picture of exhibit table materials – Megan Callahan
7. Create a flyer with upcoming Council meetings for Family Café – Megan Callahan
8. Send Megan any suggestions or revisions for the website – All Council Members
9. Create a "Contact the Council" form for the website – Megan Callahan & David Blodgett
10. Provide Council with Google Analytics report at the end of each month – Megan Callahan
11. Email Megan regarding the links on the website while viewing on a mobile device – Chris Littlewood
12. Change "Florida Replay" wording on website to "Florida Relay" – Megan Callahan
13. Update "Feature Video" Hyperlink on website – Megan Callahan
14. Create a OneDrive for the 2019 Biennial Report – Megan Callahan
15. Contact colleagues that work for FEMA regarding information about NG911 – Chris Littlewood
16. Send updated text-to-911 spreadsheet monthly – Megan Callahan
17. Send the legislators visited a follow-up and 'thank you' – Glenna Ashton
18. Provide Cecil an updated budget in April - Megan Callahan
19. Send Megan all documents being uploaded in the EMO OneDrive for Darlene's review – EMO Committee Members
20. Send Megan hotel suggestions for the August meeting in Palm Beach County – Glenna Ashton
21. Check if Council can take a public position on bills – DOH Staff