

**FLORIDA COORDINATING COUNCIL  
FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
Virtual Quarterly Meeting  
Friday, November 4, 2022  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Mary Hodges (FDOEA), Cindy Simon (Audiologists), Glenna Ashton (FAD), Chris Littlewood (ALDA), Cory Parker (DOE/VR), Karen Goldberg (HLAA), Gina Halliburton (FRID)

**Members Present on Zoom:** Debbe Hagner (HLAA)

**Department of Health Staff:** Sean Isaac, Angie Green, Khyati Master

**Service Providers:** Brenda Stansbury, Chris Costa, April Perry, and Kelly Gagain (Interpreters), Tammy Milcowitz (CART), La'Shay Lewis (A/V), Patrick Langan (A/V)

**Online Providers:** Janelle Barnes and Cori Jacobs (Interpreters on Zoom)

**Staff Updates:**

**Organization Updates:**

**Committee Updates:**

Biennial Report committee:

1. The report needs to minimize passive writing.
2. The report needs to include new information.
3. The report should include how many counties have *Text to 911*.
4. The report should be consistent spelling the word deaf/Deaf.
5. If expanded to 6 pages, it could include: statistics and a graph, a senior section and OTC section, which could be highlighted. The report could be produced as a trifold.
6. The report should use the Medicare/Medicaid and the OTC hearing aids parts of Mary Hodges article for the Department of Elder Affairs.
7. The FCCDHH would like to set up survey monkey to set up a date for a committee meeting.
8. The FCCDHH could use Teams for their meetings.

**Presentation:** Florida Hands and Voices (FHV) – Becca Moreau

What works for your child is what makes it the right choice. FHV is “part of a 26-year-old globally recognized non-profit organization that provides resources, peer support and advocacy in an unbiased manner to families with children who are deaf and hard of hearing.” More than 51% of the leadership at Hands & Voices are parents of deaf and hard of hearing children. Five out of eight board members have deaf or hard of hearing children. Some newborns who don't pass their hearing tests are told “don't worry” it's probably amniotic fluid, etc. “More than 40 percent of children with hearing differences have additional exceptionalities, according to Gallaudet University in 2015. Generally, these children are identified as Deaf Plus.” Emerson Hospital says fathers can experience heightened anxiety, depressions, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

(OCD) or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) with paternal post-natal depression. Mothers can experience feeling worried, overwhelmed, sad and self-blame with postpartum depression, according to Immerse.org.” With further funding the organization would like to provide family and professional directories, organized by location. They would like to provide a guide by your side, which is a trained parent of a deaf or hard of hearing child that will guide the family through the next steps after being identified with a hearing loss. Hands & Voices would like to offer ASTRA, The Advocacy Support and Training program. Hands & Voices has 2,500 followers on Facebook, as well as a 70% response rate. Its Instagram account reaches over 300 accounts every 30 days. Debbie School and Clark School are two schools that some parents go to for their child. EHDI – Early Hearing and Intervention Program – is supposed to prevent doctors from saying it’s ok, no big deal. This program is in every state. There are about 50 members. They just rebooted two months ago. They are having their first fundraiser “Freeze Your Fanny 5K.” A goal for them is to have a virtual Santa and a personal chat room to let the children speak with Santa about what they want for Christmas. One of the next goals for next year is to host a mud run.

**Public Comments:** N/A

**Bylaws discussion:** Changed to discuss the Biennial Report

**New Business:**

The FCCDHH would like someone from the Florida Commission on Ethics to come talk in February 2023 about the financial disclosure form. The FCCDHH will recap on Thursday what they learned from the legislature visit on the Wednesday before the meeting. The FCCDHH will start reaching out to representatives and senators in their home office. The FCCDHH will inform legislators about the FCCDHH and its mission to support the deaf and hard of hearing in Florida. The FCCDHH would like a refresher on the Sunshine Law with more of a question-and-answer session. The FCCDHH would like someone from the Office of Appointments to discuss Appointments.

Karen made a motion to adjourn, and Chris seconded that motion.

The meeting was adjourned.