

Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Sign Language Interpreter Management Program
Proudly Presents

COMMUNITY TOWN HALLS
**You, Your Health Care Provider, Your Interpreter:
A Healthy Partnership**

Do you:

- Want better communication with your health care providers?
- Know your rights and responsibilities?
- Need help requesting interpreters from your doctor's office or the hospital?

Who should come:

- Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing community members
- Family members and interpreters are welcome to attend

SPOKANE

Thursday, May 15, 2008
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Where:
Spokane Community College
1810 North Green Street
Spokane, WA 99223
Little Foot Room

SEATTLE

Saturday, May 17, 2008
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Where:
Silver Cloud Inn
1100 Broadway
Seattle, WA 98122
Broadway Room

Town Halls Presented by:
The DeafDOC.org with Drs. Carolyn Stern & Elizabeth Finigan

Town Halls will be presented in ASL.

To request Voice Interpreting, Tactile/Close-Up Interpreting, CART, or Assistive Listening Devices, please contact ODHH by: *May 9, 2008.*

Email: signlanguageinterpreters@dshs.wa.gov or Phone: (800) 422-7930 V/TTY

***Please join us for these
FREE events!***





About the Presenters:

Carolyn Stern, MD, is a board-certified Family Physician. Deaf from birth, she obtained her undergraduate training at Case Western Reserve University and her medical degree from Northwestern University. Currently, she provides primary care services to Deaf/Hard of Hearing and hearing patients at Rochester School for the Deaf and Gallaudet University. She is also CEO of www.deafdoc.org, a partnership developed to improve health literacy for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community. We provide professional development to better prepare interpreters for practice in the medical setting. Deafdoc.org also consults with healthcare providers and systems to improve communication access and develop successful partnerships with interpreters.

Additionally, she serves as a role model and consultant to Federal, State and local organizations including the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), State Medical Organizations, New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), The National Center for Deaf Health Research (NCDHR), State Associations of the Deaf, Gallaudet University, Rochester School for the Deaf (RSD), and the Rochester Institute of Technology/ National Technical Institute for the Deaf (RIT/NTID).

She is known internationally for her testimony before the Ministry of Health and Welfare in Japan where she advocated for the rights of Japanese Deaf people to become licensed health care professionals. She presented at the Tianjin University of Technology/Pen International: All-China Higher Education Conference on "Healthcare and the Deaf Postsecondary Student: Observations and Educational Impact." Closer to home, Dr. Stern is actively involved in the Rochester, New York, Community Interpreter Grant Project, providing monthly workshops on Human Body Systems.

Elizabeth G. (Betsy) Finigan, MD, is a Board Certified Family Physician. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Massachusetts where she began her career as an interpreter. She attended one of the first Regional Interpreter Training Programs for the Deaf in Tucson, Arizona in 1981. She earned a Transliterator Certificate from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf and began her career as a teacher at the Arizona State School for the Deaf and the Blind. She was an interpreter and interpreter coordinator at the Deaf Counseling, Advocacy and Referral Agency (DCARA) in San Mateo, California for before leaving Deaf services to attend the Medical College of Wisconsin.

At this time, Dr. Finigan is a departmental fellow at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry (URSMD) where she divides her time between the National Center for Deaf Health Research (NCDHR), the Family Medicine Residency Program at the URSMD and her clinical practice at Westside Health Services. As part of the NCDHR Research Committee, she assists in the translation of national health behavior surveys into American Sign Language and English based sign. She participates in the computer-interface design, testing and film production of the Deaf health behavior survey.