



Washington State
Department of Social
& Health Services



ODHH Symposium: Past, Present, Future

Friday November 13, 2009

Agenda

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome – James ‘Dino’ Christianson, Master of Ceremonies
- 9:10 a.m. Past: “Pre-1979” – Allie Joiner, Founding Member
- 9:30 a.m. Past: “1979-2003” – Leon Curtis, Retired ODHH Director
- 9:50 a.m. Past: “2003-2009” – Eric Raff, ODHH Director
- 10:00 a.m. Present: “One Department, One Vision, One Mission, One Core Set of Values” – Tracy Guerin, DSHS Chief of Staff
- 10:30 a.m. Present & Future: “What ODHH is Doing” – Eric Raff, ODHH Director
- 10:45 a.m. Break
- 11:00 a.m. Future: “Breakout Sessions” <OR> Lobby Exhibits
 - Education
 - Court Interpreting
 - Early Intervention
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch Break (*not provided, cafeteria is nearby*)
- 1:30 p.m. Future: “Breakout Sessions” <OR> ODHH Open House
 - Employment
 - ADA Title II: State Government
 - Mental Health
- 3:00 p.m. Adjourn

ODHH Symposium

About the Breakout Sessions

Presentations and suggested areas to discuss

- 1) What are the unmet needs and barriers?
- 2) What have we been doing and where are we now?
- 3) What policy changes are needed? (e.g. laws, regulations and policies)
- 4) What resources are needed? (e.g. funding, staff, training)

11:00 am – 12:30 PM

SESSION 1	LEAD AGENCY
Education	Office of Governor/Center for Childhood Deafness and Hearing Loss
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESSHB1879 • Statewide service availability and gaps 	

About Education – A law was signed which establishes the Washington State Center for Childhood Deafness and Hearing Loss (CDHL) and maintains the Washington School for the Deaf (WSD) as a residential school located in Vancouver. The role of CDHL is to research and identify existing strengths and gaps in the current statewide service delivery model for children. It authorizes CDHL to establish pilot sites, one of which must be in eastern Washington, to provide educational service regardless of communication modality. To accomplish these goals, a core group has been formed and stakeholder meetings will be conducted. All findings and recommendations generated through the process will be reviewed by the CDHL Board of Trustees. The Board will present its final recommendations to the legislature December 1, 2010.

SESSION 2	LEAD AGENCY
Court Interpreting	DSHS/ODHH <u>and</u> the Administrative Office of the Courts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court Interpreting: Standards 	

About Interpreting – RCW 2.42 requires ODHH to establish standards for rates paid for court interpreters and to make available a list of interpreters to the courts upon request. ODHH partnered with the Administrative Office of the Courts to convene a workgroup of court administrators, a judge, legal interpreters, WSRID, and WSAD. The workgroup is nearing completion and will be making recommendations of what will need to be done in the future. This session is to share information and get feedback.

SESSION 3	LEAD AGENCY
Early Intervention	DSHS/Infant-Toddler Early Intervention Program <u>and</u> Department of Health, Early Hearing Loss Detection, Diagnosis and Intervention program.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newborn Hearing & Screening • Early Intervention 	

About Early Invention – Department of Health, Early Hearing Loss Detection, Diagnosis and Intervention program administers newborn hearing and screening. DOH has been addressing

gaps between diagnosis and referrals to the DSHS Infant-Toddler Early Intervention Program (ITEIP) and hosted three statewide summits on this issue. ODHH contracted with Washington Sensory Disability Services to promote partnerships between the Regional Service Centers for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and ITEIP Family Resource Coordinators as well as conduct assessments of the Centers' capacity to provide support services to families and children.

1:30 – 3:00 PM

SESSION 1	LEAD AGENCY
Employment	DSHS/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School-to-Work Transition Best Practices vs. Current Practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certified Rehabilitation Professional Employment in WA State Government

About Employment – ODHH is partnering with Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to address underemployment of people with hearing loss. Issues raised were lack of certified rehabilitation professionals proficient in sign language, rehabilitation providers not accepting DVR referrals because of accommodation costs, lack of school-to-work transition programs for youth as well as taking a look at gaps between the national Model Service Plan for Rehabilitation of Persons who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, Hard of Hearing or Late Deafened and actual practices in Washington State. Office of Diversity Affairs is working to increase the number of people with disabilities employed within DSHS.

SESSION 2	LEAD AGENCY
ADA Title II: State Government	DSHS/ODHH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasonable Accommodations Assistive Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Real-Time Captioning

About ADA Title II: State Government – The State of Washington government agencies have obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act to provide reasonable accommodations in making its' programs, services and activities accessible to persons with disabilities. For deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind, the need for effective communication is essential to allow them to participate and benefit. ODHH provides ADA-related resources, services and technical assistance to DSHS. This includes sign language interpreters, assistive listening systems, Braille, real-time captioning. ODHH is exploring whether a statewide program should be created to centralize such accommodations for all state agencies and their clients with hearing loss.

SESSION 3	LEAD AGENCY
Mental Health	DSHS/Health Recovery Services Administration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inpatient & Outpatient Counseling Individual, Couple, Family Counseling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Service Network (RSN)

About Mental Health – Issues raised were lack of accessible inpatient/outpatient services for individuals, couples and families with children. One significant issue is the geographical-jurisdictional boundaries as established for the Regional Service Network (RSN) delivery system. Various mental health agencies within RSNs lack culturally competent counselors proficient in sign language or may lack provision of reasonable accommodations. The Health Recovery Services Administration oversees the RSNs and will facilitate discussions about this and other unmet needs.