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New logo unveiled for Washington Relay service for deaf and hard of hearing residents

OLYMPIA – A new logo for the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) Washington Relay illustrates the program’s importance as a telephone connection service between a hearing person and a deaf or a hard of hearing or a deaf-blind person.

Out of field of 78 logo submissions, a panel of users picked a looped “W” design created by a deaf freelance graphic artist, Matt Daigle, from Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

“As a deaf individual and a consumer of relay services, it is a great honor to have my design symbolize communication access for the state of Washington,” said Daigle.



The symbol represents two callers conversing with the assistance of a Washington Relay operator and conveys the goal of keeping the deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind and speech-disabled in the loop.

Washington Relay serves some 25,000 people in the state who make approximately 70,000 calls a month.

Eric Raff, the director of the DSHS Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) said, “The winning logo truly symbolizes access to telecommunications for deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind people.”

Sprint, the provider of Washington Relay, coordinated the logo contest with ODHH Assistant Director Bob Lichtenberg.

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