DEAF ACCESS PROGRAM

Background

The Deaf Access Program (DAP) was created by the State Legislature to ensure that State and local government programs are adapted to meet the communication needs of individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. The DAP provides a variety of programs that help clients achieve self sufficiency and independence, and access the benefits and services to which they are entitled.

The program is administered by the California Department of Social Services’ Office of Deaf Access, which contracts with regional, non-profit agencies throughout the State to provide direct services. These agencies, staffed by individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing, have an extensive knowledge and understanding of the unique communication and service needs of the clients they serve.

A program “of, by, and for” deaf and hard of hearing persons

Services Provided

The DAP provides a comprehensive program of services to help people who are deaf and hard of hearing access services and live independently. It also strives to raise awareness and to educate the public about the specific issues surrounding deafness and hearing loss. Specific services provided include:

Advocacy Services

The DAP is committed to helping clients gain communication access equal to that enjoyed by people who can hear. Advocacy helps clients protect their right to have access to education, employment, public services, and health and safety programs. Classes are available to teach clients their rights and how to protect them.

Job Development and Placement Services

In conjunction with the Employment Development Department and the Department of Rehabilitation, providers assist clients with application preparation, interview skills, job placement, and unemployment insurance issues. In addition, they also provide information to employers on how to provide reasonable accommodation to their employees who are deaf and hard of hearing.

Information and Referral

Providers maintain extensive information on deafness, hearing loss, and sign language, as well as national, state, and local resources. Some agencies provide a printed directory of local community resources that are communication accessible.

Counseling

Individual, family, and peer counseling that is communication accessible is available for a wide range of individual or family problems. Providers either offer this service directly or refer clients to local mental health agencies.

Independent Living Skills Instruction

Providers help individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing live more independently and function more effectively within their communities through support services and education on employment preparation, housing options, money management, etc.

Community Education

This service increases public awareness and fosters an understanding of the needs of people who are deaf and hard of hearing. Community education services include workshops, information booths, training, distribution of community news and information, and the provision of informative material about deafness and sign language.
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Where to Get Services

**Deaf Community Services of San Diego, Inc.**
1545 Hotel Circle South, Suite 300
San Diego, CA  92108
(619) 398-2441 (Voice)
(619) 550-3436 (Videophone)
E-mail: info@dcsofsd.org
Website: www.deafcommunityservices.org
Serves Imperial and San Diego Counties

**Center on Deafness Inland Empire**
3576 Arlington Avenue, #211
Riverside, CA  92506
(951) 275-5000 (Voice/TTY)
(951) 801-5674 (Videophone)
E-mail: info@codie.org
Website: www.codie.org
Serves Inyo, Mono, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties

**Orange County Deaf Equal Access Foundation**
6022 Cerritos Avenue
Cypress, CA  90630
(714) 826-9793 (Voice/TTY)
(714) 503-0669 (Videophone)
E-mail: info@ocdeaf.org
Website: www.ocdeaf.org
Serves Orange County

**Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness, Inc.**
2222 Laverna Avenue
Los Angeles, CA  90041
(323) 478-8000 (Voice/TTY)
(323) 892-2225 (Videophone)
(323) 550-4226 (TTY)
E-mail: info@gladinc.org
Website: www.gladinc.org
Serves Kern and Los Angeles Counties

**Tri County-GLAD**
702 County Square Drive, Suite 101
Ventura, CA  93003
(805) 644-6322 (Voice)
(805) 256-1053 (Videophone)
(805) 644-6323 (TTY)
E-mail: info@tcglad.org Website: www.tcglad.org
Serves San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties

**Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service Center**
5340 North Fresno Street
Fresno, CA  93710
(559) 225-3323 (Voice)
(559) 408-5249 (Videophone)
E-mail: info@dhhsc.org
Website: www.dhhsc.org
Serves Kings, Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, San Benito and Tulare Counties

**NorCal Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing**
4708 Roseville Road, Suite 111
North Highlands, CA  95660
(916) 349-7500 (Voice/TTY)
(916) 993-3048 (Videophone)
(916) 550-9355 (Videophone P3)
E-mail: info@norcalcenter.org
Website: www.norcalcenter.org
Serves Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Sierra, Shasta, Siskiyou, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tuolumne, Yuba and Yolo Counties

**Deaf Counseling, Advocacy and Referral Agency**
14895 East 14th Street, Suite 200
San Leandro, CA  94578
(510) 343-6670 (Voice/Videophone)
E-mail: dcara.hq@dcara.org
Website: www.dcara.org
Serves Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma Counties

**California Department of Social Services**
Office of Deaf Access
744 P Street, MS 8-16-91
Sacramento, CA  95814
(916) 653-8320 (Voice)
(916) 653-7651 (TTY)
E-mail: deaf.access@dss.ca.gov
Website: www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/PG145.htm
It is the policy of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to ensure that all applicants/recipients are treated equally without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.