

Agency 082 - COMM FOR DEAF & HARD OF HEARING

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing was created by LB 101 in 1979 by the Nebraska Unicameral. The duties and responsibilities of the Commission can be found in revised statutes sections 71.4728-71.4728.05 and sections 20.150, 20.151, and 20-156, 2004.

VISION:

Being a proactive state agency, the Commission works towards building support, cooperation, and understanding regardless of hearing ability resulting in fairness and equality for all Nebraskans.

MISSION AND PRINCIPLES:

The mission of the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is to provide advocacy, communication access and information to enhance awareness and services for improving the quality of life for all who experience hearing loss. The main principles are to collect data and disseminate information on Nebraskans who have a hearing loss, participate in research in the area of deafness; support communication processes, inventory, monitor and assess services available to people who are hard of hearing or deaf, and advocate for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to public, private and non-profit organizations and businesses, and to the general public..

GOALS:

1. Provide services and training to promote awareness by delivering programs that empower Deaf and Hard of Hearing Nebraskans.
2. Implement programs working with consumer groups, government branches, service providers, and agencies.
3. Collect and disseminate information on deafness and hearing loss.
4. Ensure full access to comprehensive mental health, alcoholism and substance abuse services for deaf and hard of hearing persons with DHHS and all other behavioral health service providers.
5. Ensure and implement effective access of interpreting services by collaborating with consumer groups, organizations and agencies.

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Financial Data

	FY10 Actual	FY11 Approp	FY12 Request	FY12 Recomm	FY13 Request	FY13 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	814,453	836,115	863,376	836,115	863,445	836,115
Cash Fund	13,023	12,758	23,986	23,986	18,236	18,236
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations Funding	827,476	848,873	887,362	860,101	881,681	854,351
Aid Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding						
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Program 578 - HEARING IMPAIRED

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing has completed its Strategic Planning Review and is in the midst of accomplishing its benchmarks that were established. The primary goals and activities include the following: 1) Expanding programs and services in Nebraska for persons with hearing losses; 2) Implementing new programs and services through collaboration with other entities; 3) Broadening the collection and dissemination of information on hearing loss; 4) Ensuring full access to comprehensive mental health, alcoholism and substance abuse services through collaboration with other entities such as the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), regional programs and other service providers; and 5) Reviewing existing sign language interpreter certification process.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

State statute 71-4728 states that the Commission serves as the principal state agency responsible for monitoring public policies and implementing programs which improve the quality and coordination of existing services for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Commission has as its primary objective to develop new services when necessary and recommend modifications to existing services.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Performance measures are determined through measurements of inputs and outputs and the cost of each primary activity. Inputs are based on the percent of staff time spent providing services and the cost per activity is calculated based on personnel and operating costs; outputs are based on the number of requests for services or individuals served through each primary activity as listed. Outcomes are measured based on the demand for services, accomplishments of the objectives and the percent of time spent in providing the outlined activities. Consumer service satisfaction is measured through consumer/participant satisfaction questionnaires/evaluations, surveys, intake forms and web based satisfaction/consumer complaint forms.

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