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The New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

NEW MEXICO

JUN 16 1999

STATE PUBLICATIONS
PROGRAM



**1998
Annual Report**

***Karen L. Courtney
Executive Director***

***THE NEW MEXICO
COMMISSION
FOR THE DEAF
AND
HARD OF HEARING***



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Annual Report***

***Karen L. Courtney
Executive Director***

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COMMISSION INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

The New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing was created by the New Mexico Legislature, Laws of 1991, Chapter 72. The commission consists of a seven-member Board, a majority of whom shall be deaf or hard of hearing persons, appointed by the Governor without regard for party affiliation, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The Commissioners presently comprising the Board of the New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (hereafter referred to as the "Commission") are as follows:

Ms. Peggy Davis, designated representative of the Director of the Vocational Rehabilitation Division of the State Department of Education.

Ms. Carol Zahlis, Edgewood, a professional person who is deaf or hard of hearing.

Ms. Carla Thomas, designated representative of the Superintendent of the New Mexico School for the Deaf, a deaf person.

Mrs. Lisa Urrea, Albuquerque, a parent of a deaf or hard of hearing child.

Mr. Fred B. McDonald, Roswell, a deaf or hard of hearing person residing in Southern New Mexico.

Mrs. Daisy Rice, Las Vegas, a deaf or hard of hearing person residing in Northern New Mexico

Mr. Thomas Dillon III, Santa Fe, President of the New Mexico Association of the Deaf.

OFFICERS

1997-1998

Chair - Ms. Peggy Davis
Vice Chair - Mrs. Faye Falvey
Secretary - Mrs. Daisy Rice

1998-1999

Chair - Mr. Fred B. McDonald
Vice Chair - Mr. Tom Dillon
Secretary - Mrs. Lisa Urrea

MISSION STATEMENT

"It shall be the mission of the New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to advocate for the rights to State, Federal, and Local services and accessibility for all deaf and hard of hearing persons residing in the State of New Mexico."

COMMISSION STAFFING

GOVERNOR

**COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF
AND HARD OF HEARING**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Karen L. Courtney

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
jane knox

ADMINISTRATOR III
Pablo L. Martinez

PLANNER-DIRECTOR
Kim D. Bañales

Manager II – Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program
Karen Zimmerman

Manager II – Advocacy and Outreach Services
Paul Stuessy - Sandra Vensland

Clerk-Specialist
Hazel Martinez

COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Commissioners meets a minimum of four times a year. During the 1998 calendar year, the Board's meetings were held at the following locations:

March 26, 1998	Branigan Memorial Library, Las Cruces
June 27, 1998	Clovis Community College, Clovis
August 25, 1998	Henderson Fine Arts Center, Farmington
November 21, 1998	NM Institute of Mines & Technology, Socorro

FY98 BUDGET AND AUDIT

Certified Public Accountant, Robert J. Rivera, conducted the annual audit on the Commission during October 14, 1998. The June 30, 1998 financial statements reflect the Commission's expenditures and balance sheet for the year (see Appendix A). The audit found, " the results of its (Commission's) operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Also, in my (Robert J. Rivera,) opinion, the aforementioned individual fund and account group financial statements present fairly in all material respects, the financial position of the individual fund and account groups of the Commission at June 30, 1998 and the results of operations for the fund for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles."

1998 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

INTERPRETER REFERRAL SERVICE

The Commission operates a statewide interpreter referral system. Public and private entities can request the services of sign language interpreters for the purpose of providing equal access for Deaf and Hard of Hearing consumers. The Commission also refers requests for Real-Time Captioning to professional captioning services. The Commission actively supports the development of independent interpreter referral services.

Approximately 170 interpreters throughout the state are listed with the referral service. About 130 of these interpreters are certified either by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) or by the National Association of the Deaf National Interpreter Certification Program. The interpreter referral service filled approximately 820 interpreter requests between January 1, 1998 to December 31, 1998.

INTERPRETER EVALUATION

The Commission maintains a lease on the National Association of the Deaf, National Interpreter Certification materials. In partnership with the New Mexico Association of the Deaf, interpreter evaluations are provided to interpreters throughout the state.

TTY NEWSLINE

A 1-800 TTY Newsline is maintained to broadcast announcements and other newsworthy items to TTY users in New Mexico. The access number for this 24 hour service is 1-800-USE-TTYS.

The Newsline currently has separate category files for articles relating to: school and community events; activities of clubs and organizations involved in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities; and Commission activities and meetings.

NEW MEXICO RELAY NETWORK

The New Mexico Relay Network (NMRN) provides Telecommunication Relay Services to New Mexico residents under the joint oversight of the New Mexico General Service's Department and the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION

The Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (TEDP) is a statewide program established to distribute telecommunication devices to New Mexicans who are deaf, hard of hearing and speech/voice impaired. Equipment offered on "permanent loan" during FY98 included Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TTY/TDD); Telephone Ring Signaler; Telephone Amplifier; and Uniphones (both hearing and text telephone combination.) Installation and training on the use of equipment is provided by the program.

EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Through a Joint Powers Agreement with New Mexico Technology Assistance Program, an equipment loan bank was initiated in September, 1996. Available equipment includes TTYS, Voice carry-over phones, signalers for baby cry, doorbell, as well as other telecommunications and emergency signaling devices. Equipment can be loaned to Deaf or Hard of Hearing individuals, their family members, and service providers.

The two most common reasons for equipment loans are to provide equipment to individuals who need a loaner while their equipment is being serviced and individuals who would like to try equipment before making a purchase.

To better serve the state-wide Deaf and Hard of Hearing community, cooperative agreements have been made with agencies in outlying areas for distribution and return of equipment.

STATEWIDE DEAFBLIND SERVICES

During 1998, the Commission finalized a Joint Powers Agreement with the New Mexico Commission for the Blind. This program provides statewide coordination of services delivered to Deafblind residents. A full time staff position was created by the agreement and the Commission initiated a nationwide recruitment effort.

WORKSHOPS and TOWN HALL Meetings

At the request of State agencies, private businesses and local consumer groups, the Commission conducted several workshops throughout 1998. Organizations that received training included: the State Police Academy, Santa Fe; National Forest Service, Albuquerque; St. Vincent Hospital, Santa Fe; Eastern New Mexico University, Portales.

Workshops topics consisted of general advocacy for Deaf and Hard of Hearing consumers, telecommunications access, understanding Deaf Culture, and available communication supports such as use of sign language interpreters and captioning methods.

Local consumer outreach focused on the aging population. We presented at a statewide conference sponsored by the NM State Agency on Aging about issues impacting hearing loss. Town meetings were also held to assess needs of Deaf and Hard of Hearing constituents.

911 TRAINING

The Commission, in cooperation with the Department of Finance's Local Government Division, the 911E department provides 911/TTY training for emergency number operators across the State of New Mexico. The goal of the training is to ensure that all 911 personnel know how to detect an emergency TTY call and become familiar with protocol for non-voice communication. We have trained an estimated 140 dispatchers during 1998.

At the National Emergency Number Association conference, held in Ruidoso, the Commission conducted 911/TTY refresher training. This was the second consecutive year that the Commission was asked to participate in the conference.

ADVOCACY

From its inception, one of the major activities of the Commission has been provision of educational assistance to state agencies, to ensure compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations as they pertain to deafness and hearing loss. This is ongoing, and is accomplished through workshops and technical advice to agencies.

In addition, the Commission has served as an advocate for Deaf and Hard of Hearing constituents around the state by educating the private sector concerning the requirements of ADA.

The RESOURCE

The New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing publishes a quarterly newsletter. Professional organizations involved with Deaf and Hard of Hearing populations and consumers contribute articles and items of interest. The "Resource" is the vehicle through which the Commission keeps the public informed of activities and information.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT and COALITIONS

Commission staff participates as a peer member on advisory boards and committees for community based organizations and coalitions around the state. In 1998 was active in the Statewide Independent Living Council, Southwest Center for the Hearing Impaired (renamed Methodist Family Rehabilitation Services), the New Mexico State University Deaf Education Advisory Board, New Mexico Technology Assistance Program, Community Outreach Program for the Deaf, and other organizations. The Commission collaborates with Deaf and Hard of Hearing citizens through the New Mexico Association for the Deaf and Self-Help for the Hard of Hearing state chapters.

During 1998, the Commission participated in development of a new organization, The Coalition of Service Providers for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

A Commission-appointed, legislative task force consisting of a broad-based coalition of community members, professional organizations and others developed the legislative agenda for the 1999 legislature.

INTERNET WEBSITE

One may find more detailed information about the New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing by browsing its website at:

<http://www.nmcdhh.org>

TELEPHONE NUMBERS and EMAIL ADDRESSES

COMMISSION OFFICES

TTY	(505) 827-7588
Voice	(505) 827-7584
Fax	(505) 827-7587
Fax	(505) 827-7587
Email	nmcdhha@doh.state.nm.us

Extensions	Voice	TTY	Email
Executive Director			
Karen L. Courtney	141	142	karenc@doh.state.nm.us
Deputy Director			
jane knox		132	janek@doh.state.nm.us
Planner-Director			
Kim Bañales	151	152	kimb@doh.state.nm.us
Interpreter Referral			
Hazel Martinez	101	102	hazelm@doh.state.nm.us
Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program Manager			
Vacant		112	nmcdhha@doh.state.nm.us
Advocacy and Outreach Services			
Vacant	106	107	nmcdhha@doh.state.nm.us
Administrative Services			
Pablo 'Paul' Martinez	121	122	pablom@doh.state.nm.us
Other Phone Numbers			
TTY Newsline			(800) 873-8897
Interpreter Referral			1-800 USE TTYS (800) 489-8536
New Mexico Relay Network			
TTY (to Voice)			(800) 659-8331
Voice (to TTY)			(800) 659-1779

New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
 1435 St. Francis Drive // P.O. Drawer 5138
 Santa Fe, NM 87502-5138

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING**

**Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Encumbrances
Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual -
All Governmental Fund Types (General Fund)
For the Year Ended June 30, 1998**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual Budget Basis</u>	<u>Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
Revenues: (note 13)			
State General Fund:			
General appropriation	\$ 333,800	\$ 333,800	\$ -
Interagency services	<u>81,200</u>	<u>60,890</u>	<u>(20,310)</u>
Total revenues	415,000	<u>\$ 394,690</u>	<u>\$ (20,310)</u>
Budgeted cash	<u>-</u>		
Total budgeted revenues	<u>\$ 415,000</u>		
 Expenditures: (note 13)			
Current:			
General government:			
Personal services	\$ 183,700	\$ 153,011	\$ 30,689
Employee benefits	59,500	46,803	12,697
In-state travel	17,000	12,387	4,613
Maintenance and repairs	500	399	101
Supplies	18,500	17,440	1,060
Contractual services	36,200	31,464	4,736
Operating costs	77,500	74,179	3,321
Other costs	500	-	500
Out-of-state travel	2,900	2,449	451
Capital outlay	18,600	18,014	586
Other financing uses	<u>100</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>18</u>
Total expenditures	<u>\$ 415,000</u>	<u>\$ 356,228</u>	<u>\$ 58,772</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING**

**Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups
June 30, 1998
(With Comparative Totals for June 30, 1997)**

Assets	<u>Governmental</u>	<u>Account Groups</u>		<u>Totals</u>	
	<u>Fund</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>(Memorandum Only)</u>	
	<u>Types</u>	<u>Fixed</u>	<u>Long-Term</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Debt</u>		
	<u>Fund</u>			<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
Cash (note 2)	\$ 161,219	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 161,219	\$ 149,999
General fixed assets (note 6)	-	91,756	-	91,756	75,349
Amount to be provided for retirement of long-term debt (note 7)	-	-	7,607	7,607	6,790
Total assets	\$ 161,219	\$ 91,756	\$ 7,607	\$ 260,582	\$ 232,138
 Liabilities and Fund Equity					
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable (note 3)	\$ 16,262	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,262	\$ 2,661
Accrued salaries payable (note 4)	13,441	-	-	13,441	9,802
Due to State General Fund (note 8)	42,758	-	-	42,758	45,841
Accrued compensated absences (note 7)	-	-	7,607	7,607	6,790
Total liabilities	72,461	-	7,607	80,068	65,094
 Fund Equity:					
Investment in general fixed assets (note 6)	-	91,756	-	91,756	75,349
Fund balance:					
Reserved for:					
Subsequent year expenditures (note 10)	84,456	-	-	84,456	87,048
Encumbrances (note 9)	4,302	-	-	4,302	4,647
Total fund equity	88,758	91,756	-	180,514	167,044
Total liabilities and fund equity	\$ 161,219	\$ 91,756	\$ 7,607	\$ 260,582	\$ 232,138

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.