



Position: Deaf Mentor
Reports To: Director of Operations
Classification: Full-Time Non-Exempt
Office Location: Southern Nevada Centers

Deaf Centers of Nevada agency Description

Deaf Centers of Nevada, (DCN) is a private, non-profit social service agency that serves individuals who are d/Deaf, hard of hearing, Deaf-Blind, late-deafened, and speech-impaired; their families, friends, and community service providers in the State of Nevada. Our Mission is to:

- 1) *advocate for the rights of full and equal access to education and employment and services that improve the quality of lives;*
- 2) *educate the community of the unique communicative needs, abilities, and accomplishments;*
- 3) *and serve the diverse community of Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Late-Deafened and Deaf-Blind individuals to live independently and productively.*

Summary

The Deaf Mentor will be responsible for demonstrating and teaching natural communication and language strategies to families as well and providing them with connections within the Deaf community in order to foster positive self-identity for their child, and to help family members learn about, and be comfortable within the community as well as with Deaf culture. This position reports to the Director of Operations for Youth & Family Services, and will collaborate with the Youth & Family Advocate as well as collaborate with Early Intervention Services and Nevada Hands & Voices to guide appropriate activities for the program

Tasks, Duties, and Responsibilities

- Provide families with exposure to and opportunities for learning ASL for the purpose of communicating fully and effectively with their child
- Utilize the SKI-HI Deaf Mentor Curriculum effectively, teaching parents lessons from the curriculum and helping them to apply the information in the manual throughout their daily routines. The Deaf Mentor Curriculum will be the primary platform and guide to services for families
- Assist families in creating an accessible visual environment through language development and communication facilitation
- The Deaf Mentor will partner with families to plan home visits and home visit activities, will follow the families lead as well as following the child's lead when modeling skills and interacting with the child.
- The Deaf Mentor will complete a lesson plan for every home visit they conduct and will complete a report on that visit that will be submitted in a timely manner.
- The Deaf Mentor will partner and collaborate with other Early Intervention team members on a regular basis. They will do joint visits with the Parent Advisor (SKI-HI Trained Early Intervention Provider) at least quarterly.

Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Preferred candidates have a Bachelor degree, or equivalent demonstrated experience in teaching language to families of children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing; or, previous successful experience as a Deaf Mentor

- Must be a person who is Deaf, have advanced American Sign Language (ASL) skills, and must be well-versed in language acquisition, principles of ASL best practices, and have a specialization in teaching ASL and Deaf culture.
- Ability to support families from a wide variety of backgrounds, cultural and ethnic groups without bias
- Effective interpersonal skills in both written and receptive and expressive communications
- Work independently and productively and willing to accept supervision and constructive feedback
- Ability to deal with people in a manner which shows sensitivity, tact and professionalism; communicate clearly and effectively; maintain a strict level of confidentiality.
- Preference may be given to applicants with a degree in Early Childhood Education and/or experience working with deaf/hard-of-hearing children.
- Travel is required; must have own transportation and current insurance.
- Must be willing to work a schedule that meets the needs of the families being served, including evenings and Saturdays, and be willing to participate in multiple Deaf culture events throughout the year.
- Successful completion of criminal background check is required for this position.

This position will remain open until sufficient resumes have been received, and may close at any time.