



Position: Hearing Loss Advocate
Reports To: Director of Operations
Classification: Full Time, Exempt
Office Location: Southern Nevada Center

Deaf Centers of Nevada Agency Description

Deaf Centers of Nevada, (DCN) is a private, non-profit social service agency that serves individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, and late deafened, their families, friends, and community service providers. Our Mission is to advocate, seek equality, and promote self-determination through empowerment for those who seek our assistance; and to enhance the awareness and understanding of Deaf Culture and the unique communication needs of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals.

Summary and Job Description

The Hearing Loss Advocate contributes to the success of the Deaf Centers of Nevada by serving clients who are experiencing personal, social, educational and/or vocational needs in adjusting to their hearing loss. This position will focus on providing information, resources and advocacy. An understanding of the various communication modalities preferred by clients (Oral, MCE, CASE, simultaneous communication and/or ASL) is preferred. This position will work closely with the Assistive Technology Specialist in recommending and advising on equipment and other supports for client needs at home, work or as needed for leading independent and productive lives. Some statewide overnight travel to rural areas of Nevada may be required.

Tasks and Responsibilities

- Provides and coordinates approximately twenty-four (24) outreach and information presentations throughout the year (two per month on average), public awareness activities, workshops and training sessions concerning a variety of topics relating to hearing loss at any age stage
- Evaluates, identifies, advises and counsels clients of strategies for managing hearing losses to improve quality of life;
- Serves as an advocate for people with hearing loss;
- Develops and maintains an information/client referral system;
- Develops action plans and advises clients in obtaining needed services;
- Serves as a resource person regarding existing services and information related to people with hearing loss, including those who acquire deafness later in life;
- Assists clients in obtaining needed services and equal access to communication;

- Assists clients in providing referral to Assistive Technology Specialist;
- Participates and conducts awareness and informational workshops by informing the public about hearing loss and its effect on communication;
- Supports the demonstration, coordination, maintenance, and issuance of equipment in collaboration with Assistive Technology Specialist;
- Provides technical assistance to public as to effective communication strategies in the home, in the community or in the workplace;
- Provides other services as deemed necessary and required from the Director of Operations

Qualifications

This is an opportunity for a mature individual with the desired traits, sensitivity and tact required for dealing with this population, including the ability to work cooperatively with a diverse constituency of clients and maintaining confidentiality. Any combination of training and/or experience that will enable the incumbent to possess the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. A general qualification guideline for positions in this class is an Associate's degree in a behavioral science or related field plus work experience in programs for persons with hearing difficulties and/or losses. Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and unwavering commitment to DCN's mission are essential.

Work schedule is 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except for Federal and State holidays and other closures as determined by the Executive Director. Some evenings and/or weekend work anticipated.