

Agency 082 - COMM. FOR THE 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 progressive state agency, the Commission informs the public about hearing loss, and it is recognized as a source of information and services to improve the quality of life for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

MISSION AND PRINCIPLES:

As a state agency, the Commission works cooperatively with people who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as the general public, to promote awareness of and to meet the identified needs of those with a hearing loss.

The Commission's responsibilities include the following areas:

1. Collect data and disseminate information on Nebraskans who have a hearing loss, and conduct research in the area of deafness;
2. Develop communication processes involving the training and licensing of sign language interpreters statewide, and promote an awareness of hearing loss to state and local community agencies; and,
3. Inventory, monitor and assess services available to people who are hard of hearing or deaf.

GOALS:

The Commission's overall purpose is to ensure that people who are deaf or hard of hearing have the opportunity to be productive citizens of the State of Nebraska.

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Financial Data

	FY08 Actual	FY09 Approp	FY10 Request	FY10 Recomm	FY11 Request	FY11 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	814,758	874,210	949,888	874,210	975,876	874,210
Cash Fund	86,390	9,430	19,130	9,430	14,100	9,430
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	901,147	883,640	969,018	883,640	989,976	883,640
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						
General Fund	814,758	874,210	949,888	874,210	975,876	874,210
Cash Fund	86,390	9,430	19,130	9,430	14,100	9,430
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total Agency	901,147	883,640	969,018	883,640	989,976	883,640

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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 during the previous biennium. The primary goals and activities include the following:

1. Expanding programs and services in Nebraska for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing;
2. Implementing new programs and services through collaboration with other entities;
3. Broadening the collection and dissemination of information on hearing loss and deafness; and
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.

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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