

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Budget



Fiscal Year 2014

Volume II – Human Services

Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor

Agency

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing

Agency Mission

To promote greater accessibility to services for the deaf and hard of hearing by developing awareness, communication access, and training programs to agencies, organizations, and businesses.

To conduct an ongoing needs assessment to identify gaps and recommend improvements to improve the quality of living for the deaf and hard of hearing populations in Rhode Island.

To provide statewide centralized sign language interpreter referral services, including emergency referrals.

To advocate for the enactment of legislation that will promote accessibility of services.

To develop a statewide coordinating council to implement the comprehensive statewide strategic plan for children who are deaf or have hearing loss.

To oversee state agency compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations related to deaf and hard of hearing access issues through monitoring, training, and advocating.

To work with federal, state, and local organizations and agencies to improve the quality of life for deaf and hard of hearing persons in Rhode Island. To coordinate sign language and equipment interpreter services between agencies and organizations with the goal of centralizing services.

Agency Description

The Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing advocates and coordinates the promotion of an accessible environment in which deaf and hard of hearing persons in Rhode Island are afforded equal opportunity in all aspects of their lives. The commission develops policy and recommends appropriate programs and legislation to enhance cooperation and coordination among agencies and organizations now serving, or having the potential to serve, the deaf and hard of hearing. The CDHH reports to the Board of Commissioners which is composed of 13 members, of whom nine are deaf and hard of hearing consumers. The remaining four members are one (1) state senator, one (1) state representative, and two (2) hearing consumers/providers.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 23-1.8 includes provisions relating to the Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The current commission results from the 1992 restructure of the former Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, originally established in 1977.

The Budget

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing Central Management

	2011 Audited	2012 Audited	2013 Enacted	2013 Revised	2014 Recommend
Expenditures By Subprogram					
Operations	-	-	-	-	80,000
Operations	358,036	377,005	390,251	381,701	391,609
Total Expenditures	\$358,036	\$377,005	\$390,251	\$381,701	\$471,609
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	349,985	365,286	380,646	371,206	442,614
Operating Supplies and Expenses	7,453	8,602	9,605	10,495	25,495
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	357,438	373,888	390,251	381,701	468,109
Capital Purchases and Equipment	598	3,117	-	-	3,500
Total Expenditures	\$358,036	\$377,005	\$390,251	\$381,701	\$471,609
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	358,036	377,005	390,251	381,701	391,609
Restricted Receipts	-	-	-	-	80,000
Total Expenditures	\$358,036	\$377,005	\$390,251	\$381,701	\$471,609

The Agency

Commission on Deaf and Hard of Hearing



Personnel

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing Central Management

	Grade	FY 2013		FY 2014	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Unclassified					
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	00832A	1.0	77,664	1.0	77,664
PROGRAM MANAGER	00828A	1.0	69,655	1.0	69,655
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	00322A	1.0	44,144	1.0	45,556
Subtotal		3.0	\$191,463	3.0	\$192,875
Total Salaries		3.0	\$191,463	3.0	\$192,875
Benefits					
Payroll Accrual			1,075		1,075
FICA			14,647		14,755
Retiree Health			13,134		14,016
Health Benefits			49,607		53,639
Retirement			42,467		46,388
Subtotal			\$120,930		\$129,873
Total Salaries and Benefits		3.0	\$312,393	3.0	\$322,748
Cost Per FTE Position (excluding Statewide Benefit Assessment)			\$104,131		\$107,583
Statewide Benefit Assessment			\$7,179		\$7,232
Payroll Costs		3.0	\$319,572	3.0	\$329,980
Purchased Services					
Clerical and Temporary Services			-		40,000
Other Contracts			51,634		72,134
Training and Educational Services			-		500
Subtotal			\$51,634		\$112,634
Total Personnel		3.0	\$371,206	3.0	\$442,614
Distribution By Source Of Funds					
General Revenue		3.0	\$371,206	3.0	\$381,614
Restricted Receipts		-	-	-	\$61,000
Total All Funds		3.0	\$371,206	3.0	\$442,614

Performance Measures

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing Central Management

Timeliness of Fulfilled Interpreter Requests

One of the Commission's legislative mandates is to administer the interpreter referral service (RIGL 23-1.8-2.1). The Statewide Interpreter Referral Service serves to locate and secure freelance interpreters for assignments requested by the paying parties (such as hospitals, civic and criminal courts, etc.) so that communication access is being provided (subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title I, II, and III, as well as the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504). This measure is set to ensure that highest percentage of requests received more than 72 hours are fulfilled and rendered. The higher percentage would indicate that deaf and hard of hearing consumers (or patients/clients) gain communication access to services and programs or for participating in society. The figures below represent the percentage of interpreter requests filled with at least 72 hours notice.[Performance data and targets are provided by State fiscal year. The 2013 Actual figure represents performance data from the first four months of FY 2013 (7/1/12 through 10/31/12).]

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target	95%	95%	95%	95%
Actual	91%	91%	93%	--

Timeliness of Information Request Response

One of the Commission's legislative mandates (RIGL 23-1.8-2 (4)), is to act as a referral service to promote awareness about deafness and hearing loss. Consumers with hearing loss as well as the general public actively seek resources on deaf and hard of hearing issues to increase their understanding or to receive assistance they need. The Commission is known as an one-stop resource center in the State providing extensive information pertaining to deaf and hard of hearing issues. The measure is set to ensure that highest percentage of requests is fulfilled and delivered. The higher percentage would indicate that a requestor received information on deaf and hard of hearing issues within seven business days. The Commission ensures that providing information is occurred in a timely manner and/or is actively and promptly delivered. The figures below represent the percentage of time the Commission's response to information requests is shorter than seven days. [Performance data and targets are provided by State fiscal year. The 2013 Actual figure represents performance data from the first four months of FY 2013 (7/1/12 through 10/31/12).]

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%
Actual	92%	93%	99%	--