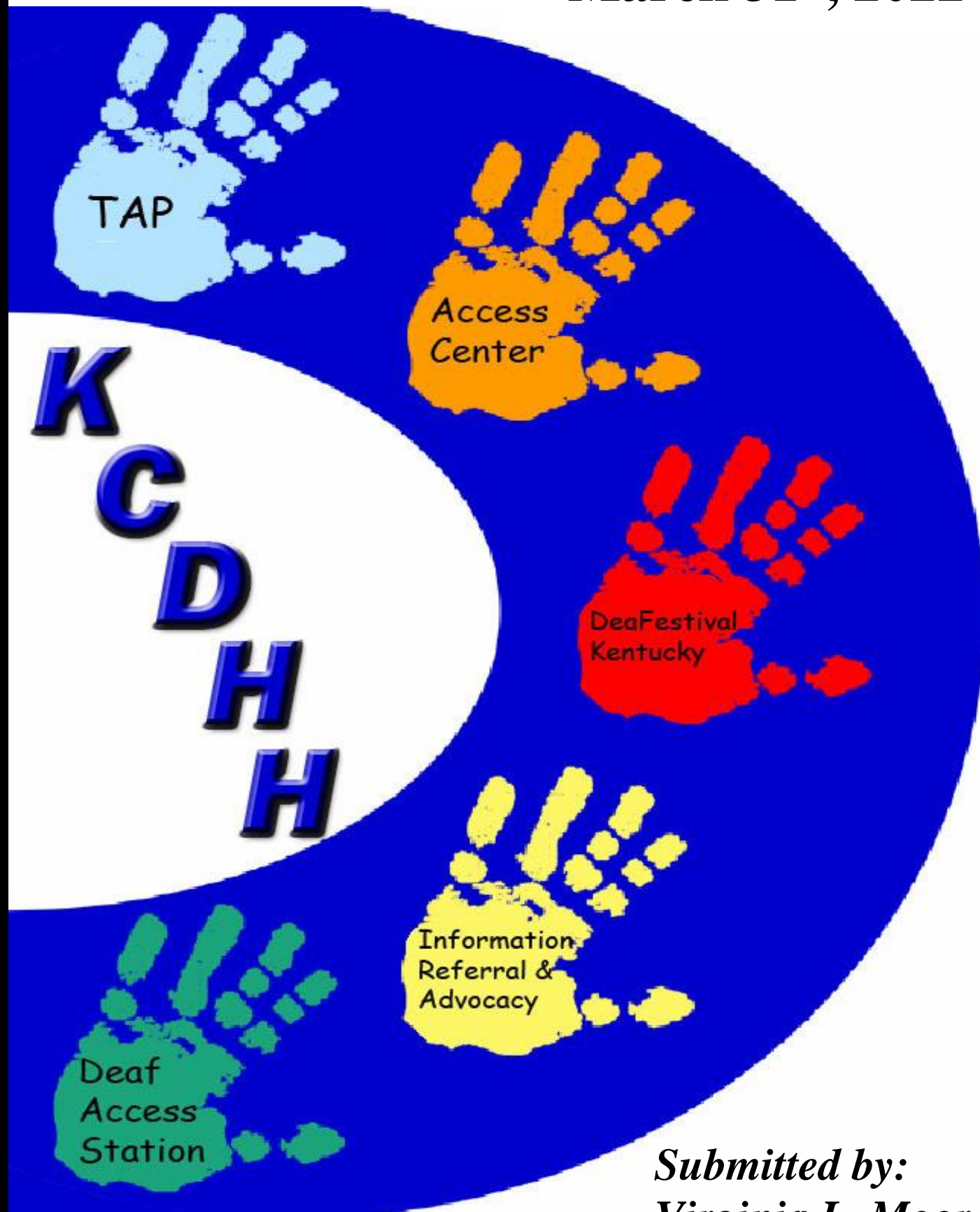


Agency Report

January 1st through
March 31st, 2022



Submitted by:
Virginia L. Moore



KENTUCKY COMMISSION ON THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

QUARTERLY ACTIVITIES January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022

GOVERNING MANDATES

KRS 163.510

- 1) The commission shall advise the Governor and the General Assembly concerning policy and programs to enhance the quality and coordination of services for the deaf and hard of hearing.
- 2) The commission shall cooperate with and assist local, state and federal governments and public and private agencies in the development of programs for the deaf and hard of hearing.
- 3) The commission shall review legislative programs relating to services to deaf and hard of hearing persons and shall conduct studies of conditions affecting the health and welfare of the deaf and hard of hearing.
- 4) The commission shall oversee the provision of interpreter services to the deaf and hard of hearing and may provide services if necessary.

KRS 163.525 (5)

- 5) The Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing shall establish procedures for application and distribution of specialized telecommunications equipment by the promulgation of administrative regulations in accordance with provisions of KRS Chapter 13A.

2020-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

- Goal 1:** Develop, propose and lobby for legislation to improve services for the deaf and hard of hearing.
- Goal 2:** Work with government, public, and private agencies to develop programs and provide services for the deaf and hard of hearing.
- Goal 3(a):** Review statewide programs, established through legislation, which relate to services for the deaf and hard of hearing.
- Goal 3(b):** Research conditions affecting the quality of life of the deaf and hard of hearing.
- Goal 4:** Oversee the provision of qualified interpreters and captioning services.
- Goal 5:** Oversee the implementation and operation of the Telecommunications Access Program (TAP).

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

Legislation



As of March 31, a 10-day “veto period” began with the Governor considering to veto or sign bills. The Kentucky General Assembly will then reconvene for two final working days—April 13 and April 14—to consider overriding any of the Governor’s vetoes or passing new bills.

The main obligation for lawmakers this session was to pass a new two-year state budget. Legislators had an historic amount of money to play with when writing the spending plan due to a \$1.1 billion budget surplus last year, a projected multi-billion-dollar surplus this year and infusions of cash from the federal government through the American Rescue Plan Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Other key bills that passed during this session include:

House Bill 1, the executive branch budget, received final passage by the Kentucky General Assembly, and is waiting to be signed as of this report. Some of the highlights of HB1 include the following:

- 8% raises for state workers on July 1, 2022, and additional raises based on a pay study for the following fiscal year;
- Hundreds of millions of dollars to fully fund state pensions;
- Funds to provide social workers with a \$2,400 pay increase in addition to the across-the-board raises;
- Funds to increase the SEEK formula from the current \$4,000 per student to \$4,100 per student in the first fiscal year and to \$4,200 in the second year; and
- Funds to cover the full cost of all-day kindergarten at every public school district in the Commonwealth.

House Bill 279, “communication disorder” was added to previous legislation, SB 189. SB 189 allows deaf and hard of hearing persons to indicate voluntarily their hearing status in the Kentucky vehicle registration system, allowing law enforcement officers to see the status during traffic stops. HB 279 adds communication disorders along with deaf and hard of hearing status. HB 279 also requires each county clerk to post a permanent notice containing information about the availability of a deaf, hard of hearing, or communication designation in the Kentucky vehicle registration database. The notice shall be posted in a visible location in the clerk’s office. Also, the Transportation Cabinet shall post it on its website.

Due to the release of the 2020 Census, legislators also approved new redistricting maps, which occur every 10 years to reflect shifts in population.

CMV/Bella's Bill Passes



During this session, Senate Bill 105, "Bella's Bill," passed and was sent to the Governor for signing on April 7. SB 105, co-sponsored by Senator Wise and Senator Alvarado, is an act that would add congenital cytomegalovirus (CMV) to the list of heritable and congenital disorders included in the newborn screening program. Bella's Bill was named in honor of Bella Dawn Streeval, a three-year-old resident of Adair County, who died in 2020 from complications of CMV.

(1.1 Lobby for and support legislation developed by other entities that directly impacts the lives of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards, and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

(3.3(a) Monitor legislative issues that affect deaf and hard of hearing Kentuckians.)

Regulations: Kentucky Licensure Meeting

On March 9, the Executive Director, Interpreter Referral Specialist and Interpreter I met with the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Professional Licensing. The purpose of the meeting was to educate him on the history of Kentucky Licensure, the impacts of Video Remote Interpreting (VRI), and the twenty (20) day rule. They also advised him of the impact current regulations are having on those individuals trying to enter the field of interpreting. The Kentucky Board of Interpreters (KBI) is in the process of updating regulations to better parallel the changes within the profession, while maintaining the integrity of the profession. However, KCDHH staff also emphasized to the Commissioner the importance of KRS 309.308 (KBI Policy Committee) and KRS 309.310 (duties of policy committee) for appropriate procedures and/or filing emergency regulations. An agreement was made to establish a meeting for the policy committee to review the new proposed regulations.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards, and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

(4.5 Promote awareness of the Access Center's services within state government.)

(4.6 Partner with state, public and private organizations to recruit, develop and retain a diverse interpreting community.)

Budget

The proposed budget does not include the requested 15th position. However, it does include a possible eight percent raise for employees and no foreseeable budget cut for the agency.

Personnel

KCDHH currently has one vacant position and excited to welcome two new individuals to the KCDHH agency:

- Policy Specialist – Paperwork has been completed requesting the advertisement of this position. Personnel will determine when it will officially be open to the public.
- Administrative Secretary – This position was filled on April 1, 2022.
- Document Processing Specialist – This position was filled on March 16, 2022.

Mental Health Advisory Meeting

The Information Coordinator for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing attended the quarterly Mental Health Advisory Committee meeting as a proxy for the Executive Director on February 16 via Zoom. The guest speaker shared with the board the results from an evaluation within the deaf community to access mental health services in Kentucky. Discussions on goals for the advisory committee were made for the next fiscal year 2022 to 2023. The Education and Outreach Subcommittee provided an update of progress. The Subcommittee took action to establish possible goals for the purpose of the subcommittee along with administrative structure of the subcommittee.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards, and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

Database Meeting

The KCDHH Staff continue to work with the Database team at the Commonwealth Office of Technology (COT) to make changes to improve collection of statistical information. Therefore, staff is once again unable to accurately pull data.

(3.8(b) Compile information regarding programs, services and barriers that impact the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

Communication Access during COVID-19

The Executive Director, Executive Staff Interpreter and the Interpreter Referral Specialist continue to provide interpreting services for the Governor's COVID updates. The new Omicron variant of COVID is spreading faster than the other variants but seems to be less dangerous to those who are vaccinated. As of this report, overall percentage is lower than it has been during the pandemic. A second booster is now recommended for individuals 50 years and older or those with a suppressed autoimmune system. Individuals must have had their first booster at least four months prior to taking the second booster.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(3.8(b) Compile information regarding programs, services and barriers that impact the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(4.1 Use a comprehensive approach to coordinate communication access services.)

(4.5 Promote awareness of the Access Center's services within state government.)

DeaFestival 2022 Planning Committee Meetings



The KCDHH DeaFestival planning committee has met periodically to wrap up logistics with Centre College and securing performers. This will be the 14th biennial DeaFestival and will be held in conjunction with the Kentucky School for the Deaf's (KSD) 200th Anniversary celebration, which will focus on embracing who you are. The 2022 theme is the "Greatest Deaf Show on Earth." Visit the website for updated information.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)



ACCESS CENTER ACTIVITIES

Supporting Kentucky Youth Value Added Benefits (SKYVAB) Stakeholder Meeting



Through collaboration efforts, the Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (KDBHDID), worked with the Aetna Supporting Kentucky Youth (SKY) program to spearhead the Supporting Kentucky Youth (SKY) Value Added Benefits (VAB) project. The project, developed to improve services for children who are deaf or hard of hearing for out of home care, pulled in stakeholders from Aetna, KDBHDID,

the Department for Community Based Services (DCBS), and KCDHH to start planning and establish vendors for the pilot project. The SKYVAB stakeholders met three times this past quarter on January 12, February 12, and March 22 to discuss updates on the mentor training, vendor approvals for the communication skills assessments, and the overview of the workflow from start to finish once a family has started the project. Additional partners include Kentucky Hands & Voices, as well as the Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) Outreach program. The group's focus is wrapping up vendor contracts and establishing the workflow process.

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(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

Access Center Meeting with EKU

The Interpreter Referral Specialist met with the newly hired Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) American Sign Language (ASL) Specialist III and Interpreter Outreach Team Coordinator on February 22. Discussions included how the duties and responsibilities have changed from the previous person who held this position, the pulse of the interpreting field, and current concerns for graduates going into the field, especially related to the various new interpreting exams that have been and will be released.

(4.1 Use a comprehensive approach to coordinate communication access services.)

(4.2 Partner with national, state and local organizations to provide national certification opportunities.)

(4.4 Partner with public, private and state entities to improve policies regarding communication access.)

(4.6 Partner with state, public and private organizations to recruit, develop and retain a diverse interpreting community.)

CASLI Testing Site



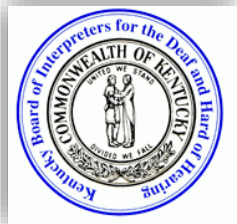
On February 25, March 18 and March 25, the Interpreter I/Local test administrator (LTA) administered four (4) National Interpreter Certification (NIC) Interview & Performance exams. During this quarter (January 1-March 31), KCDHH has seen an increase in the number of requests for testers wanting to schedule exams. The Interpreter I/ LTA believes this is due to the anticipation of when the new hearing interpreter performance exam will be available by the Center for the

Assessment of Sign Language Interpretation (CASLI). As of this report, there have been no updates from the CASLI on when the new hearing interpreter performance exam and written exam results will be available.

(4.2 Partner with national, state and local organizations to provide national certification opportunities.)

(4.3 Educate interpreters and promote current interpreting standards.)

Kentucky Board of Interpreters Meeting



The Kentucky Board of Interpreters (KBI) met on March 1. The board discussed the negative impact those who hold a temporary license or plan to apply for their initial license have due to the end of the State of Emergency (SOE) on March 7 and changes to the national interpreter tests provided by the Center for Assessment of Sign Language Interpreters (CASLI). To address this, the board voted to form a committee as well as update the online document, “Getting Started As a Sign Language Interpreter in the State of Kentucky.” An attorney has not yet been assigned to the KBI board and the board has had several different attorneys fill in since 2020. The turnover of attorneys has also caused the board to not be able to move forward with regulations, as well as the filing of current proposed administrative regulations, which need to be updated again. As a result, the board voted to establish a regulation committee that includes three KBI board members to review and make updated changes to the regulations. After the regulation committee meets, they will then reach out to the members of the policy committee, per KRS 309.308 and KRS 309.10, to be able to provide feedback on the content of proposed changes before submitting them for the administrative regulation promulgation process.

(4.3 Educate interpreters and promote current interpreting standards.)

(4.4 Partner with public, private and state entities to improve policies regarding communication access.)

(4.6 Partner with state, public and private organizations to recruit, develop and retain a diverse interpreting community.)

TEAM KENTUCKY



TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACCESS PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Demo Session

On January 3, the Program Coordinator and Interpreter I assisted a constituent who tested various pieces of TAP equipment located in the KCDHH Library. Individuals continue to visit TAP cabinets disbursed in nine locations across the Commonwealth.

(2.5 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(5.1 Provide specialized telecommunications equipment to deaf and hard of hearing consumers through the Telecommunications Access Program.)

Emerging Leaders Program Meetings



The Program Coordinator attended the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) monthly meeting on January 5 and discussed the teamwork video they had been watching through MyPurpose -Learning for State Workers.

On January 20, the Program Coordinator and the Executive Director attended a project meeting to discuss the development of the manual with VR Counselors for the Deaf. The manual will help guide employers through the process of providing communications access to a deaf or hard of hearing employment candidates throughout the hiring process and into the work place.

On February 1, the Program Coordinator attended the ELP monthly meeting. Due to a change in administration, administrators from the Educational and Workforce Development Cabinet (EWDC) Human Resources department conducted the meeting and discussed moving forward with a new style and agenda.

On February 2, the Program Coordinator and Executive Director met again with the Rehabilitation Counselors for the Deaf (RCD) group to discuss what should be included in the development of the manual and the information that members have currently submitted.

On March 2, the Program Coordinator attended the monthly meeting and discussed the information learned from the Kentucky Legislature-Interim Joint Committee on State Government-2021 Interim Session. Participants also discussed their project updates.

On March 17, the Program Coordinator, along with the other ELP members, attended the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board's (KWIB) quarterly meeting. Board members discussed information regarding workforce projects, innovative solutions to common workforce problems, and subject matter experts on various workforce issues. The meetings are held to ensure the KWIB is performing the federally mandated provisions of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(2.5 Educate state agencies, government branches, organizations and the public on Federal and State laws regarding hearing loss.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

TAP Coordinator Training

On February 22, the Program Coordinator watched a recorded video of the Kentucky Legislature-Interim Joint Committee on State Government-2021 Interim Session presentation, "Overview of Legislative Immunity and Legislative Privilege," by James F. "Ted" Booth, General Counsel, Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER), Mississippi. They also watched the "Future of Remote Working in State Government," by Mary Elizabeth Bailey, Commissioner of the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet's Department of Human Resources. The Program Coordinator also completed training tailored to legislative proceedings in "MyPurpose."

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(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

TAP Constituent Assistance

On February 28, the Program Coordinator and Interpreter I traveled to Glasgow, KY to assist a constituent in troubleshooting issues with their iPhone and exchange of iPhones. She also assisted with the transition of cellular service to the new iPhone (via telephone) and installed necessary apps. On March 11, the Program Coordinator traveled to Danville to assist with iPad and iPhone issues for a deaf couple with health issues who were struggling to set up their equipment.

(2.5 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(5.1 Provide specialized telecommunications equipment to deaf and hard of hearing consumers through the Telecommunications Access Program.)

KATS Network Advisory Council Meetings



The Program Coordinator attended the Kentucky Assistive Technology Services (KATS) Network Advisory Council on March 10, discussed were updates on the KATS Coordinating Center, Assistive Technology (AT) Center, and Statewide Hearing Aid Assistance and Reuse Program (SHARP) activities, as well as the Coordinating Center activities and the Coordinating and Assisting the Reuse of Assistive Technology (CARAT) project. The Spotlight video this quarter was on KATS Coordinating Center and their remodeling.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.5 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(5.5 Develop innovative outreach regarding TAP.)

TEDPA Conference Planning Committee



On March 18 and March 25, the Program Coordinator attended the Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program Association's (TEDPA) conference planning committee's meeting via Zoom. This year's TEDPA Conference is July 13-16, at the Marriott North in Indianapolis, IN.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)



INFORMATION, REFERRAL & ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Bluegrass Airport Meeting



On January 20, the Executive Staff Advisor and the Information Coordinator were invited by Lexington Blue Grass Airport's Guest Services Supervisor to tour and give feedback on how the airport could improve services for deaf and hard of hearing and deafblind individuals. Several recommendations were given; such as using an Ubi-Duo and VRI services, adding LED displays with printed messages strategically around the airport for the verbal announcements related to flights, closed captioning on TVs in the terminals and appropriate signage making deaf and hard of hearing and deafblind travelers aware of accommodations that are available to them.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(2.5 Educate state agencies, government branches, organizations and the public on Federal and State laws regarding hearing loss.)

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Hero Presentation



On February 17 and March 14, the Information Coordinator and the Executive Staff Advisor participated in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) Heroes presentation presented by Kentucky Hands & Voices at the Kentucky Speech-Language-Hearing Association (KSHA) Conference in Louisville. In 2019, Kentucky Hands & Voices launched the DHH Hero program in an effort to connect families with adults who are deaf or hard of hearing. DHH Heroes serve as a resource and reminder to parents that their child has limitless potential. The purpose of this presentation was to educate speech, hearing, and language service providers across the state about the program and its importance in order for them to share the information with the families of deaf and hard of hearing children that they may be working with.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards, and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

ASL Student Project on DeaFestival

On March 1, the Information Coordinator participated in an interview with a student from Lakota West High School in Cincinnati, Ohio. The student, currently a senior, is taking an American Sign Language (ASL) course. The final project for this course requires each student to choose a topic to research and present in ASL. The student chose DeaFestival-Kentucky and asked various questions related to the festival and how it has impacted the Information Coordinator as a deaf individual and also as an employee of KCDHH that is actively involved in the production.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

KATLC Quarterly Meetings



The Information Coordinator, a board member for four years, attended the quarterly Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation (KATLC) Board Meeting on March 9 via Zoom. The program is still in the process of finding a financial lender to provide non-traditional loans for eligible Kentuckians to obtain assistive technologies. The Board reviewed outstanding balances with the previous lender. Due to the new fiscal year, elections of officers took place and was announced at this meeting. The next meeting will be June 8 via Zoom.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Conference



The Executive Staff Advisor continued to participate in monthly meetings with the Annual Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Conference planning committee during this quarter on January 10, February 14 and March 8.

The EHDI Annual Conference was held virtually March 13-15 and as a member of the planning committee the Executive Staff Advisor co-hosted the Opening Parent Gathering and the Virtual Parent Happy Hour with other planning committee members. Additionally, the Executive Staff Advisor co-presented with the Ohio Hands & Voices Executive Director. The presentation was titled, "Early Intervention: The Importance of The WHOLE Child Approach" and focused when important developmental domains that Early Intervention providers must keep in focus with working with deaf and hard of hearing children and their families, such as social/emotional, language, deaf and hard of hearing peers and role models.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(3.4(a) Partner with and advise local, state and national organizations to improve early identification of hearing loss.)

Passion Week at Eminence High School Presentation

The Information Coordinator was invited to speak virtually to a class at Eminence High School in Eminence, KY for Passion Week on March 16. The students chose to learn about blind and deaf services available in Kentucky. The Information Coordinator presented information about KCDHH and key components of what the agency does. The students were very engaged and asked great questions.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

Governors Early Childhood Advisory Council Meeting



On March 16, the Executive Staff Advisor attended the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) meeting which took place at the Galt House during the Early Childhood Institute. Much of the meeting was focused on discussing the Regional Collaborative Network of the Community Childhood Councils and the

goal of having them unite organization in the local communities to address the critical early years of a child's life. Grants are currently available to the collaborations (dependent on county size) and the funds are based on per county formula with the purpose of moving the needle of kindergarten readiness across the state. Grants will be awarded in July. It was announced that the next Early Childhood Institute will take place at the Galt House in June.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.5 Educate state agencies, government branches, organizations and the public on Federal and State laws regarding hearing loss.)

(2.6 Advocate for equal access to education for deaf and hard of hearing individuals, cradle to grave.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards, and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

RETAIN Presentation



On March 23, the Executive Staff Advisor partnered with the Director of the Retaining Employment and Talent after Injury/Illness Network (RETAIN) to present during their lunch and learn session to

various employers and other state employees that participate in these events. The presentation was related to Inclusive Communication and after defining what that meant for deaf and hard of hearing employees, information was given to improve the awareness, knowledge and understanding of communication support needs and communication techniques.

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(2.5 Educate state agencies, government branches, organizations and the public on Federal and State laws regarding hearing loss.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards, and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

Brescia University Presentation



The Executive Staff Advisor gave a virtual presentation to speech pathology students in an Aural Rehabilitation class at Brescia University in Owensboro on March 24. The presentation focused on the needs of early identified and late identified deaf and hard of hearing individuals, current technology and other resources that are available to individuals with hearing loss and service providers that work with them.

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(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards, and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention State Stakeholders meeting

The Executive Staff Advisor met virtually with several members of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Advisory Board and various stakeholders on March 30. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the various sessions that individuals attended during the national EHDI annual conference. Since the conference was held virtually, sessions were recorded and are still available for attendees to review for the next few weeks. Those present during this meeting shared information related to which sessions they attended that contained information that would be beneficial to the Kentucky EHDI system so that others could take advantage of these sessions while they are still available.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

Public Relations Output

The Office of Information Services focuses on Public Relations (PR) efforts and outreach activities to increase awareness of services offered by KCDHH. This quarter, **7,278** informational and public relations items were distributed.

PR Dissemination	
<i>Method of Dissemination</i>	<i>Number Disseminated</i>
Hard Copy	210
Blitz	7,058
TOTAL	7,268

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(3.2(a) Advise state agencies and private committees, boards and taskforces in matters related to deaf and hard of hearing issues.)

Vlogs

In the last quarter, KCDHH released the following informative vlogs in ASL with captioning:

- Four free COVID-19 home testing kits
- Deadline for tornado disaster assistance
- Two TAP Advisory board vacancies
- Three TAP Advisory board vacancies

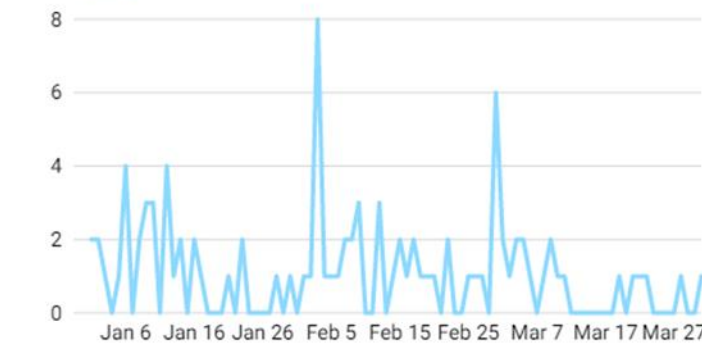

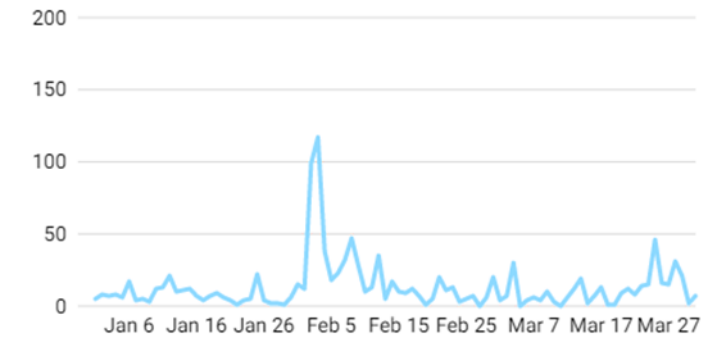
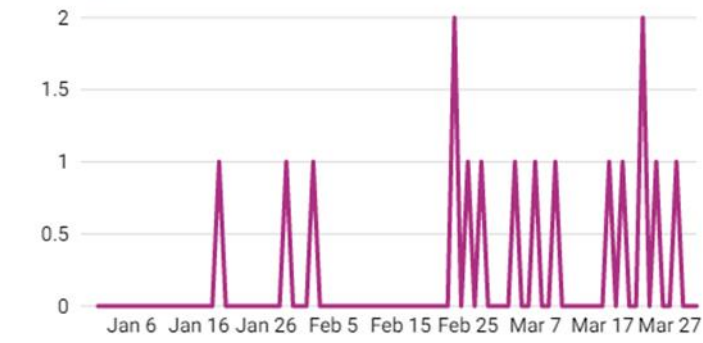
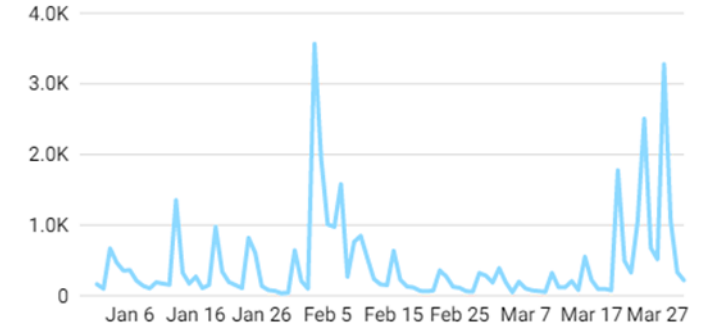
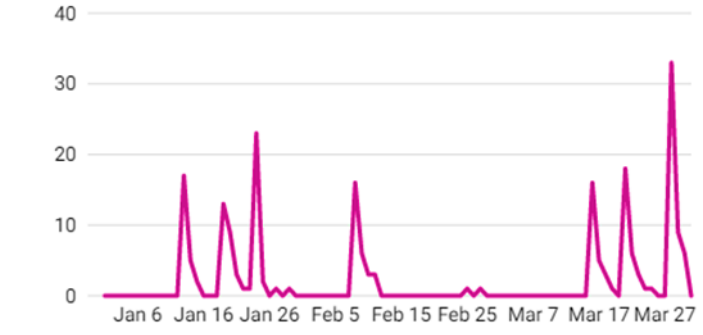
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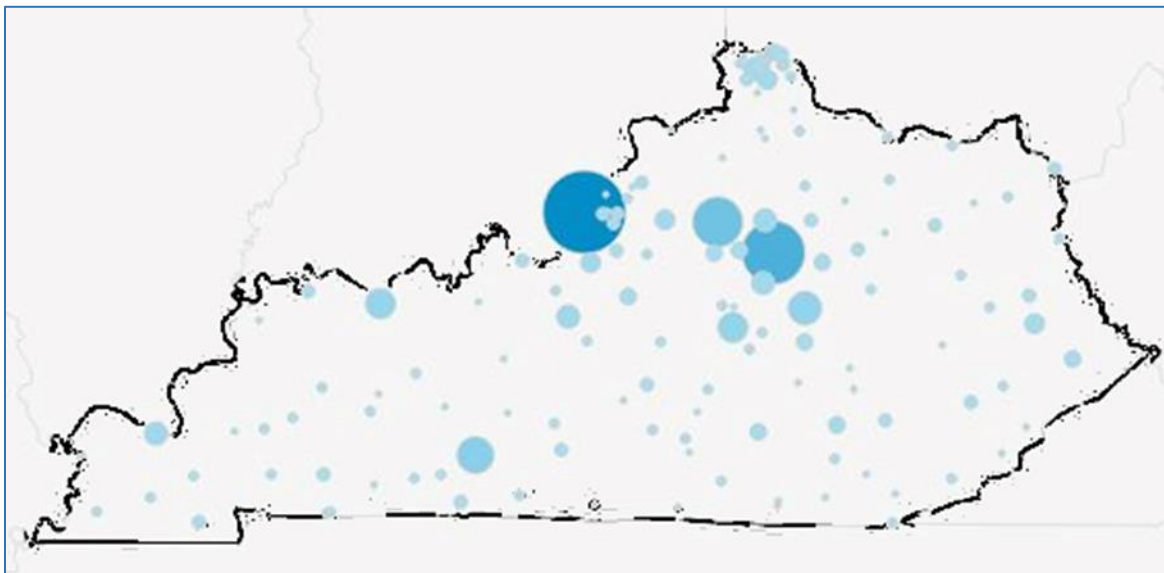
TEAM
KENTUCKY

KCDHH Social Media Graphs: January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022

FACEBOOK		INSTAGRAM	
Page Likes		Followers	
Indicates number of times the Facebook and Instagram pages were liked.			
<div>New Facebook Page Likes ⓘ</div> <div>94 ↑ 4.4%</div> 		<div>New Instagram Followers ⓘ</div> <div></div> <div>No Activity During Selected Date Range</div> <div>Please select a different date range and try to load your report again.</div>	
Page Visits		Profile Visits	
Indicates number of times the Facebook and Instagram pages were visited.			
<div>Facebook Page Visits ⓘ</div> <div>1,189 ↑ 56.4%</div> 		<div>Instagram Profile Visits ⓘ</div> <div>16 ↓ 83%</div> 	
Page Reach		Page Reach	
Indicates number of people who saw any content from/about the Facebook & Instagram pages.			
<div>Facebook Page Reach ⓘ</div> <div>21,005 ↓ 20.2%</div> 		<div>Instagram Reach ⓘ</div> <div>63 ↓ 3.1%</div> 	

KCDHH Web Counter Hits: January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022

The following image depicts the various cities and towns throughout Kentucky from which consumers visited our Web site. The bigger the circle, the more visits that circle represents.



KCDHH has had 13,337 visitors from Kentucky this quarter, which represents a 7.69% increase in visitors over the previous quarter (12,385). The top 5 pages at our website that attracted the most attention this quarter were the front page of our website, the DeaFestival page, the request forms page, TAP's "What Kind of Equipment Should I Choose?" page, and TAP's "How to Apply" page.

(2.1 Work in partnership with media, state and local entities/agencies, and public/private organizations to create awareness about hearing loss and the needs of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.)

(2.4 Create and promote awareness about programs and services to benefit the deaf and hard of hearing community.)

(2.5 Educate state agencies, government branches, organizations and the public on Federal and State laws regarding hearing loss.)

TEAM KENTUCKY