



October's (2022) KCDHH Spotlight Q&A is with Rachel Rodgers, who is the Interpreter Referral Specialist at KCDHH. Rodgers' hometown is Louisville, KY. She graduated from Eastern High School in Louisville, Kentucky. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in the Interpreting Training Program at Eastern Kentucky University. Rodgers lives in LaGrange with her daughters, Riley and Isabelle.

What department do you work for and what is your role?

KCDHH Interpreter Referral Specialist coordinates interpreting and captioning services for state agencies. I also work closely with state agencies to ensure effective and efficient interpreting and captioning services.

How long have you been with KCDHH? 16 years

What have been your biggest accomplishments in your department?

The collaborations that have developed with state agencies throughout state government to expand and improve services to deaf and hard of hearing.

What is the most unique part about working at KCDHH?

I am continually learning everyday how to best serve constituents of Kentucky. Every day I get to work alongside people who share the same passion and goals.

Before working at KCDHH, what was the most unusual or interesting job you've ever had?

I worked as a server at a country club since from the age of 16 and throughout college. With that, the members of the club would hire me to do various side hustles such as dog sitting, llama sitting, babysitting, and event planning.

What has been your favorite project at KCDHH?

Working with the Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (KDBHDID) and Department of Community Based Services (DCBS). The collaboration focuses on improving services with deaf and hard of hearing membered families within DCBS and the goals from this group that have been implemented into practice. In addition, we cannot forget DeaFestival!

What is on your wish list for the next 10 years with KCDHH?

To grow the KCDHH Access Center to be able to be a "one stop shop," providing and coordinating interpreting, process billing, and expanding on Technical assistance and consultation.

What is a hobby or talent you might want to share?

I love to run! I used to run mini marathons and completed one marathon. I would like to have some more runs under my belt.