

**Monthly Communicator**  
**NJ Department of Human Services**  
**Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

**March 2011    Vol. 32    No. 4**

Chris Christie, Governor  
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor  
Jennifer Velez, Commissioner  
David C. Alexander, Director

**Cover: Spring into Fun**

**Director's Corner**

By David Alexander, Director, Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH)

As you are aware, Governor Chris Christie recently presented his Fiscal Year 2012 State Budget address on February 22, 2011. With the inclusion of recommendations offered by respective state divisions, the proposed budget is reasonable. It largely protects services for the most vulnerable residents of our state, including people who are Deaf and hard of hearing.

The governor proposes an appropriation for DDHH that remains essentially unchanged from Fiscal Year 2011. Existing services, which support and protect children, adults and families with hearing loss, would be fully funded. During these difficult economic times, this is indeed good news for stakeholders and residents of New Jersey with hearing loss. Next year's budget will enable the division to move forward with the planned initiatives.

I would like to thank all of the stakeholders for attending the fall DHS budget hearings and submitting testimony on behalf of services for the Deaf and hard of hearing. Your voices were indeed heard!

DDHH looks forward to working as partners with our stakeholders as we continue efforts to improve the quality of life for New Jersey residents who are Deaf and hard of hearing.

*For the full edition of the April 2011 Monthly Communicator, click here:*

[http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh/newsletters/communicator/current/mc\\_0411.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh/newsletters/communicator/current/mc_0411.pdf)