

THE COMMUNICATOR



December
2016

Chris Christie, *Governor*

Kim Guadagno, *Lt. Governor*

Elizabeth Connolly, *Acting Commissioner*

David Alexander, *Director*

The Monthly Communicator = The Communicator

As we mentioned in the September issue, beginning this month our newsletter is going to be posted on our Web site quarterly instead of monthly. Consequently, it will be renamed, "**The Communicator.**" You can read archived and current issues here. Consequently, the next issues will occur in March, June, September, December.

DDHH Participates with NJRID and HLAA-NJ

By Cathy Grehlinger, *Communication Access Coordinator*

The New Jersey Registry of interpreters for the Deaf (NJRID) held its general meeting and a training workshop for interpreters on Saturday, November 19 at the East Brunswick Library. There was discussion about planning another joint conference with NJAD in 2017, but no official dates or details have been set. Elections were held for two member at large positions on the board. Jamie Stenberg will continue for a second term and Lisette Weiland will be replacing Shari Walton as she steps down after two terms. In the afternoon, Robert Salkowski a community health educator from Planned Parenthood of Northern, Central and Southern New Jersey presented an Overview of Sexually Transmitted Infections to educate and expand the knowledge of interpreters in this setting. Lively discussions and group activities helped participants learn more about this important topic.

The New Jersey Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA-NJ) also had its annual meeting and Exhibit Fair on Saturday, November 19 from 1-4 p.m. at the East Brunswick Library. The Keynote speaker, Dr. Juliette Sterkens, HLAA National Looping Coordinator, gave a powerful and informative presentation on loop systems with tips on when and where to use them and how to coordinate efforts to get them installed. Additionally the meeting room was looped for the presentation so attendees were able to see what the system was like and how it worked. Vendors were available during the exhibit time to address questions about their products.

NJ DDHH Co-Sponsors Workshop with NJ Division on Civil Rights

By Jason Weiland, *Field Representative*

The New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing collaborated with the **NJ Division on Civil Rights (DCR)** to host three regional community forums 12 years ago that attracted deaf and hard of hearing residents, parents with deaf children, advocates, and service providers. In follow-up to those events, DDHH partnered with NJ DCR on projects that brought movie captioning and hospital communication access to a level never experienced in the state.

Once again, DDHH has worked with NJ DCR to host "Know Your Rights" Community Seminars in September, November, and December 2016. Sessions were held in Galloway and Camden on September 27 and November 2. The College of New Jersey in Ewing, NJ will be hosting the seminar on December 5. NJ Institute of Technology will be the site of the final seminar on December 12. All sessions are held from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and are free of charge. ASL interpreters and open captioning are provided. More information regarding directions, parking, and other details can be found at www.njcivilrights.org.

ADA Revised on Accessibility to Movies

On November 21, 2016, Attorney General Loretta Lynch signed a Final Rule revising the **Justice Department's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) title III** regulation to further clarify a public accommodation's obligation to provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services for people with disabilities. The Final Rule requires movie theaters to: (1) have and maintain the equipment necessary to provide closed movie captioning and audio description at a movie patron's seat whenever showing a digital movie produced, distributed, or otherwise made available with these features; (2) provide notice to the public about the availability of these features; and (3) ensure that theater staff is available to assist patrons with the equipment before, during, and after the showing of a movie with these features.

For additional information open this [link](#).

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**DDHH Advisory Council
Friday, January 27
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Location/Speaker TBA**



DDHH Regular Office Hours: Monday – Friday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Office Closed: Monday, December 26 - Christmas

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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