

Board of Directors Updates as of 01/12/2024

Resource Development Quality Assurance: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community Specialist- Jess Nestelroad

Vendor Updates	None to report at this time.
Educational/Outreach Activities	<p>The DHH community has monthly coffee socials, pizza socials, senior breakfast socials, and outreach planning committee meetings throughout the FNRC catchment area. When flyers or information is received by DHH Specialist, they are sent to the FNRC team to be distributed.</p> <p>Nor Cal Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing is hosting a Deaf+ Parent Support Group via Zoom on 01/25/2024.</p> <p>Jess is available to attend IEP meetings, IPP meetings, and Intake assessments with Service Coordinators if they request.</p> <p>Jess is working on meeting with various day programs and vendors in the FNRC catchment area to educate them on the Deaf Community and Culture to ensure that best practices are taking place when working with the DHH population. Jess also hopes to identify barriers in these spaces and what support is needed to overcome them.</p> <p>Jess and Travis McIvor, Safety Coordinator, presented at the FNRC Division Meeting on 01/03/2024 for all Case Management via Zoom on “Deaf and Hard of Hearing Emergency Awareness”.</p>

<p>Statewide Updates</p>	<p>The DHH Specialists across the state have created three work groups (Support Groups; Vendor Training; and Accessibility Checklist). These groups meet monthly and collaborate on what is working and what is not working at their regional center. They are also working on organizing support groups, creating a training for vendors that is standard for the whole state, and building an accessibility checklist to help identify barriers and things that need to be improved on in both a DHH Clients home and/ or program.</p> <p>DHH Specialists have a bi-monthly meeting which was held on 12/12/2023 where an update from each of these groups was given. Each specialist also provided information on how things are going at their regional centers as well as what needs to be done in order to retain specialists.</p>
<p>General Updates</p>	<p>Jess is working on creating a resource guide for Deaf+ individuals in FNRC's catchment area. Resources will be both local and generalized agencies that can provide services and supports.</p> <p>Webpage DHH tab is available under client tab on the FNRC webpage. ASL classes and upcoming DHH community events are available there.</p> <p>NorCal Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing hosts social events for the community monthly. This information can be found on our FNRC DHH page or on Nor Cal's event page.</p> <p>Jess is scheduled to attend the TransCen "A Future that Includes Employment: Family Training Workshop" to provide</p>

DHH support for families and clients who want to gain information on employment. This event will be held in Chico on 01/24/2024.

Jess is planning on attending the Grassroots event in Sacramento on 04/02/2024. ARCA organizes the annual Grassroots Day where regional center representatives can meet with state senators and assembly members to discuss obstacles and issues pertaining to regional center services.