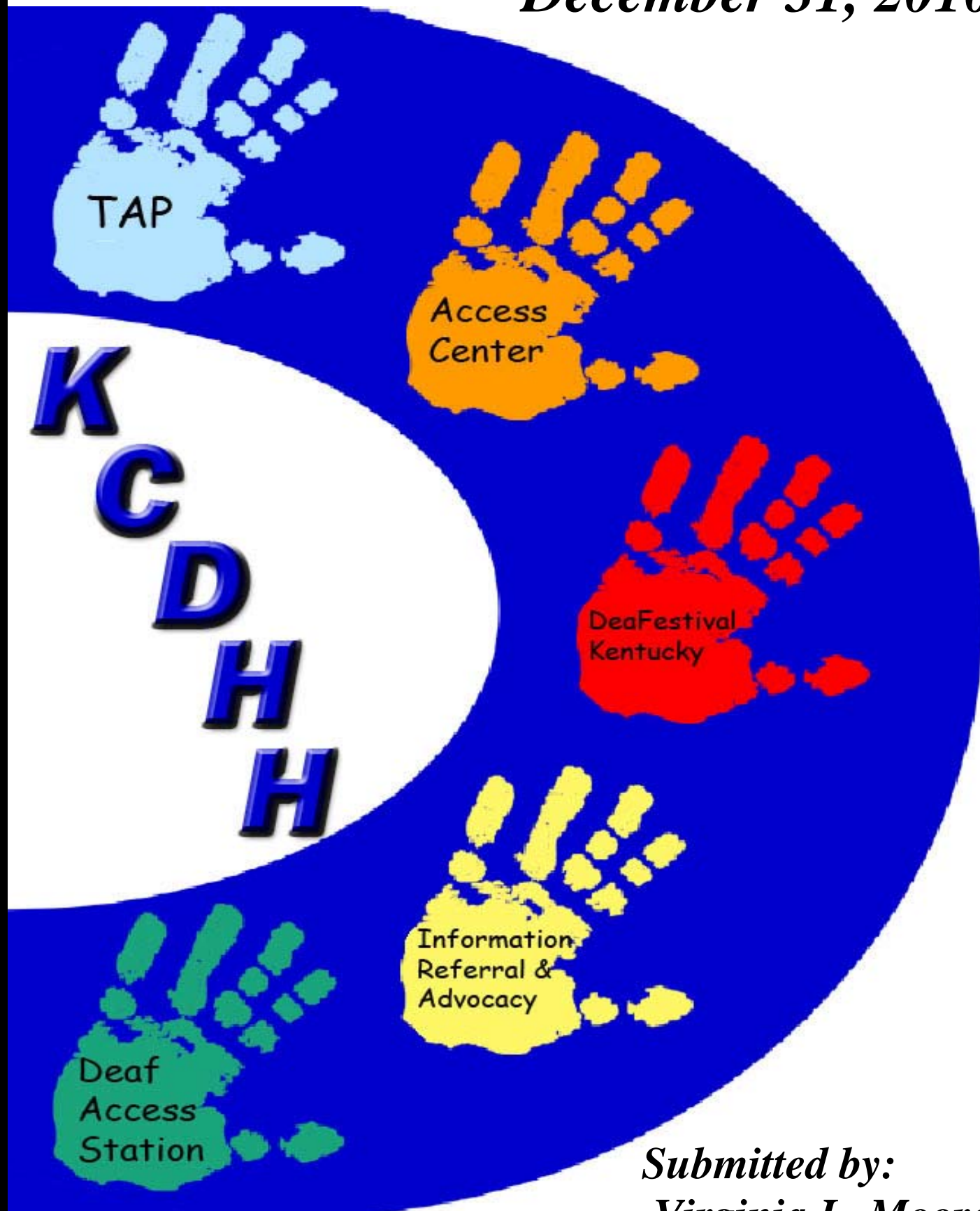


*Agency Report October 1 through
December 31, 2010*



*Submitted by:
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KCDHH Quarterly Activities

October 1 through December 31, 2010

National Association of State Relay Administrators

The Executive Director attended the National Association of State Relay Administrators (NASRA) annual conference on October 18-19, 2010, held in Durham, North Carolina. This organization brings together administrators of state relay programs and provides an opportunity to network and learn of new initiatives from the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Justice. Members heard presentations by prominent individuals from Washington, D.C. and the Office of Disability Support regarding the passage and implementation of the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010.

Southeast Regional Institute on Deafness

The Executive Director and Interpreter Referral Specialist attended the Kentucky Registry for Interpreters for the Deaf (KyRID) fall conference on October 15 and 16, held in conjunction with the Southeast Regional Institute on Deafness (SERID). The Interpreter I and a representative from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) gave a presentation regarding the proposed administrative regulations for Kentucky Licensure. This included revised certification requirements for educational interpreters, temporary licensure eligibility, and specific tracks: Generalist, Educational and Deaf (for Certified Deaf Interpreters).

KCDHH and the Office for Vocational Rehabilitation formed a partnership for the SERID conference, held in Louisville October 16 – 19 at the Hyatt Regency. The conference provided workshops for professionals who provide direct services to deaf or hard of hearing individuals. The workshops covered a variety of topics including mental health services, vocational rehabilitation services, interpreting services, psychiatric treatments and available technology. KCDHH assisted in many facets of the conference. Staff members were behind the scenes managing logistics and technological needs, providing in-kind interpreting services and presenting at the conference. The Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of the Deaf, Nancy Bloch, attended to make remarks at the closing session. KCDHH teamed with extremely talented interpreters to voice the evening entertainment on Monday, October 18, as performed by Pinky Aiello and The Anderson Twins. The entertainment included life stories and situational humor. As one of the highlights of the conference, SERID awarded KCDHH's Interpreter Referral Specialist as the "interpreter of the year" due to her hard work, dedication and tireless service to the deaf and hard of hearing community. Deaf artists from Kentucky, Velda Taylor and

Barbie Harris, designed and made all awards presented at the conference. In addition, the attendees were encouraged to build partnerships and foster collaborative efforts. Approximately 350 individuals attended the conference.

Domestic Violence

The Executive Director, Information Office Supervisor and Interpreter Referral Specialist attended workshops in Lexington for the Ending Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Conference held on November 30 and December 1. The Mary Byron Project, Kentucky Sexual Assault Program, and the EKU Interpreter Training Program sponsored this conference. The two-day workshop focused on training, information, and resources for sign language interpreters, advocates, and service providers

Legislation

The Executive Director and Internal Policy Analyst III met with a representative from the Human Rights Commission (HRC) regarding the access to movie theaters legislation. HRC is in full support of achieving access to movie theaters via captioning and testified with KCDHH and several consumers before the Joint Judiciary Subcommittee on November 10 at the Capitol Annex. Students from the Kentucky School for the Deaf attended, as did consumers representing the deaf, hard of hearing, and late deafened community, all of which wish to see captioning in movie theaters become a reality. One theater owner and representatives from the major movie industry also testified. The subcommittee reached no decision and students were disappointed that they were unable to testify due to time constraints. Following the testimony, the representative from HRC spoke with students who considered filing a complaint against their local movie theatres due to lack of access.

Public Relations Efforts

The Executive Director and Internal Policy Analyst III met with staff from the ATT Public Relations (PR) department to discuss a partnership on a press release to announce the incorporation of wireless devices into the Telecommunications Access Program (TAP). The design of the press release is to incorporate consumer stories about use of text messaging during emergencies and how a lifeline to communication is maintained through wireless devices. Once a draft is completed, an ATT attorney agreed to review the draft to ensure protection of proprietary issues (surrounding the iPhone). ATT is interested in approaching this release from the human-interest aspect rather than as an announcement or advertisement of ATT devices.

The Executive Director, Internal Policy Analyst III and the Information Office Supervisor met with Hamilton staff to discuss a partnership on a press release to

publicize KCDHH and TAP wireless distribution. All agreed that KCDHH would coordinate with ATT and Hamilton to make the greatest impact by distributing to media and TV outlets as well as providing a press release to newspapers. Hamilton agreed to provide information on the application and services once consumer testimonies are gathered. ATT devices and the availability of TAP are highlighted in a human-interest story. PR staff will work with representatives to provide the information needed to finalize the press release and coordinate release with both Hamilton and ATT.

Budget Cuts

As a budgetary reduction measure, the General Assembly passed legislation requiring all state agencies to execute furloughs rather than mass layoffs of personnel. Pursuant to 101 KAR 5:015E, state executive branch agencies planned for six designated furlough days during the budget cycle of 2010 and 2011. During the most recent quarter, KCDHH designated November 12 as a furlough day.

As ongoing management of the budget shortfall continues, agency heads are directed to stringently manage employees work hours, and overtime is not to be allowed unless the Cabinet Secretary grants written approval in advance.

Personnel

The Executive Director interviewed qualified candidates for the Executive Secretary vacancy. The Executive Director offered the position to the most qualified individual, who accepted, with an anticipated start date of January 1, 2011.

KCDHH received 557 applications and résumés for the Executive Staff Advisor vacancy. Interviews took place in December and the Executive Director offered the most qualified individual the position. A decision from Personnel is pending.

KCDHH GOALS



KCDHH Goal I: Improve, strengthen and develop services, including communication services and access to human services.

On November 1, the Executive Director and Internal Policy Analyst III met with Commissioners via teleconference about the provision of hearing aids for children. One of the KCDHH Commissioners was the major impetus in passage of the bill requiring insurance companies in Kentucky to provide hearing aids to children less than 18 years of age. Another Commissioner is having problems with their insurance company who is providing a service to Kentucky but is located outside of the

Commonwealth. This issue affects other families and the provision of hearing aids to their children. Through collaboration between staff and Commissioners, a recommendation has been made to develop a simplified guide for parents to use to process the filing of an appeal if the insurance company refuses to provide devices. Additional research regarding the specific Kentucky Revised Statute pertaining to this issue and the insurance companies' rights if they are located out of state or a private insurer continues to be acquired and is to be presented to the full Commission.

Access Center Assignments

The Access Center (AC) is working closely with agencies within the Cabinet for Health and Families Services (CHFS) to make them aware of the AC services. A plan has been developed to include a DVD for new employee orientation training within CHFS, as there is a high rate of turnover within positions utilizing AC services.

Requests	Filled /pending Assignments	Cancelled Assignments	Interpreting Hours	# of contacts required to fill assignments
AC: Request for Interpreting	51	9	347	17
AC: Request for Captioning	2	0	12	13
AC: Request for Videoconference Interpreting	0	0	0	0

National Certification Opportunities

As a supersite for the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID), KCDHH hosted six performance test dates for 12 individuals during this quarter. Educational interpreters received more testing opportunities to facilitate additional slots for Performance exams provided during the holiday break. The Interpreter Referral Specialist developed new testing videos and evaluation materials in preparation for offering free National Interpreting Certification (NIC) testing opportunities during 2011.

Secretary Meyer's Open House

The Executive Director and Interpreter Referral Specialist attended an open house at the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet on December 13. This provided staff within the Cabinet the opportunity to mingle during a brunch provided by the Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) since KSD students were scheduled to give a presentation. Unfortunately the KSD students did not attend due to the inclement weather.

Telecommunications Access Program (TAP) Activities

Request	Applicants Receiving Equipment	Pieces of Equipment Distributed	Pending Order / Waiting List
TAP: Applying for STE	340 (2009 = 220)	670 (2009 = 437)	72 (2009 = 41)

* When compared to applications and equipment distributed in January 2009, TAP experienced a 55 percent increase with a 75 percent increase on the waiting list. The increased waiting list number is indicative of KCDHH's inclusion of wireless devices in the TAP.

Wireless

Now that the wireless distribution is under way, staff members hold meetings via phone and face-to-face with the wireless vendor to resolve issues as they arise. Some issues faced this quarter include; delay or non receipt of equipment, transferring old phone numbers to the TAP wireless device and consumers not having authorization to access their own accounts. These types of issues are indicative to implementing a new program are resolved. Over all, individuals who received their devices find them to be a useful and effective communication tool. Consumers also utilize the FAQs on the web to resolve simple questions for both ATT and GreatCall devices. The FAQ is updated as new information is received that would be helpful to recipients.

The Executive Director, Executive Staff Interpreter and Internal Policy Analyst III met face to face with ATT staff regarding issues with distribution of wireless devices on December 13. KCDHH suggested billing revisions to streamline the process for both parties and expedite the payment process to complete orders timely. KCDHH agreed to follow up on orders placed by ATT and notify them immediately if devices are not received to minimize complaints. Per the provided billing records, KCDHH is to contact consumers with extreme overages and advise them personally that they are consuming the funds allotted faster than anticipated and attempt to resolve the issue causing the overages. ATT service is improving as KCDHH works toward the smooth facilitation other vendors have come to provide within the TAP.

The Executive Director and the Internal Policy Analyst III held a meeting with staff from GreatCall (Jitterbug) regarding provision of equipment, timely notifications to consumers timely and billing details. To date GreatCall services have been exceptional and its billing protocol is utilized as a model between ATT representatives and TAP.

On November 15, KCDHH staff members again met with a representative from the

Kentucky Department of Library and Archives (KDLA) to discuss a scanning and archiving process for TAP applications. This is an effort to streamline application retrieval processes within TAP and to conserve physical storage space. Once the application is scanned, the information is linked to consumer profiles in the database to expedite previous application retrieval. KDLA scheduled a trial run to scan and store past TAP applications electronically.

TAP Advisory Board

The TAP Advisory Board held a meeting at KCDHH on October 7. Staff members gave presentations on training and outreach completed and discussed future endeavors. The Executive Director and staff provided the financial report, current statistics regarding approvals and pending applications, and regulation changes to Board members. New equipment inserts were discussed and members were provided with a demonstration of all equipment currently available through the program, as well as an update on wireless devices and status of orders. KCDHH asked members to become regional advocates and trainers to promote the program and assist other consumers with use of equipment.

TAP Outreach

The Information Program Coordinator and Administrative Specialist II attended the Northern Kentucky Senior Expo on October 21. The primary focus of this outreach was to serve senior citizens in the Northern Kentucky area. KCDHH displayed several pieces of TAP equipment, including the CapTel 800. The portable tester allowed senior citizens to test each of the pieces of amplified equipment. This activity was an excellent educational "moment" for the seniors, allowing them to see what amplified phones can do for them. KCDHH also explained about wireless pagers, highlighting the Jitterbug phone. KCDHH distributed TAP inserts and took application requests.

Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program Administrators

The Internal Policy Analyst III attended the Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program Administrators (TEDPA) annual conference held in Durham, North Carolina on October 12 - 17. TEDPA is a national organization composed of program administrators and staff that facilitate the states' equipment distribution programs. The Internal Policy Analyst III served as Secretary of the Board for the last four years and this was the final meeting of that tenure. At the conference, workshops were conducted with vendors and presenters to educate members on new equipment availability and the advantages and barriers other states' experience with equipment. New technologies, wireless capabilities and captioning technology were of particular interest at this conference. Members networked and learned of program requirements

between states, funding sources, legislative mandates and barriers, and means of implementing training techniques on a limited budget. States discussed strategies for marketing and outreach and how smaller programs can learn from the experience of larger state programs on what is successful and what is not. Members also networked with vendors to give recommendations for improvement of specific pieces of equipment and the needs for development of new equipment such as additional captioning technologies. TEDPA held an officer election during the business meeting and new board members were briefed of their responsibilities.

On December 6, the Internal Policy Analyst III participated in a conference call with the previous and new TEDPA Board members to begin planning of the 2011 conference scheduled for Salt Lake City, Utah. This transitional meeting allowed the outgoing Board members to advise the incoming members of their responsibilities and documentation needed to plan the conference. This was the last meeting the Internal Policy Analyst III participated in as a Board member.



KCDHH Goal II: Serve as a hub of current information from local, state and national resources to provide appropriate information and referral services.

VLOG

During the month of October, KCDHH developed a vlog to highlight Domestic Violence Awareness Month. During November, a vlog about mental health services for deaf and hard of hearing constituents was filmed. During December, due to the excitement surrounding the iPhone 4, a vlog was filmed encouraging users to share useful applications with the community that would assist with accessibility. KCDHH posted each of these vlogs on the "Community Speaks" web page allowing for shared information. Responses to questions provoked from the vlogs are monitored and answered timely.

Public Relations Output

The Office of Information Services focuses on PR efforts and outreach activities to increase awareness of services offered by the agency. Quarterly activities included:

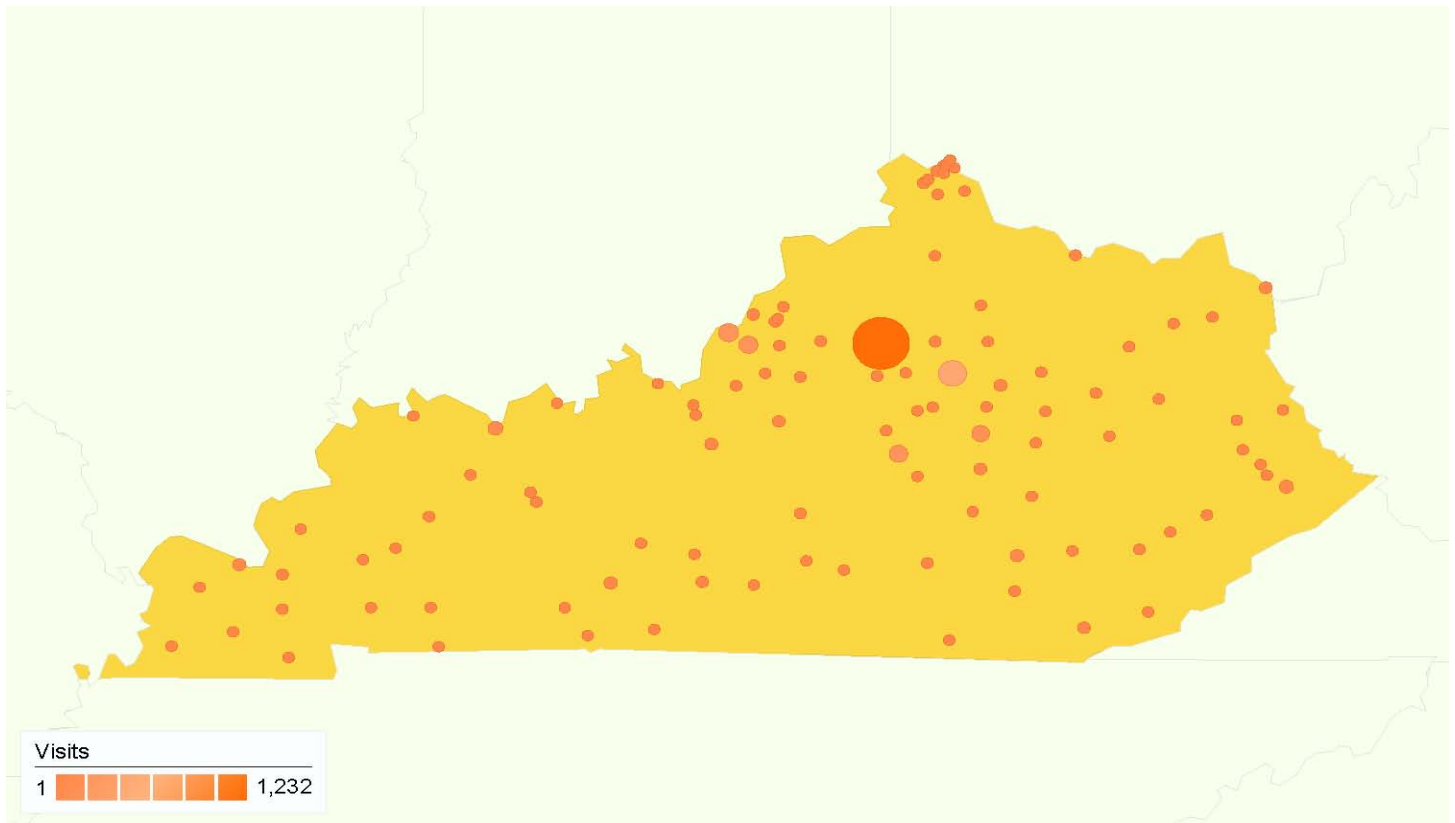
Date	Type of Communication	Topic of Public Relations Announcements and Outreach Activities	# Items Distributed
October 13, 2010	eBlitz	eBlitz advertising the PreConference Institute titled "Responding to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in the Deaf Community"	3085
October	Outreach	SERID booth. Items disseminated include	550

16- 19, 2010		Directory of Services, KCDHH key chains, TAP flyers, KCDHH flyers and Deaf Resource Library flyers.	
October 21, 2010	Outreach	Senior Expo booth in Northern Kentucky. Items disseminated include Directory of Services, KCDHH key chains, TAP flyers and KCDHH flyers.	410
October 27, 2010	Outreach	Bluegrass Area on Aging Agency booth in Lexington. Items disseminated include Directory of Services, TAP flyers and KCDHH flyers.	150
November 1, 2010	eBlitz	The Fall 2010 KCDHH Communicator	3078
November 2, 2010	Mail	Hard copies of the Fall Communicator.	678
November 5, 2010	eBlitz	eBlitz the Joint Judiciary Subcommittee on November 10 at the Capitol Annex Room.	992
November 9, 2010	Outreach	Barren River Mental Health & Aging Coalition booth at Bowling Green, KY. Items disseminated include, TAP flyers and KCDHH flyers.	200
December 3, 2010	eBlitz	Mental Health vlog posted on the KCDHH website and the six at 6:00 lecture series at Northern Kentucky University.	3126
December 21, 2010	eBlitz	eBlitz sent to constituents to announce the posting of the Winter issue of the KCDHH Communicator.	3095
		TOTAL	15,364

KCDHH Web Counter Hits

According to the recent Google Analytics Site Usage report, the Web site experienced 5,179 visits between October 1 and December 31, including 3,540 visits from 103 Kentucky cities and an average of 2.36 pages visited per visit. The visits from within Kentucky this quarter has remained evenly distributed throughout the state, and interestingly enough, we are still experiencing more and more visits from outside of Kentucky, including 165 visits from New York, 144 visits from Indiana, 110 visits from Ohio, and more. KCDHH is also continuing to receive visits from countries outside the US, including 36 visits from Canada, 11 from India, and 10 from Russia.

The following graph shows the demographics of Web hits from October 1 – December 31, 2010.



City	Visits	Pages/Visit	Avg. Time on Site	% New Visits	Bounce Rate
Frankfort	1,232	2.03	00:02:44	16.56%	64.12%
Lexington	450	2.72	00:02:44	57.33%	39.56%
Louisville	228	2.63	00:03:25	66.67%	41.23%
Jefferson County	201	2.48	00:03:29	62.69%	45.77%
Danville	190	2.84	00:04:12	48.95%	38.95%
Richmond	169	2.59	00:03:36	46.15%	49.70%
Owensboro	93	3.23	00:04:42	59.14%	31.18%
Pikeville	75	1.72	00:01:34	21.33%	48.00%
London	60	2.67	00:03:38	78.33%	40.00%

Information and Referral Requests

The Office of Information Services documented 1526 requests during this quarter.

Nature	Closed Requests	Pending Requests	Incomplete Requests	Incoming Contacts	Outgoing Contacts
AC: Evaluations	3	0	0	16	9
AC: Request for Captioner	2	0	0	14	13
AC: Request for Interpreter	59	1	0	461	431
Administration	2	0	0	1	1
DeaFestival	0	0	0	0	0
IRA: ASL & Linguistics	9	0	0	9	10
IRA: Deaf Culture	0	0	1	1	1
IRA: Deafness & Hearing Loss	61	0	0	61	78
IRA: Demographics & Statistics	1	0	0	1	1
IRA: Education	1	0	0	1	1
IRA: Employment	1	0	0	1	1
IRA: Families & Children	0	0	0	0	0
IRA: Human Services	8	0	1	9	12
IRA: Interpreting	24	0	0	51	36
RA: Legal Rights of Deaf and HOH	14	2	2	37	42
IRA: Outreach	6	1	0	7	8
IRA: Technology	36	0	1	39	45
IRA: Senior Citizens	1	0	0	1	1
Library	8	0	0	8	8
PUB: Communicator	1	0	0	1	1
PUB: KCDHH Publications	0	0	0	0	0
PUB: Directory of Services	6	0	0	6	6
PUB: Visitor Cards	22	0	0	23	24

TAP: Outreach	4	0	0	4	4
TAP: Received Application for STE	76	366	0	794	1244
TAP: Received Equipment	95	0	0	93	1
TAP: Repair	65	1	0	87	89
TAP: Send TAP Application	538	3	0	520	498
TAP: Status Check	93	1	0	113	90
TOTAL	1146	375	5	2371	2650

There was an increase in all TAP fields related to requesting applications and receiving applications. This resulted from TAP outreach efforts to inform constituents of available landline and wireless technology, and TAP staff handled more incoming calls with questions about wireless technology.



KCDHH Goal III: Initiate and advise the development of public policy and systems change efforts in cooperation with the Governor, General Assembly, governmental agencies, public and private entities.

Kentucky Relay Administration Board

The Internal Policy Analyst III attended the Kentucky Telecommunication Relay Advisory Board meeting in Frankfort on October 7, held at the Public Service Commission (PSC). Hamilton presented summaries of outreach, general operations and new initiatives for improving services. Consumers provided feedback and asked questions, to which Hamilton responded. KCDHH provided an update on the provision of wireless devices and the demands on TAP for information and training. Hamilton agreed to collaborate with KCDHH on upcoming activities. Hamilton hired a new outreach coordinator effective December 1.

Deaf Advocacy and Abuse Service

On October 5, the Information Office Supervisor attended the Deaf Advocacy Model for Abuse Service in Kentucky (DAMASK) Board meeting. The Board reviewed and finalized the bylaws, and then discussed training 10 or 15 Victim Advocates (VA) in the spring. The Information Office Supervisor met with representatives from Project SAFE, Mary Byron Project, mental health, Office for Vocational Rehabilitation and DAMASK to finalize arrangements for the Preconference Institute at the Ending Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Annual Conference. Logistics were finalized and attendees participated in a trial run of a role-play activity.

Emergency Prep

The Internal Policy Analyst III participated in a conference call with the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) regarding Emergency Preparedness for disabled populations on December 3. Discussion revolved around identifying the needs of this population and the recent proposed rulemaking on Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG911) services. FEMA received input from states on how to accommodate individuals with various disabilities.

At the request of the Department for Public Health (DPH), the Executive Director, Internal Policy Analyst III and Interpreter I met with the “at risk” planning coordinator on December 1 at the KCDHH office. The coordinator asked to meet with KCDHH to understand the deaf and hard of hearing population and its needs. Any person with a communication barrier, medication or medical need, lack of independence, in need of supervision or transportation is considered "at-risk" per FEMA guidelines. The At Risk Program Coordinator is working with KCDHH to ensure the needs of the deaf and hard of hearing are met, including possibly acquiring grant funds. KCDHH will coordinate a response with the at risk coordinator to the NG 911 rulemaking currently pending with the Department of Justice. The at-risk coordinator also asked KCDHH to assist with coordinating the registry of interpreters with the DPH office.

Kentucky Outreach and Information Network

On December 3, the Internal Policy Analyst III participated in the Kentucky Outreach and Information Network (KOIN) Advisory Panel conference call. Members throughout the state viewed and discussed a PowerPoint presentation presented by a representative from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services Division of Communications. The representative reviewed preferred techniques used to contact participating members should a health event or disaster occur in Kentucky and took recommendations for reaching our specific at-risk populations. KCDHH advised that it continues to work on implementing a means of texting its consumers to advise of such an event and noted its partnership with DPH.

ATT KY Consumer Advisory Panel

The Internal Policy Analyst III attended the ATT Consumer Advisory Panel meeting in Louisville held at the Junior Achievement Center (JA) on November 19. Two volunteers provided a tour of the JA facility and explained the many benefits elementary and secondary students receive while participating, including economic experience in personal financial planning, bank loans, business experience, marketing techniques and governmental functions. Students who complete the courses typically score better in math and economics testing and are more financially literate and

prepared to hold a job or run a business after graduation. Panel members heard a presentation by WellSprings, a residential facility that serves the needs of community members with mental illness. Updates were also provided by ATT wireless, ATT regulatory, Better Business Bureau, Volunteers of America, ConnectKY, Legal Aid, Career Visions (Office for the Blind), Elder Serve, Center for Accessible Living, Metro Housing, AARP and KCDHH.

Statewide Interagency Coordinating Committee

The Internal Policy Analyst III attended the Statewide Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC) Meeting held at Fair Oaks in Frankfort on November 30. This council includes; the Commission for Children for Special Health Care Needs (CCSHCN), Independent Living Center (ILC), the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), Human Development Institute (HDI), Disability Determinations Council (DDC), Kentucky Disabilities Coalition, KY Assistive Technology Services (KATS) Network, KY Assistive Technology Loan Corporation (KATLC), Client Assistance Program and KCDHH

KCDHH provided an update on the passage of the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010 and the recent Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) from the Department of Justice regarding captioning and video descriptions in movie theaters and NG911 technologies. Other agencies provided updates on recent and future initiatives.

Kentucky Assistive Technology Services Network

On November 17, the Internal Policy Analyst III attended the Kentucky Assistive Technology Services (KATS) Network Advisory Council meeting held at the Charles McDowell Center in Louisville. Regional Assistive Technology (AT) centers provided updates regarding activities held during the last quarter and future initiatives for the upcoming quarter. KATS network staff provided an update on the AT Act reauthorization of 2011 and other federal legislative activities. KATS also provided statistical analysis of Kentucky's activities over the last year. Nationally, only 70 percent of such programs meet their goals. Kentucky meets 99.8 percent of the goals set for AT utilization and ranks third in the nation on AT usage and customer satisfaction. A representative of the Western Kentucky AT center provided a live demonstration of the Intel Reader. KCDHH presented a summary on the DOJ rulemakings regarding movie captioning and NG911 services. The presentation also included information on the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010. A representative from the Hearing Loss Association of America also provided a live demonstration of many of the AT devices used to enhance telecommunications for deaf and hard of hearing individuals.

Mental Health

On October 13, the Information Office Supervisor met with statewide coordinator of mental health services for the deaf and hard of hearing and others via videophone to discuss the production of a DVD related to self-advocacy. Northern Kentucky Services for the Deaf and the Mental Health Association of Northern Kentucky received a grant to produce signed, open captioned educational DVDs, and one of the topics is self-advocacy. A short script is to be drafted and produced and the film will be posted on the mental health and KCDHH Web sites.

Mental Health Advisory Board

The Information Program Coordinator attended the Mental Health Core team at Louisville on October 29 and on November 17 as Chair; the Information Program Coordinator attended the Mental Health Advisory Board meeting in Frankfort. The Board discussed preparations for the biennial report and worked on the first two mandates. Members analyzed data related to deaf and hard of hearing consumers collected through the mental health department. Data was analyzed to assist the Board with generating questions regarding missing information and possible changes to mental health services for the deaf and hard of hearing. This data will lead the Board in creating recommendations to list on the biennial report. The Board decided to visit several mental health hospitals during the fall and consider doing a survey to find the results of their services to the deaf and hard of hearing population.

874 K Coalition

The Internal Policy Analyst III attended the 874K Coalition meeting held at the Capital Annex in Frankfort. Agencies and service organizations that serve the disabled populations throughout the state gathered to discuss the upcoming legislative session activities that affect our constituents. Medicaid funding was the primary topic and how tax reform to support continued programs were to be pursued.

Kentucky Legislative Information and Reporting

On November 23, the Internal Policy Analyst III attended the Kentucky Legislative Information and Reporting (KLIR) system training in preparation for review and comment on legislative activities during the 2011 session. The new system is more user-friendly but also prohibits agencies from viewing legislative comments from agencies outside their own cabinets. There is a mandatory 48-hour turnaround on comments for the entire Cabinet. The Interpreter I was trained to serve as an in-house back up for required legislative actions.

Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation

The Internal Policy Analyst III attended the Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation Board (KATLC) of Directors meeting held at the Charles McDowell Center in Louisville on December 9. Fifth Third Bank provided a report on the KATLC loan and investment funds and staffing changes that have occurred in the last quarter. Customer satisfaction reports, marketing activities and financial reports were also discussed as well as proposed Administrative Regulation changes. It was noted that KATLC has received and approved more applications during 2010 than during any year since its inception. Hearing aids continue to be the top request for AT.



KCDHH Goal IV: Empower constituents by providing leadership, training, advocacy, education, awareness, as well as programs and services to foster informed cultural and linguistic choices.

DeaFestival-Kentucky 2012/National Association of the Deaf Conference

On November 4, the Network Analyst II and Interpreter Referral Specialist completed final clean from DeaFestival 2010 and picked up items, including the mini concrete horse, in Horse Cave. The mini DeaFestival horse yet to be completed and plans have been developed to hold a competition in 2011 to complete the artwork, which would be shown at the 2012 NAD conference.

KCDHH held several meetings this quarter with staff from the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) to discuss how DeaFestival and the 2012 NAD Conference will share conference space. On October 12, the Executive Director and Interpreter Referral Specialist met with the Kentucky Convention Center to discuss space possibly used for the festival and additional logistics and also met with a representative from 4th Street Live to discuss possibilities for the usage of the space for the DeaFestival Jam Tent.

KyRID

On October 16, the Interpreter I co-presented with Ms. Linda Bozeman and Ms. Artie Grassman at a workshop during the KyRID conference. The workshop gave an update on proposed licensure regulation changes and ethical ramifications and considerations of those changes.

Kentucky Storytelling Conference

On November 12-13, the Executive Director and Internal Policy Analyst III attended the Kentucky Storytelling Association (KSA) conference at Kentucky Dam Village in

Gilbertsville, KY. The Knowledge Center on Deafness (KCD) collaborated with KSA to make the conference accessible and give deaf and hard of hearing storytellers the opportunity to participate in this event. Stories are an art and a means of communicating personal and cultural historical information from generation to generation. The Executive Director spoke at the opening session on Saturday and gave a short training, titled "Communicating with Everyone", showing participants how deaf culture is laced with storytelling traits and the language depends on body language and gestures similar to those used with telling a story. The KCDHH Chair participated as treasurer in the KSA during the past two years and was replaced during the elections held at this conference.



KCDHH Goal V: Cultivate and maintain an environment where productivity, efficiency and innovation thrive.

Interpreting Workshop

On November 8, the Interpreter Referral Specialist attended a workshop focused on interpreting called, "Analyzing our Work: Focusing on Content and Transitions during English to Sign Interpretations." This workshop provided an opportunity to see what new concepts and methods are being taught in the field and to network with interpreters in the community

Bringing in the Holidays

December 6 kicked off Secret Santa 2010. Staff drew names and brought gifts to their person during the entire week, culminating with a holiday party on December 10. Families attended and everyone was surprised when Signing Santa appeared! Signing Santa gave gifts to the staff's children and took photos. Prior to the Executive Board meeting, held on December 8, the Executive Board and KCDHH staff members partook in a potluck-style luncheon and participated in a Dirty Santa ornament swap.

The Executive Director designated December 13 through December 17 for in-house cleaning and staff purged paper and electronic files to prepare for the New Year.

KECC

On October 22, the Information Program Coordinator hosted a Kentucky Employee Charitable Campaign fundraising lunch with KCDHH staff at the Commission. KCDHH successfully raised \$900.00 from August through October toward support of the statewide KECC charity!

Staff Meetings

The Executive Director called staff meetings throughout the quarter to discuss daily operations of the office, special projects, administrative duties and current priorities to ensure that all offices are working together efficiently.

Birthdays

During the last quarter, KCDHH celebrated the birthdays of the Network Analyst II, Executive Staff Interpreter, Administrative Specialist II, Internal Policy Analyst III and Information Program Coordinator.