

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Budget



Fiscal Year 2017

Volume II – Health and Human Services

Gina M. Raimondo, Governor

Agency

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing

Agency Mission

To promote greater accessibility to services for the deaf and hard of hearing by developing awareness, communication access, and training programs to agencies, organizations, and businesses.

To conduct an ongoing needs assessment to identify gaps and recommend changes to improve the quality of living for the deaf and hard of hearing populations in Rhode Island.

To provide statewide centralized sign language interpreter referral services, including emergency referrals.

To advocate for the enactment of legislation that will promote accessibility of services.

To develop a statewide coordinating council to implement the comprehensive statewide strategic plan for children who are deaf or have hearing loss.

To oversee state agency compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations related to deaf and hard of hearing access issues through monitoring, training, and advocating.

To work with federal, state, and local organizations and agencies to improve the quality of life for deaf and hard of hearing persons in Rhode Island. To coordinate sign language and equipment interpreter services between agencies and organizations with the goal of centralizing services.

Agency Description

The Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing advocates and coordinates the promotion of an accessible environment in which deaf and hard of hearing persons in Rhode Island are afforded equal opportunity in all aspects of their lives. The commission develops policy and recommends appropriate programs and legislation to enhance cooperation and coordination among agencies and organizations now serving, or having the potential to serve, the deaf and hard of hearing. The Commission on the Deaf & Hard of Hearing reports to the Board of Commissioners which is composed of 13 members, of whom nine are deaf and hard of hearing consumers. The remaining four members are one (1) state senator, one (1) state representative, and two (2) hearing consumers/providers.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 23-1.8 includes provisions relating to the Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The current commission results from the 1992 restructure of the former Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, originally established in 1977.

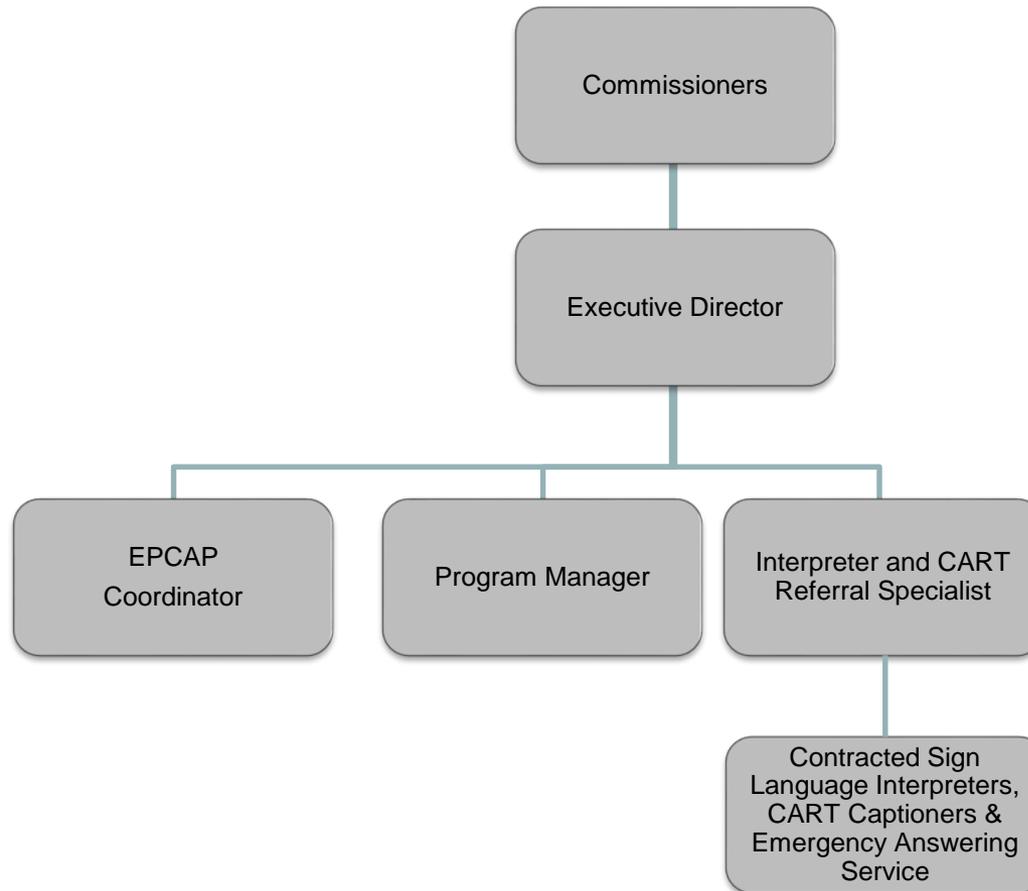
Budget

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing

	FY 2014 Audited	FY 2015 Audited	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2016 Revised	FY 2017 Recommend
Expenditures By Program					
Central Management	399,505	430,792	491,883	539,040	587,746
Total Expenditures	\$399,505	\$430,792	\$491,883	\$539,040	\$587,746
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	380,324	413,087	462,188	459,426	528,132
Operating Supplies and Expenses	18,525	17,705	26,195	76,114	56,114
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	398,849	430,792	488,383	535,540	584,246
Capital Purchases and Equipment	656	-	3,500	3,500	3,500
Total Expenditures	\$399,505	\$430,792	\$491,883	\$539,040	\$587,746
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	375,549	387,625	411,883	409,040	477,746
Restricted Receipts	23,956	43,167	80,000	130,000	110,000
Total Expenditures	\$399,505	\$430,792	\$491,883	\$539,040	\$587,746
FTE Authorization	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.0

The Agency

Commission on Deaf and Hard of Hearing



Personnel

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing Central Management

	Grade	FY 2016		FY 2017	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Classified					
INTERPRETER FOR THE DEAF	00014A	-	-	1.0	35,983
Subtotal		-	-	1.0	\$35,983
Unclassified					
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	00832A	1.0	81,983	1.0	82,418
PROGRAM MANAGER	00828A	1.0	73,528	1.0	73,919
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	00822A	1.0	51,683	1.0	53,003
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	00825A	-	-	-	-
Subtotal		3.0	\$207,194	3.0	\$209,340
Total Salaries		3.0	\$207,194	4.0	\$245,323
Benefits					
Payroll Accrual			1,184		1,357
FICA			15,850		18,768
Retiree Health			12,369		14,645
Health Benefits			51,139		70,437
Retirement			51,237		64,803
Subtotal			\$131,779		\$170,010
Total Salaries and Benefits		3.0	\$338,973	4.0	\$415,333
Cost Per FTE Position (Excluding Temporary and Seasonal)			\$112,991		\$103,833
Statewide Benefit Assessment			\$9,530		\$11,653
Payroll Costs		3.0	\$348,503	4.0	\$426,986
Purchased Services					
Clerical and Temporary Services			40,000		40,000
Other Contracts			70,423		60,646
Training and Educational Services			500		500
Subtotal			\$110,923		\$101,146
Total Personnel		3.0	\$459,426	4.0	\$528,132
Distribution By Source Of Funds					
General Revenue		3.0	\$398,426	4.0	\$467,132
Restricted Receipts		-	\$61,000	-	\$61,000
Total All Funds		3.0	\$459,426	4.0	\$528,132

Performance Measures

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing

Timeliness of Fulfilled Interpreter Requests

One of the Commission's legislative mandates (RIGL 23-1.8-2(6)) is to administer the interpreter referral service. The Statewide Interpreter Referral Service locates and secures freelance interpreters for assignments requested by the paying parties (such as hospitals, civil and criminal courts, etc.) to ensure communication access is being provided. The figures below represent the percentage of interpreter requests received more than three business days in advance that are filled.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Target	95%	95%	95%	95%	92%
Actual	92%	95%	95%	--	--

Performance for this measure is reported by state fiscal year.

Timeliness of Information Request Response

Individuals with hearing loss, parents, businesses, and other members of the general public regularly contact the office seeking resources and information. One of the Commission's legislative mandates (RIGL 23-1.8-2(4)) is to promote public awareness and to provide information and referral on the subject of deafness and hearing loss. The Commission aims to be Rhode Island's one-stop resource center for deafness and hearing loss-related inquiries. The figures below represent the percentage of information requests that receive a response within seven business days.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Actual	97%	96%	90%	--	--

Performance for this measure is reported by state fiscal year.