



This Summer and Fall, HSDC will focus one ENews on each of our five programs. This issue: **Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services**

## ..: ABOUT OUR ADVOCACY SERVICES :.

### Client & Communication Advocates in Seattle, Tacoma & Bellingham

HSDC's **Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services** include advocacy - for individuals - and for the larger community. Our primary service is one-on-one advocacy and support. This includes identifying the strengths and capacities of each individual we serve and their family/social network. We help them identify barriers and set goals for resolving those barriers in an action plan. We act as a support as they cope with the emotions, paperwork, social/agency processes, and public perceptions as they work toward their goals.

Similarly, we provide advocacy for systems (businesses, agencies, and groups) to assist them in designing accessible and effective services for the community they serve. In Bellingham, we teach ASL classes at least once a week either in our office or in the community, with the goal of increasing public awareness and the embracing of hearing loss as a natural form of diversity. With that we also do presentations and workshops for the community (groups, agencies, businesses, and conferences) on topics relating to diversity, hearing loss, and technology.

**Self-Advocacy Individual Advocacy Workshops & Trainings Videophone Access Training Communication Access & Assistance Outreach Individual Education Plan Consultation Technical Assistance Information & Referral Case Management Public Policy Advocacy**

> [Learn More about our ADVOCACY SERVICES](#)

## ..: PROGRAM DIRECTOR ARIELE BELO :.

### Meet the Director of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services

Arielle is a native of Seattle and alumna of the Hearing, Speech & Deafness Center's **Parent-Infant Program (PIP)**. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Leisure Studies and Recreation from California State University, Northridge. She has worked as an Outdoor Sales Specialist with REI, and later as a community advocate at the Community Service Center for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (CSCDHH). Her position at CSCDHH led to her current position as Director of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services at HSDC.



Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services are available at all three HSDC locations - Seattle, Tacoma and Bellingham - providing support to residents of **thirteen counties** across Western Washington. Arielle administers all contracts and provides outreach to nonprofit organizations, agencies and schools about HSDC. She also coordinates the Deaf Youth Leadership Program. Her position allows her to work closely with all staff in providing quality services to the community.

Recently, Arielle was appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire to the Board of Trustees of the Washington School for the Deaf ([www.wsd.wa.gov](http://www.wsd.wa.gov)). Congratulations, Arielle!!

## ..: MEET THE SEATTLE, TACOMA & BELLINGHAM STAFF :.

### Advocates & Support Staff Serving Western Washington

#### SEATTLE

**Chad A. Ludwig, MSW**  
Client Advocate

**Angela Theriault, MA**  
Client Advocate

**Donna Platt, MS**  
Manager, WA 911/TTY  
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#### TACOMA

**Barbara Hathaway, MSW**  
Client Advocate

**Christine Seymour**  
Communication Advocate

**Jeanine Edensword**  
Program Assistant  
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#### BELLINGHAM

**James Christianson, Jr.**  
Client Advocate

**Joel Bergsbaken**  
Communication Advocate

**Bennett Clothier**  
Program Assistant  
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HSDC Chief Executive Officer  
Susie Burdick

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## WAKE UP WITH BILL! SUCCESS

HSDC's annual breakfast event was held March 20th, 2007 and raised over \$50,000 for our well renowned **Early Childhood Education** programs. It's part of the HSDC's **Learning Through Language Initiative** to assure that ALL children have equal access to quality Early Learning. HSDC is passionate about preparing children for success in school and in life!

Keynote speaker William H. Gates Sr. spoke about his personal involvement with and respect for HSDC and how the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** is working to improve Early Learning in Washington and around the world.

> [Read More...](#)

## ..: READY FOR A VIDEOPHONE? :.

### HSDC Provides Information & Training on Setting Up a Videophone

Videophone technology is fast replacing TTY as the method of choice for Deaf and hard of hearing callers. And for great reasons - sign language users can communicate in their natural language and conversation flows more smoothly. If interpreters are involved, information is conveyed more accurately with the inclusion of visual cues and expression. Here's what some of HSDC's daily videophone users had to say:

*"It is wonderful. It seems more natural now that I can see the interpreter's face - that reflects the hearing caller's vocal inflection - to better know the mood of the hearing caller. And hearing callers have informed me that it feels more natural - as if the interpreter is not there - but just the hearing caller and me communicating directly. Lastly, it is faster than the TTY relay service."*

*"Videophone will help improve communication access to employees at their workplace - as well as in rural area where there aren't enough qualified interpreters."*

> [Learn More about VIDEOPHONES](#) > [Email videophone@hsrc.org for INFO](mailto:videophone@hsrc.org)



HSDC is a nonprofit organization serving children and adults facing communication challenges - regardless of their ability to pay. Your contribution supports **Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services, Audiology, Speech, Language & Learning** and **Early Childhood Education** programs. To make a donation that will help someone realize their full communication potential, please [visit HSDC online](#). Thank you!

## HEARING, SPEECH & DEAFNESS CENTER (HSDC)

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