

~~JUN 8 5 1976~~
JUN 28 1976

Deaf



Texas Commission for the Deaf

P.O. Box 12904 Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711

Carl P. Roberts
Executive Director

June 23, 1976

News of the Texas Commission for the Deaf: For Immediate Release. For further information, call the Texas Commission for the Deaf, 512-475-2492, Voice or MCM.

The Texas Commission for the Deaf is pleased to announce the addition of the Service Development Project for Elderly Deaf Persons to its State Program of Services to the Deaf. According to the Commission, this added service is being made possible through the agency interest and cooperative support of the Governor's Committee on Aging and the Department of Speech Communication of the University of Texas at Austin.

Through an Interagency Contract with the Commission, the Governor's Committee on Aging has agreed to fund the Service Development Project for Elderly Deaf Persons for the fiscal year of July 1, 1976 through June 30, 1977. For the past eighteen months, this special project has been successfully directed by the Department of Speech Communication, University of Texas at Austin, as a pilot demonstration project designed to involve the deaf in human service programs for the elderly.

Using the foundation well established through the original pilot demonstration program, the Commission plans to expand the project's services and activities. The general focus of the project will be to create "deaf awareness" on a systematic and statewide basis, with an ultimate goal of increasing the degree to which elderly deaf persons utilize existing social services. This task will be accomplished through a series of inservice training sessions held with statewide area office on aging personnel. These inservice training sessions will be conducted by Commission personnel and coordinated through the established twenty six area offices on aging which are located throughout the state. The Commission's inservice training sessions will be designed to assist community service providers to better understand the elderly deaf and their problems, and to develop more effective means of communicating information to elderly deaf Texans about the services that are available to them.