



TEXAS COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF

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

GUIDE POST

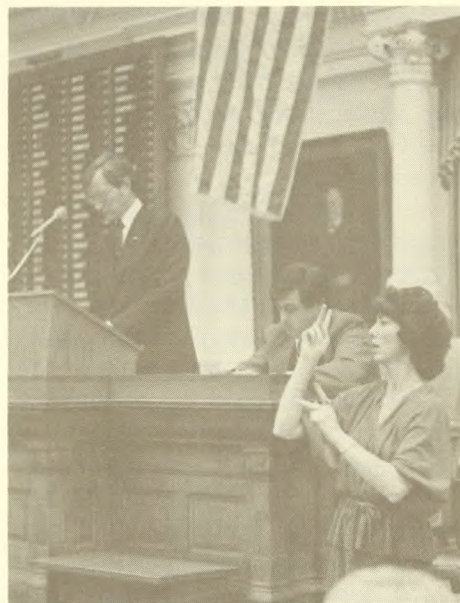
...A Newsletter in Service to Deaf Texans

Volume 2, No.1

March 1981



Rita DeVries, a resident of Katy, Texas, interprets as Sen. Chet Brooks prepares to introduce deaf members of the audience at the opening of the 67th legislature. Sen. Brooks chairs the Senate Human Resources Committee.



Roll is called during the opening day of the 67th session, as Fran Herrington of Austin interprets.

Deaf Texans Participate in Historical Event

For the first time in Texas history, opening day ceremonies of the 67th state legislature were interpreted for deaf people.

Interpreting the January 13 ceremonies were Rita DeVries from Katy and Deborah Drummond with the Texas Commission for the Deaf in the Senate and Elizabeth Criswell from Dallas and Fran Herrington from Austin in the House.

Arrangements for interpreters for the deaf to be present on the floor of the House and Senate were made with the assistance of the offices of the Speaker and the Lieutenant Governor. Sen. Chet Brooks, chairman of the Senate Human Resources Committee, reserved seats in the Senate Gallery for deaf people, as well as provided strong sup-

port for this historic endeavor.

Fred Tammen, Executive Director of the Texas Commission for the Deaf, said, "This not only is a great opportunity for deaf people to di-

rectly witness their state legislature at work, but it will also help representatives and senators become more aware of the communication problem that deaf people face daily."



Elizabeth Criswell of Dallas interprets as Rep. Craig Washington addresses the House of Representatives during opening day ceremonies.

Governor's Message Interpreted for Deaf

On January 22, 1981 Governor William Clements presented his state of the state message to a joint session of the legislature which was interpreted for deaf citizens. For the first time in Texas history, the Governor's address was witnessed and understood by deaf individuals in the audience. Several deaf individuals from the Texas School for the Deaf in Austin as well as other citizens from other areas of the state participated in the proceedings that began the legislative process.

In his opening remarks, the Governor acknowledged the interpreter, Deborah Drummond of the Texas Commission for the Deaf, and welcomed deaf individuals in the galleries. The Governor prioritized needs and established goals to set the tone of the coming session.

Governor Clements recommended "increases ... to strengthen and enhance specific programs, and high on my list of priorities is an increase ... for human service agencies, in-



Texas Governor William Clements delivers his State of the State Address to a joint session of the legislature as Deborah Drummond, at the right of the podium, interprets the historic event.

cluding ... the Texas Commission for the Deaf." This statement was a highlight to the deaf audience involved in this historic event.

It is hoped that future activities relevant to the deaf will also be interpreted for deaf people. Governor Clements' willingness to allow an interpreter on the floor for his message is an important step in promoting deaf awareness. The Governor closed his remarks with a

statement indicating his decision to insure appropriate legislation to achieve his goals. Governor Clements remarked that we should "let history remember us as the ones who made the tough decisions and took the steps in the 1980's to insure the continued prosperity and high quality of life within our great State. The Sixty-Seventh Session of the Texas Legislature provides us with the opportunity to exert such leadership"

Texas Commission for the Deaf Update

In recent meetings, the Texas Commission for the Deaf has adopted various important rulings.

Advisory Committee on Interpreter Issues

The Commission appointed an Advisory Committee on Interpreter Issues to examine interpreter fees and policies.

At the February 14 meeting, the Commission adopted the Code of Ethics of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf as the basis for the Standards of Ethical Behavior for the Texas Commission for the Deaf. The Commission ruled that these standards should be complied with by community-based councils for the deaf and will be incorporated into future contracts with the councils.

In addition, interpreters employed by these councils will be required to sign and agree to comply with these standards. To facilitate understanding of and compliance with the Standards of Ethical Behavior, TCD will supply training materials and

guidelines for workshops for interpreter training.

Following extensive research, the Advisory Committee on Interpreter Issues made recommendations to the Commission on issues regarding interpreter fees. The Commission approved the recommendations that the fees paid to certified interpreters be increased \$1.50 per hour per assignment according to certification; that interpreters be paid a two-hour minimum per assignment with succeeding time to be paid in half-hour increments rounded off to the nearest half-hour; and that fees paid to interpreters in civil, criminal and governmental proceedings be increased by \$2.00 per hour per assignment according to certificate.

The Commission also considered a recommendation on payment for travel for interpreters, but was unable to reach a final decision; the issue was tabled until the next meeting.

Another issue of significance concerned fees and policy regarding

hearing individuals who hold a Reverse Skills Certificate. In an attempt to clarify present policy, the Commission decided to compensate deaf and hearing individuals holding valid Reverse Skills Certificates at the same rate for a period of one year. The one year period is intended to allow hearing RSC holders sufficient time to obtain a Comprehensive Skills Certificate; at the end of the one year period, hearing RSC interpreters will be compensated at the rate for a single certificate.

As with previous decisions, these issues were passed by the Commission and will be heard again by TCD after a comment period. Interested parties may comment on these proposals by writing TCD, P.O. Box 12904, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas, 78711.

Board for the Evaluation of Interpreters

The Board for the Evaluation of Interpreters has been working diligently on establishing a system of state licensure for interpreters for

about 50 percent deaf and 50 percent hearing.

Programs at SWCID range from preparatory to regular college programs. Many courses are taught by deaf instructors or individuals with fluent sign language skills.

As the programs develop, students will have the opportunity to acquire training and education in dentistry, optometry, X-ray technology, nursing and many others.

The goals of SWCID focus on the primary objective of planning programs around the needs of the students rather than trying to fit the student into existing programs. The institution offers exceptional support services in the areas of counseling, assessment, audiology, speech therapy, etc.

South West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf has set high goals for a promising future for deaf people. For more information about SWCID, contact Dr. Douglas Burke, South West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, Avenue C, Big Spring, Texas 78720; 915-267-2516 (V or TTY).

Interpreter Directory

Certified Interpreters are presently being surveyed in order to update the Texas Commission for the Deaf's Directory of Commission-Qualified Interpreters. Interpreters who hold a valid MCSC, CSC, LSC, OIC:C or RSC should return a completed interpreter survey form along with a copy of the certificate to the Commission before March 31, 1981.

COMMUNITY-BASED COUNCILS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED SERVING DEAF CITIZENS

The Texas Commission for the Deaf exists to provide statewide programs to ensure services to deaf citizens. Interpreting services and information and referral services are available to all deaf people in Texas. Interpreting services are available to deaf individuals

seeking essential human services and who are unable to provide their own interpreter. Qualified interpreters can be obtained for legal, medical, and economic related situations.

Information and referral services may be obtained when needing assistance to determine appropriate services for deaf persons.

These services are provided by local councils serving the deaf. Seventeen councils throughout Texas are funded through contracts with the Texas Commission for the Deaf. If you are deaf, you may be eligible for these services at no cost to you. Call, write, or visit the local council nearest you, ask about their services, and use their services.

Central Texas Council for the Deaf

1012 N. 22nd
Waco, Texas 76707
817-753-8009 (V)
817-754-4247 (TTY)

CBFL/Center on Deafness

3110 So. Shepherd
Houston, Texas 77098
713-528-6523 (V)
713-528-5646 (TTY)

Corpus Christi Area Council for the Deaf

P.O. Drawer 9727
Corpus Christi, Texas 78408
512-855-0581 (24 hrs-V, TTY)

Deaf Action Center

3115 Crestview
Dallas, Texas 75235
214-521-0407 (V, TTY)
214-690-7101 (after hrs)

East Texas Deaf and Hearing Association

216 W. Erwin St., Room 209
Tyler, Texas 75701
214-593-3217 (V, TTY)
214-593-6504 (ans. serv.)

El Paso Center of the Deaf

1005 East Yandell
El Paso, Texas 79902
915-544-6032 (V, TTY)

Lubbock County Services for the Deaf

P.O. Box 2321
Lubbock, Texas 79408
806-744-2166 (V, TTY)

Panhandle Council for the Deaf

1506 S. Travis
Amarillo, Texas 79102
806-374-4802 (res) (V)
806-355-3396 (work) (V)

Permian Basin Council for the Hearing Impaired

P.O. Box 5406
Midland, Texas 79704
915-684-0043 (V, TTY)

San Antonio Council for the Adv. of Services to the Deaf

6487 Whitby Road
San Antonio, Texas 78240
512-699-3311 (V)
512-696-0231 (TTY)

Silent Friends of Wichita Falls

4515 Maplewood Apt. 134
Wichita Falls, Texas 76308
817-723-2121 (V)
817-723-9192 (after 3:30)

Southeast Texas Council for the Hearing Impaired

c/o Lamar Speech & Hearing
Clinic
P.O. Box 10076
Lamar Station
Beaumont, Texas 77710
713-838-8224 (V, TTY)

Tarrant County Services for the Hearing Impaired

2500 Lipscomb
Fort Worth, Texas 76110
817-926-5305 (V, TTY)

Texarkana Area Services for the Hearing Impaired

4108 Arbor Drive
Texarkana, Texas 75503
214-838-7371 (TTY)

Texoma Council for the Deaf

800 North Travis
Sherman, Texas 75090
214-892-6531 (V, TTY)

Travis County Council for the Deaf

2201 Post Road, Room 100
Austin, Texas 78704
512-444-3323 (V)
512-444-4181 (TTY)

West Texas Services for the Deaf

1216 Mimosa
Abilene, Texas 79603
915-672-5987 (after 5:00) (V, TTY)

Legislative Developments

Four bills currently facing the Texas Legislature will have major impact on the services provided by the Texas Commission for the Deaf.

Undoubtedly the most crucial issue affecting the Commission is the amendment to the enabling legislation passed in the previous legislative session. The enabling legislation, S.B. 1157, authorized the Commission to provide deaf individuals direct services not previously designated by legislation as the responsibility of other agencies.

However, the provision is not only ambiguous, but places upon the Commission the burden of demonstrating what direct services other agencies are not responsible for.

To strengthen the enabling legislation, bills have been introduced in both the House and Senate (H.B. 194 and S.B. 52) which clarify services for which TCD will be responsible.

The newly-introduced legislation amends chapter 81.006(a) of S.B. 1157 to read:

(1) "develop and implement a statewide program of advocacy and education to ensure continuity of services to the deaf;

(2) provide direct services to the deaf, including interpreter services, information and referral services, advocacy services, services to elderly deaf, training in basic life skills and job-seeking skills, and individual and family counseling;"

and amends subsection (a) (5) to read:

(5) "conduct, in consultation with institutions of higher education, interpreter training workshops and institutes designed to qualify interpreters for state certification, develop guidelines for instruction of interpreters for the deaf in institutions of higher education, and with the assistance of the Central Education Agency, develop and implement standards for training interpreters for the deaf in institutions of higher education."

In order to provide these additional services, H.B. 194 and S.B. 52 recommend that TCD's budget for

Fiscal Year 1982 be increased from \$216,000 to \$2 million.

In addition to the enabling legislation amendments, bills have been introduced in the House and Senate which would provide the Commission with additional authority in three areas of special services.

H.B. 192 and S.B. 320 provide for pilot programs for deaf/blind individuals. These programs would provide services designed to help deaf/blind individuals achieve a higher level of functioning so as to live more independently. The Commission would have the authority to survey existing services currently available to deaf/blind individuals and to determine the number of deaf/blind individuals who could benefit by future services.

S.B. 320 recently was favorably reported out of the Human Resources Committee by a vote of seven to zero. The bill was considered by the full Senate March 4, and passed by a vote of 25 to two.

H.B. 193 and S.B. 6 would authorize the Commission to establish a state agency telecommunications device (TDD) system for the deaf. The Commission would purchase, rent or lease telecommunication devices and appropriately place those devices in various state agency offices to assist in providing access to services for deaf people. Currently the deaf have an extremely difficult time determining services and eligibility requirements of human service programs offered by state agencies. This bill was favorably reported out of Senate committee on February 23 by a vote of 8 to 0.

H.B. 195 and S.B. 57 would establish an outdoor training program for school-aged deaf children. Authority for such a program would be transferred from the Texas Education Agency to TCD. The program would provide summer camp and training experiences for deaf children who might otherwise not have such opportunities. Counselors and supervisors in the training program would be trained to work with such children. This bill has been passed by the full Senate and sent to the House for its consideration.

Sponsors of the bills are Rep.

Craig Washington in the House and Senators Chet Brooks, Lloyd Doggett and Carl Parker in the Senate.

Post Secondary Deaf Programs Highlighted

A number of programs in colleges, universities and community colleges throughout the state of Texas offer educational and vocational training opportunities for deaf Texans. In an effort to familiarize the public with these programs, the Texas Commission for the Deaf is initiating a series of articles on post secondary programs for the deaf.

South West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf

South West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID) has been called a dream become a reality. SWCID, located on 69 acres of a former Air Force base in Big Spring, Texas, started as the dream of two parents and has become the dream of hundreds of deaf young people and educators in the profession.

The first classes started on August 25, 1980 with 27 students enrolled in the preparatory and college programs. That number has increased to 52 during the spring semester. More than 2,000 requests for applications and information have been received and the projected student population for the fall is nearly 200.

Dr. Douglas Burke, Executive Director of the school, is the first deaf person to become executive director of a college level institution. Dr. Burke has been involved in the SWCID dream since its inception several years ago and has been instrumental in acquiring the funds and establishing the staff and programs which are making the dream come true.

The staff of the institution are among the most qualified educators, administrators and interpreters in the field of deafness. All of the professional staff sign fluently; most hold some level of certification from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. The staff is currently

about 50 percent deaf and 50 percent hearing.

Programs at SWCID range from preparatory to regular college programs. Many courses are taught by deaf instructors or individuals with fluent sign language skills.

As the programs develop, students will have the opportunity to acquire training and education in dentistry, optometry, X-ray technology, nursing and many others.

The goals of SWCID focus on the primary objective of planning programs around the needs of the students rather than trying to fit the student into existing programs. The institution offers exceptional support services in the areas of counseling, assessment, audiology, speech therapy, etc.

South West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf has set high goals for a promising future for deaf people. For more information about SWCID, contact Dr. Douglas Burke, South West Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, Avenue C, Big Spring, Texas 78720; 915-267-2516 (V or TTY).

Interpreter Directory

Certified Interpreters are presently being surveyed in order to update the Texas Commission for the Deaf's Directory of Commission-Qualified Interpreters. Interpreters who hold a valid MCSC, CSC, LSC, OIC:C or RSC should return a completed interpreter survey form along with a copy of the certificate to the Commission before March 31, 1981.

COMMUNITY-BASED COUNCILS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED SERVING DEAF CITIZENS

The Texas Commission for the Deaf exists to provide statewide programs to ensure services to deaf citizens. Interpreting services and information and referral services are available to all deaf people in Texas. Interpreting services are available to deaf individuals

seeking essential human services and who are unable to provide their own interpreter. Qualified interpreters can be obtained for legal, medical, and economic related situations.

Information and referral services may be obtained when needing assistance to determine appropriate services for deaf persons.

These services are provided by local councils serving the deaf. Seventeen councils throughout Texas are funded through contracts with the Texas Commission for the Deaf. If you are deaf, you may be eligible for these services at no cost to you. Call, write, or visit the local council nearest you, ask about their services, and use their services.

Central Texas Council for the Deaf

1012 N. 22nd
Waco, Texas 76707
817-753-8009 (V)
817-754-4247 (TTY)

CBFL/Center on Deafness

3110 So. Shepherd
Houston, Texas 77098
713-528-6523 (V)
713-528-5646 (TTY)

Corpus Christi Area Council for the Deaf

P.O. Drawer 9727
Corpus Christi, Texas 78408
512-855-0581 (24 hrs-V, TTY)

Deaf Action Center

3115 Crestview
Dallas, Texas 75235
214-521-0407 (V, TTY)
214-690-7101 (after hrs)

East Texas Deaf and Hearing Association

216 W. Erwin St., Room 209
Tyler, Texas 75701
214-593-3217 (V, TTY)
214-593-6504 (ans. serv.)

El Paso Center of the Deaf

1005 East Yandell
El Paso, Texas 79902
915-544-6032 (V, TTY)

Lubbock County Services for the Deaf

P.O. Box 2321
Lubbock, Texas 79408
806-744-2166 (V, TTY)

Panhandle Council for the Deaf

1506 S. Travis
Amarillo, Texas 79102
806-374-4802 (res) (V)
806-355-3396 (work) (V)

Permian Basin Council for the Hearing Impaired

P.O. Box 5406
Midland, Texas 79704
915-684-0043 (V, TTY)

San Antonio Council for the Adv. of Services to the Deaf

6487 Whitby Road
San Antonio, Texas 78240
512-699-3311 (V)
512-696-0231 (TTY)

Silent Friends of Wichita Falls

4515 Maplewood Apt. 134
Wichita Falls, Texas 76308
817-723-2121 (V)
817-723-9192 (after 3:30)

Southeast Texas Council for the Hearing Impaired

c/o Lamar Speech & Hearing
Clinic
P.O. Box 10076
Lamar Station
Beaumont, Texas 77710
713-838-8224 (V, TTY)

Tarrant County Services for the Hearing Impaired

2500 Lipscomb
Fort Worth, Texas 76110
817-926-5305 (V, TTY)

Texarkana Area Services for the Hearing Impaired

4108 Arbor Drive
Texarkana, Texas 75503
214-838-7371 (TTY)

Texoma Council for the Deaf

800 North Travis
Sherman, Texas 75090
214-892-6531 (V, TTY)

Travis County Council for the Deaf

2201 Post Road, Room 100
Austin, Texas 78704
512-444-3323 (V)
512-444-4181 (TTY)

West Texas Services for the Deaf

1216 Mimosa
Abilene, Texas 79603
915-672-5987 (after 5:00) (V, TTY)

Councils Participate in Training Workshop

An Informational and Training Workshop was held in Austin on February 13-15 for individuals from subcontracting councils that deal directly with the provision of services to deaf Texans. The three day training session focused on understanding the scope of Title XX contracts, complying with eligibility determination requirements and operating effective information and referral centers. Approximately 60 participants, including service providers, council presidents and interpreters, represented 16 of the 17 community-based councils.

Co-sponsored by Texas Department of Human Resources and TCD,



The conference was not all work, as William Floerke demonstrates.

staff from both agencies provided instruction and training materials. Representing TDHR was Merle Springer, Deputy Commissioner. Mr. Springer spoke about the excellent working relationship between the two state agencies. This is the fourth year TDHR has had a contract with TCD to provide interpreter services to eligible deaf clients. Information and Referral services are also provided to local citizens inquiring about human services for deaf individuals.

Working directly with TCD staff



Darrell Bonjour, left, Deborah Drummond, center, and Lisa Gilbert, right, participate in a role playing exercise during the workshop.



Members of the Corpus Christi Area Council for the Deaf were participants in the Title XX eligibility training.

and the Title XX contracts is John Lindell. As Administrator of the Family Support Services Division, Mr. Lindell explained the history of Title XX funds and how monies were designated for human services programs. Mr. Lindell gave a comprehensive overview of the sub-contract requirements for the 17 councils.

Also providing information from the TDHR perspective was Joy Mitchell, Service Control Officer with the Program Management Division. Ms. Mitchell presented time-saving tips and thoroughly examined eligibility determination requirements of the Title XX process.

Saturday morning, workshop participants attended the TCD Commission meeting. This was an opportunity for councils to observe the workings of the Commission on a broader basis. For many of these individuals, it was their first time to witness these activities.

Positive feedback was given by many of the workshop participants. Follow-up visits will be made in coming months to the local communities. At this time, TCD staff will provide intensive individualized assistance and determine contract compliance.

Meet Your Commissioners

Ralph White

Heading the Commission as Chairman is Ralph H. White. Appointed to the Commission by Governor Clements, Mr. White was elected as Chairman in September 1979.

As a deaf person, Chairman White has both personal as well as professional input into the working of the Commission.

He possesses an extensive background in the field of education, rehabilitation and deafness. Holding two Masters degrees, one in Educational Psychology and one in Educational Administration and Supervision, Mr. White is currently employed as a Program Specialist in the Hearing Impaired Program of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

The Commission Chairman is affiliated with many national professional groups, including past presi-



Ralph White

dent of the National Association of the Deaf, American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association, and the National Rehabilitation Association. He acts as a member of advisory councils for the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, the National Center on Deafness (California State University) and the Commission on Rehabilitation Counseling.

Mr. White has published several articles regarding rehabilitation of deaf individuals and has been presented many awards for outstanding service.

Rudy Gamblin

Rudy Gamblin, a native Texan, is Secretary of the Texas Commission for the Deaf.

At the age of 3 years, Mr. Gamblin became deaf. Following graduation from the Texas School for the Deaf, he attended Gallaudet College in Washington, D.C.

Football became Commissioner Gamblin's hobby and eventually his career. While at Gallaudet, he was captain of the football team, physical education assistant, and assistant football coach. His coaching record includes stints at the New York School for the Deaf in New York City, El Paso High School, Texas School for the Deaf and Amarillo High School.

Mr. Gamblin is a past president of the Texas Association of the Deaf and was the founder of the Texas Society of Interpreters for the Deaf. This concept of an organization for interpreters for the deaf spread throughout the country and has re-



Rudy Gamblin

sulted in a national organization.

Commissioner Gamblin has many years of experience in educational settings for the deaf and also has vast knowledge in organization of advocacy groups.

TCD Introduces Staff

In recent months, the staff of the Texas Commission for the Deaf has undergone several changes and additions. The following is a brief introduction to the staff:

FRED TAMMEN

The Executive Director of the

Texas Commission for the Deaf is Fred Tammen.

Mr. Tammen has nearly 20 years of experience in the field of human services at both state and national levels.

As Executive Director of TCD, Mr. Tammen provides information to legislators on bills of interest to the deaf community. Upon request, he testifies before legislative committees regarding issues which potentially could improve the lives of deaf Texans. This year, Mr. Tammen has helped develop an extremely positive relationship between the legislature, TCD and other state agencies.

BETH COX

Recently appointed to the position of Assistant Director of TCD is Beth Cox.

Ms. Cox received both her bachelor and masters in education degrees from the University of Missouri. In addition, she attended the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, where she was involved in the interpreter training program. Ms. Cox holds a Transliterating Certificate from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

Her duties with TCD include supervising the staff, administering the Direct Service Programs, providing technical assistance and determining contract compliance of the 17 contracting councils.

DEBORAH DRUMMOND

As Coordinator of Interpreter



TCD staff members include, back row left to right, Diana Ward, Beth Cox, Pat Whitten, Ginger Smith and Sue Thornton; front row left to right, Marsha Belknap, Deborah Drummond, Fred Tammen and Lorita Smith.

Development for TCD, Deborah Drummond is responsible for all aspects of interpreter development, including coordinating workshops for interpreters, providing technical assistance and advice to interpreter training programs at post secondary educational institutions, and developing the Directory of Commission Qualified Interpreters.

Ms. Drummond comes to the Commission with a variety of experience, including work as an interpreter in a community service center for the deaf, teacher of multi-handicapped adults in a rehabilitation center for the deaf, activity coordinator for a program for elderly deaf people and coordinator of special services for deaf students in a community college. Ms. Drummond holds a Comprehensive Skills Certificate from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

PAT WHITTEN

Pat Whitten, Coordinator of Direct Services, has a specialized and intensive background in state agency operations, as well as an involvement with the deaf community.

As Coordinator of Direct Services, Ms. Whitten provides technical assistance and support to 17 community-based subcontracting councils that serve deaf individuals, answers policy questions regarding service eligibility and develops materials to strengthen council services and establishes guidelines for service providers.

LORITA SMITH

Lorita Smith is the Commission's newly-appointed Title XX Specialist.

Ms. Smith's responsibilities at TCD include daily contact with the 17 subcontracting councils, checking all reporting forms, establishing guidelines for reporting and compiling cumulative statistical reports for the Commission.

Ms. Smith has been instrumental in improving sign language skills of the TCD staff. In addition to her work at the Commission, she spends her free time as a substitute houseparent at the Behavior Improvement Center at the Texas School for the Deaf.

GINGER SMITH

As Business Manager, Ginger Smith brings an extensive background in state office operations and accounting to TCD.

Mrs. Smith provides the bookkeeping and accounting duties required by the varied contracts and subcontracts held by TCD. She also provides technical assistance for the councils' local fiscal management, develops budget information, organizes accounting procedures and manages all fiscal aspects for the Commission.

MARSHA BELKNAP

Another recent addition to the TCD staff is Staff Assistant Marsha Belknap.

A native Texan, Ms. Belknap graduated from Dripping Springs High School and attended Brackenridge

Hospital School of Nursing for one and one-half years. She recently earned an Associate of Arts degree from Austin Community College.

Ms. Belknap's duties include assisting visitors in the TCD office, answering coorespondence and performing a wide range of office duties to assist the Executive Director. She also serves as TCD photographer.

DIANA WARD

With TCD for over a year, Diana Ward also serves as Staff Assistant.

Before coming to TCD, Mrs. Ward was a member of the staff of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute in Indiana and was research assistant to the editor of a local newspaper in Indianapolis. She has a variety of experience in secretarial and technical aspects of office procedures.

Mrs. Ward is responsible for recording all proceedings of the Commission for the Deaf, the Technical Advisory Council and the Board for the Evaluation of Interpreters.

SUE THORNTON

The newest member of the TCD staff is Sue Thornton. Ms. Thornton comes to the Commission from the Governor's Committee on Aging, where she was a public relations consultant.

For the next several months, Ms. Thornton will be surveying state agencies to determine services available to elderly deaf individuals. The results of the survey will be published in a booklet for use by elderly deaf Texans.



TEXAS COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF

GUIDE POST

...A Newsletter in Service to Deaf Texans

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

502

HON. BETTY ANDUJAR
TEXAS STATE SENATE
PO BOX 12068 CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711