National Association of the Deaf

Founded in 1880 by deaf leaders
The mission of the National Association of the Deaf is to preserve, protect and promote the civil, human and linguistic rights of deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the United States of America.
51 State Associations
NAD

Biennial Conferences

2008 in New Orleans

49th biennial conference

Over 1500 attendees

2010 in Philadelphia
NAD Youth Programs

Junior National Association of the Deaf
Junior high and high schools nationwide
Leadership, teamwork, responsibility, self-confidence
Opportunities to meet other deaf youth from around the country

Youth Leadership Camp (NAD YLC)
Annual four-week summer program for high school students
Teamwork, knowledge, social interaction, leadership
NAD Youth Programs

Miss Deaf America (MDA)
Biennial pageant for women 18 to 28
Takes place during the NAD conference
Guest presentations and appearances

College Bowl Competition (CoBo)
Held during the biennial NAD Conference
California State University – Northridge
Gallaudet University
National Technical Institute for the Deaf
at Rochester Institute of Technology

Law and Advocacy Center

Federal policy

Protection of individuals' rights through litigation

Technical assistance and information to the public

Information on web
Access to Health Care

ADA Title III Public Accommodation Requirement for “effective communication”
Qualified interpreters/other effective methods
Acquisition, modification of equipment or devices/other similar services and actions
“Primary consideration” given to consumer
Undue burden
Fundamental alteration
Complaints/law suits

Access to Health Care (con’t)

Position or Advocacy Statements:
- Culturally Affirmative and Linguistically Accessible Mental Health Services
- Mental Health Services for Deaf Children
- Video Remote Interpreting Services in Hospitals
- Use of Video Remote Interpreting in the Medical Setting
Public Accommodation Access

Feldman, Kelly, and Singleton v. Washington Redskins – Captioning in stadium to make audio information accessible to deaf and hard of hearing people
Transportation

Air Carrier Access Act
  Comments
  Forum
  Meetings with U.S. DoT
Passenger Vessel Emergency Alarm Advisory Group
  Recommendations to Access Board
DoT Passenger Vessel NPRM
Telecommunications

21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (www.coataccess.org)

Access to new technologies
Captioned programming on television - Internet
Caption decoding and display requirements applied to mobile devices
Conspicuous means for accessing captioning
Hearing aid compatibility – IP enabled services
Enforcement provisions
Captioning

Opposition comments with the FCC on numerous captioning exemption requests
Advocate for FCC to issue rules to improve quality
Advocate to ensure digital television carries captioning
Captioned radio
Outreach to community on digital television
Telecommunication Relay Service

Move from TTY to video services
10 digit numbering/interoperability
E-911 services
NG911
Complaints against businesses that refuse to accept relay calls
Captioned Movies

Title III of the ADA applies to movie theaters
Open captioning
Caption display technology to show captions on the screen or at seat
Movie studios are captioning movies
Movie theaters must display captions if it is not too difficult and not too expensive
Lawsuits
Working with industry
Emergency Preparedness

Emergency systems need to be made more accessible to deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Work with FEMA, Red Cross, other agencies to educate how to better serve deaf and hard of hearing community.
Education

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act:

Free Appropriate Public Education in
Least Restrictive Environment based on child’s
Individualized Education Program
Reauthorized in 2004
Regulations issued in 2006
IDEA aligned with No Child Left Behind
Education

Advise families about IDEA rights and consult on individual cases

Comment to U.S. Department of Education on proposed rules

Participate in reauthorizations
Education

No Child Left Behind
States, districts, schools - “Adequate Yearly Progress” based on annual assessments
Subgroups – minority, poverty, disabilities, English language learners
All must make AYP
Alternate assessments available
“Highly qualified” teachers
Reauthorization?
Economy

Budget cuts, deaf schools, services
What you can do

Join and support the NAD and other advocacy groups
Know your rights
Protect your rights - file complaints
Contact the NAD Law and Advocacy Center if you believe your rights have been violated
contact us

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