

# COMMISSIONERS

CDHH has eleven (11) volunteer Commissioners appointed by the Governor:  
5 Deaf (who use ASL)  
3 Hard of Hearing  
2 Hearing  
1 Deaf (who doesn't use ASL)

## Current Commissioners (as of 8/24/15)

*Heather Niedbala, Chair*  
*James Simon, Secretary*  
*Elizabeth Beach, Treasurer*  
*Joseph Batiano*  
*George E. Herchenroether*  
*Todd Murano*  
*Timothy Riker*  
*Nico Sedivy*

# RICDHH STAFF

## Executive Director

*Steven A. Florio*

## Program Manager

*Pamela Zellner*

## Interpreter/CART Referral Specialist

*Holly St. Pierre*

## Emergency and Public Communication Access Program Coordinator

*Mi Ok Bruining*

## Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

*Dept. of Administration Building*  
*One Capitol Hill, Ground Level*  
*Providence, RI 02908-5850*  
*(401) 256-5511 TEL/VP*  
*(401) 222-5736 FAX*  
*Email: [cdhh.main@cdhh.ri.gov](mailto:cdhh.main@cdhh.ri.gov)*  
*Website: [www.cdhh.ri.gov](http://www.cdhh.ri.gov)*



### Office Hours

*Monday-Friday*  
*9:00 AM to 3:00 PM*



### Sign Language Interpreter and CART Referral Service



*(401) 222-5300 TEL*  
*(401) 222-5301 TTY*  
*(401) 354-7630 VP*  
*(401) 222-5736 FAX*

*Email: [cdhh.interpreter@cdhh.ri.gov](mailto:cdhh.interpreter@cdhh.ri.gov)*



### Emergency Sign Language Interpreter Referral Service

*(401) 586-6100*

Rhode Island  
Commission on the Deaf  
and Hard of Hearing

# RICDHH



# 2015



Find us on Facebook

[www.cdhh.ri.gov](http://www.cdhh.ri.gov)

# ABOUT CDHH

# SERVICES

# PROGRAM

RICDHH was established by the Rhode Island General Assembly in August 1992 to:

- Administer a Sign Language interpreter and CART referral service
- Promote awareness and provide information and referral
- Conduct needs assessments
- Advocate for accessibility of services
- Initiate and lobby for legislation
- Network among agencies and organizations
- Promote improved quality of life in:
  - Education
  - Employment
  - Healthcare
  - Family
  - Technology
  - Rights
- Form Coordinating Council to implement Strategic Plan for Children
- Track the yearly services provided by exempted interpreters

- **STATEWIDE SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER AND CART REFERRAL SERVICE**

Emergency and non-emergency interpreter and CART referrals are available for a variety of settings that require communication access.

- **RESOURCE LIBRARY**

Lending library has over 500 videos, DVD's, books, magazines, newspapers and more about hearing loss. You can borrow items for up to 2 weeks at no cost.

- **INFORMATION AND REFERRAL**

We are a clearinghouse for information and referrals on various issues related to hearing loss. Research, articles, fact sheets and resource lists are available by request.

- **ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES**

Assistive devices are available for you to borrow including audio loops, FM systems, TTY's, Portable Infoloop and more. These items can be borrowed for short term at no cost.

- **OUTREACH**

RICDHH provides trainings, workshops, presentations and exhibits. We maintain an informational website, publish a quarterly newsletter and conduct forums and town hall meetings throughout the state of Rhode Island.

- **EMERGENCY AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ACCESS PROGRAM**

The Emergency and Public Communication Access Program (EPCAP) is a new program in which the EPCAP Coordinator will provide information and education on the latest communication access devices and technology with training and ongoing support to state/local governments, public/private entities, and service providers throughout RI. This includes to address the communication needs of all deaf and hard of hearing populations in the case of emergencies and to work with various entities which include schools, colleges, hospitals, nursing homes, health clinics, ambulances, police and fire departments, libraries and government offices and agencies concerning communication access issues.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To provide innovative leadership in public policy, advocacy, service delivery and accessibility throughout the Ocean State, RICDHH ensures opportunities for every deaf and hard of hearing person to become an empowered and contributing citizen.