



RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION ON THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
ONE CAPITOL HILL, GROUND LEVEL  
PROVIDENCE, RI 02908 - 5850  
(401) 222-1205 (TTY) (401) 222-1204 (VOICE) (401) 222-5736 (FAX)  
E-MAIL: CDHH@CDHH.RI.GOV WEBSITE: WWW.CDHH.RI.GOV



## Press Release from RICDHH

(Providence, R.I.) The Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RICDHH) is pleased to inform you that the Emergency Sign Language Interpreter Referral Service is now formally implemented in full operation since November 2005. The Emergency Interpreter Referral Service is available during non-business hours such as week evenings, early mornings, weekends, and holidays for any emergencies. What constitutes as an emergency would be a state of emergency, medical, legal, mental health, and many other crisis-related incidents in the State of Rhode Island. This would enable every deaf or hard of hearing individual to communicate through sign language in a timely, accurate and effective manner with healthcare providers, mental health services, police departments, or any emergency personnel during any emergency incidents as required by the existing federal and state laws.

The **NEW** phone number for the Emergency Sign Language Interpreter Referral Service only is **401-586-6100**.

### **NON-EMERGENCY RELATED:**

If you need interpreter but is not emergency related, please call this number, 401-222-5300 Voice or 401-222-5301 TTY or contact via email at [interpreter@cdhh.ri.gov](mailto:interpreter@cdhh.ri.gov) to make request between 8:30am and 4pm, Monday through Friday.

### **ABOUT THE RI CDHH**

The mission statement of the RICDHH is to provide innovative leadership in public policy, advocacy, service delivery and accessibility throughout the Ocean State, RICDHH ensures opportunities for each deaf and hard of hearing person to become an empowered, contributing citizens.

The RICDHH is an advocating, coordinating, and service-providing entity committed to promoting an environment in which the Deaf and Hard of Hearing constituents in Rhode Island are afforded an equal opportunity in all aspects of their lives. The RICDHH develops policy; initiates and lobbies for favorable legislation; fosters cooperation and awareness among state agencies and community organizations; and educates and advises consumers, state agencies, and employers about Americans with Disabilities (ADA) rights to equal access. The RICDHH also provides direct services in its operation of a Sign Language Interpreter Referral Service, a lending library of books and videotapes, and as a clearinghouse of information and referral on all topics related to hearing loss.