

Rochester Institute of Technology

RIT Digital Institutional Repository

Theses

9-12-2005

A resource directory for Hispanic/Latino parents of deaf and hard of hearing children

Christina Nunez

Follow this and additional works at: <https://repository.rit.edu/theses>

Recommended Citation

Nunez, Christina, "A resource directory for Hispanic/Latino parents of deaf and hard of hearing children" (2005). Thesis. Rochester Institute of Technology. Accessed from

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by the RIT Libraries. For more information, please contact repository@rit.edu.

**A Resource Directory for Hispanic/Latino Parents of Deaf
and Hard of Hearing Children**

Master's Project Proposal

**Submitted to the Faculty of the Master of Science Program in
Secondary Education of Students who are Deaf and
National Technical Institute for the Deaf
ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**By
Christina M. Nunez**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Degree of Master of Science**

Rochester, New York

November, 2003

**Approved: _____
Dr. Robert Menchel, Mentor**

**_____
Dr. Gerald C. Bateman, Program Director**

**A Resource Directory for Hispanic/Latino Parents of Deaf
and Hard of Hearing Children**

Master's Project Proposal

**Submitted to the Faculty of the Master of Science Program in
Secondary Education of Students who are Deaf and
National Technical Institute for the Deaf
ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**By
Christina M. Nunez**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Degree of Master of Science**

Rochester, New York

November, 2003

**Approved: _____
Dr. Robert Menchel, Mentor**

**_____
Dr. Gerald C. Bateman, Program Director**

Introduction

Many Hispanic/Latino families have encountered some obstacles in getting involved in their deaf and hard of hearing children's education partly due to lack of resources, partly due to a lack of awareness of legal rights, and partly due to cultural conflicts between teachers and Hispanic/Latino parents.

Meanwhile, many educators believe that parental involvement is imperative in education. Possible types of parental involvement are; for example, communicating with the teachers, participating in the classrooms with the students on their homework, and being actively involved in IEP meetings and other kinds of meetings.

The problem is that not all parents have been involved with their deaf and hard of hearing children's education. In the United States today there are groups of people who do not speak English; among these groups are Hispanic/Latino people. These groups have become the United States' largest minority group and many do not speak English. Hispanic/Latino parents often do not participate in their deaf and hard of hearing children's education because there is a cultural conflict between teachers and the Hispanic/Latino parents. One example of a cultural conflict between parents and educators is a differing perception of their roles. Hispanic/Latino parents see the teacher as an authoritative figure, because in this culture the teachers' authority is not to be interfered with or questioned. The parents also see the teacher as all knowing and the one who knows what is best for their children. They do not see themselves as responsible for their children's education. Because of culture differences, there is an obvious

misunderstanding between the two groups and educators often assume that Hispanic/Latino parents are not interested in their children education.

How can Hispanic/Latino parents learn to get involved with their deaf and hard of hearing children's education? Where can they find resources or materials they can use to support their deaf and hard of hearing children's education? Do the Hispanic/Latino parents know of any resources, their legal rights, and understand the culture conflicts between educators and themselves? Can educators help the Hispanic/Latino parents guide the way by working together to promote their deaf and hard of hearing children's education without making wrong assumptions about each other? The answer to some of these questions could be provided by developing a handbook with guidelines for these parents on their responsibility for their involvement in the education of their deaf and hard of hearing children. Such a handbook would help these parents understand that they can help with their deaf and hard of hearing children's education. The handbook would provide parents with information of how they can become involved in their child's education and also provide resources for parents, teachers, and educational administrators.

I propose to find the resources needed to prepare a handbook both in English and Spanish, to help Hispanic/Latino parents of deaf and hard of hearing children to navigate the sometimes seemingly impossible task of finding where to go, who to see, and what to ask to help their deaf and hard of hearing children with their education.

Statement of the Problem

Purpose

The reason for developing a handbook that provides guidelines for Hispanic/Latino parents on their parental involvement with their deaf and hard of hearing children's education, is that currently, there is no source of information to support these Hispanic/Latino parents' efforts, and to show how important parental involvement is. Knowing their legal rights with respect to their deaf and hard of hearing children's education, and understanding there are cultural differences between the educators and the parents is crucial. It is hoped that a handbook will help Hispanic/Latino parents understand the importance of their parental involvement in their deaf, no matter how the cultural differences between parents and educators affect them.

Importance of the Problem

Providing a handbook will be very valuable for Hispanic/Latino parents, since it will help guide their parental to become involved in their deaf and hard of hearing children's education by providing an understanding of their legal rights and an awareness of cultural conflicts between the educators and the parents. Hispanic/Latino parents need to be supported by the educators and vice versa. The handbook will provide both groups with explanations of each other's role and it will promote logical ways to help these deaf and hard of hearing children to be successful in their educational environment. In addition, the handbook will include sections of Advocacy, Health, Deaf with Additional Disabilities, Mental Health Services, Self-Help/Support Groups, and Drugs and Alcohol. These

components direct Hispanic/Latino parents to places where they could get specific help or support for their needs and get necessary services for their deaf and hard of hearing children. For example, very often-hearing parents of deaf children do not fully understand their child's deafness or hearing loss. Among Hispanic/Latino parents, with their lack of English, trying to understand their child's hearing loss is even more difficult. If these parents have access to resources to help them understand these problems they are more likely to be able to help the children success in school.

Project Objective

The main objective of this project is to develop and implement a handbook of information. This booklet will serve as a guide for Hispanic/Latino parents of deaf and hard of hearing children. The booklet will provide information in several areas, including legal issues, helpful resources, and information on culture differences.

By producing and distributing this handbook to parents, educators, and other interested or involved parties a more cooperative and informed environment will be developed.

The issues covered in this handbook to help Hispanic/Latino parents and others will include several categories. Among there will be Advocacy, Education, Health, Legal, Communication, Deaf with Additional Disabilities, Mental Health Services, Self-Help/Support Groups, and Drugs and Alcohol.

It is hoped that this handbook will help all involved parties to be more aware of parental rights, legal issues, and culture differences. By so doing

parents and educators will be more capable of helping and improving the educational opportunities for Hispanic/Latino deaf and hard of hearing children.

Literature Review

The Demographics of History and Education History of Hispanic/Latino families and deaf children in the United States

The 2000 Census stated that there are 281.4 million residents in the United States, (excluding the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the US Island areas, for example, US Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands); the entire population of Hispanic/Latino in the United States is approximately 35.3 million or 12.5% of the total populations. Mexicans account for 21 million, Puerto Ricans, 3.4 million; Cubans, 1.2 million; and other Hispanics make up 10,000, which includes the Dominican Republic, Central American, and South American. Many of the students from Spanish-speaking families are exposed to trilingual/multicultural. Moreover, Gerner de Garcia (2002) stated that, "Hispanic/Latino students are the largest racial/ethnic minority in deaf education, and yet, the resources to meet their needs are limited" (p. 149-152). Because of the large and still growing population, it is important for educators to understand the history and culture of these people. It is also important that they understand the sub-cultures within the Latino/Hispanic population and the difference in these cultures.

Most Mexican Americans live in the West Coast and in the Southwest, while the Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, and Cubans live along the East Coast. Large groups of Central Americans are living in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles,

and Miami (Gerner de Garcia, 2000). The largest and longest established Hispanic/Latino groups in the United States are the Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, and Cubans (Gerner de Garcia, 2000). It is clear from this general information that Hispanic/Latino groups show a great variety of backgrounds from different Spanish-speaking countries, even in the United States. However, Ramsey (2000) explained that, in general, there is little information about Hispanic/Latino families with deaf children in the western US. Even though, there is information on the ethnographics of Central and South American and Caribbean families with deaf children in the northeast US, their characteristics cannot be generalized to apply to Mexican heritage families in the west.

Legal and Procedural Basis for Parental Involvement in Deaf Education in General

The Public Law 94-142 mandates that parents have the right to parental involvement in their deaf and hard or hearing children's education. Parental involvement should occur throughout the child's educational years. For example, there are three primary stages: early intervention, special education, and transition to rehabilitation services (Ouellette, 2000). Decisions that parents need to make are somewhat complicated and there are many options for parents to consider. Therefore, there are programs that help the parents of deaf and hard of hearing children decide what kind of resources the child needs. Early intervention services for deaf and hard of hearing children are authorized under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and under this part, children with disabilities are eligible to receive services from birth to age

three. Parents are able to get services from the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) under law; the IFSP must include the family's resources, concerns, and services that meet parents and child's needs. Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) required by law in order for parents is to meet their child's needs.

Part B of IDEA provides special education services between ages 3 and 21 and requires parental involvement. When the child is determined to be eligible after the evaluation, parents or guardians have the right to be involved in the review of Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) goals and assist in developing goals and objectives. The IEP goals for deaf and hard of hearing children are required to include 5 factors in determining appropriate educational placement. The considerations include: appropriate placement such as academic level, ancillary services (i.e. Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, School Psychology, Speech/Language Therapy, Teacher Consultant for the Hearing Impaired), method of mode of communication, additional support services (i.e. American Sign Language, Auditory/Oral Instruction, Auditory Training/Assistive Listening Equipment, Interpreting (oral or sign), Notetaking, etc.), and cultural orientation. This guarantees the service provided to the child's needs in school.

Special education leads to transition to rehabilitation services or to independence. Parents again are involved in this process even though their children have become legally adults (age of 18) during this time in special education, therefore all the rights and responsibilities are transferred to the child because the child is legally an adult. The goal of the transition is to provide

support for students to prepare academically and educationally for their future. The parents' role is as an integral members of the transition team, but without having legal authority to make decision for their children who are now seen as legally adults. Parents can, if they are concerned, about their children's ability to assume responsibility obtain a legal document providing them with continuing authority to make these decisions.

Problems with Hispanic/Latino Parental Involvement and views of Deaf Education in general

In the very beginning of the 21st century, the future of education in the United States faced many issues: for example, Hispanic/Latino students continue to demarcated educational achievement in general education, as in deaf education. Gerner de Garcia (2000) explained that many schools and programs including deaf schools encounter challenges toward serving the fast-growing number of deaf and hard of hearing students from Spanish-speaking families, or with Hispanic/Latino backgrounds. Hence, too many Hispanic/Latino deaf and hard of hearing students have lower academic success than their White and African American deaf peers. For instance, Ramsey (2000) explained they have significantly lower scores on reading comprehension and mathematics computation tests than their White and African American peers.

Hispanic/Latino deaf students are less likely to be placed in academic classes and are likely to drop out of school more than any other groups. In fact, these low academic achievers are less likely to graduate from school with a high school diploma (Ramsey, 2000). Schildroth and Hotto (1995) explained that the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in 1991 found that 55% of deaf

students of color, compared with 45% of White deaf students, left high school with certificates, not high school diplomas. In fact, Hispanic/Latinos deaf students often got certificates in higher numbers than African American deaf students did (Gerner de Garcia, 2000). Overall the Hispanic/Latino students' academic achievement is much lower than their white and African American peers. The lack of academic achievement of Hispanic/Latinos deaf students is a grave concern because the 21st century economy is no longer agricultural or industrial driven, but it is now service economy and will continue to be (Gerner de Garcia, 2000). Deaf education dependent on a well educated and technically needs to prepare the students be able to find implement in a changing society where education is becoming increasingly important.

Cultural Conflicts Between Teachers and Parents

Teachers working with deaf and hard of hearing students must be aware that the language and culture link to each other, because there is no such thing as a vacuum between language and culture. Language is socially acquired by a group of people who share the same beliefs and the same norms. Currently, accommodations for Spanish-speaking families' language needs are limited. For instance, schools are required by law (IDEA) to have IEP meetings in the home language (e.g. Spanish) and that the IEP is related to the paperwork of parental notification and the IEP is to be translated. Gerner de Garcia (2000) stated that all hearing families with deaf children need early intervention and support. It is unfortunate that many programs may be inaccessible to Spanish-speaking families. Some of the reasons spanish-speaking families may have difficulty

getting to the school due to work schedules and they may lack transportation. They may also face language and cultural barriers.

Gerner de Garcia (2000) explained in her study of Spanish-speaking families with deaf students she found that the communication between them was complex. Many deaf children, for example, used a variety of strategies in order to communicate with their families by using spoken Spanish, gestures, and non-ASL signs (e.g. home signs). Some deaf and hard of hearing students from Spanish-speaking families do not use Spanish in the school atmosphere, because no one speaks Spanish, because no one in the school understands Spanish, or because Spanish is the language of the home while ASL/sign language or English is for the school. Many educators think these children do not really have a foundation of language; instead, they lack having the knowledge of another language. Gerner de Garcia (2000) stated that if deaf and hard of hearing students knew Spanish, English, and ASL/sign language, they could easily express themselves in other languages or in the same way, depending on how they are used. Hence, the concept of a word is important. If deaf and hard of hearing come to school without a foundation in language, whether it is English or Spanish, their ability to succeed is greatly impaired.

Spanish-speaking families may also have cultural conflict in IEP meetings, because parents and professionals have different perspectives and expectations concerning roles. Hispanic/Latino parents view teachers as Gerner de Garcia (2000) said, "the authority figures" while the educators (mostly whites) view parents as team members. Simich-Dudgeon (1986) stated that limited or non

English-proficient parent involvement in any kind of school process is a new cultural concept, since these parents feel that the schools are responsible to educate their children and that their interpretation of parental involvement is interference of their children's education. Ramsey (2000) stated that the Mexican parents, for example,

“A teacher's status is to be respected and respect is bestowed upon the role of teacher more than it is the person who occupies the role.” “As a mother in Mexico told me, ‘Parents here expect to obey the teachers’” (p. 139).

For example, Gerner de Garcia (2000) explains a few factors that most of the Hispanic/Latino are characterized as “problem,” “disadvantaged,” and “culturally deprived.” Gerner de Garcia (2000) stated that Hispanic/Latino parents might not be empowered even in the schools with trained staff. Nevertheless, the negative stereotypes educators' views of Hispanic/Latino deaf students and their parents. Another important factor that may affect Hispanic/Latino's educational level is that children may be diagnosed for learning disability and other disabilities later than is typical of non-Hispanic/Latino children. The reason for this may be due to a lack of Spanish-speaking professionals, including health care providers, and limited access to health care. Late diagnoses may also happen when a doctor dismisses the concerns of mothers, and the mothers feel that they must defer to the doctor's knowledge when this happens, because they are not seen as capable or competent in judging child development.

Providing Educational Support to Hispanic/Latino Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students and Increasing Empowerment of Hispanic/Latino Parental Involvement

We are aware that there have been rapidly changing population demographics of the United States and the growth of diverse multicultural groups, schools and professionals are challenged on how to provide educational support for the students of diverse backgrounds (Sanchez, 1995). Often many educators and administrators in various schools assume that Spanish-speaking families cannot provide the support for academic success for their children. For instance, Osterling, Violand-Sanchez, and Von Vacano (1999) stated that immigrant families are eager to participate in the education of their children by using their language abilities, skills, and a lot of knowledge, but the problem with this is that they are not knowledgeable in an English-only environment. Instead, educators can help the Spanish-speaking families to participate in their children's education, if only the educators have the cultural sensitivity toward them. Sanchez (1995) stated,

"The training of school staff and other related professionals can be conceptualized by using a model that emphasizes three major components: awareness, knowledge, and skills" (p. 2).

The awareness component involves the professionals to analyze their own values, myths, stereotypes, and world-view. Educators' knowledge of the diverse students' demographics help them develop a non-stereotyping, flexible understanding of cultural, social, and family dynamics of Hispanic/Latino groups. It is imperative for the educators to have the skills to develop cultural sensitivity, flexibility, and empowering treatment and assessment strategies. For example,

their communication skills, the integration of multicultural and diversity issues in various treatment modalities, multicultural consultation, and advocacy skills (Sanchez, 1995).

Many parents are motivated and willing to become involved in their children's education, but often they do not know how to help them with academic tasks at home, and many parents feel that they will "screw up" if they attempt to help their children. To help parents feel confidence in helping their children, teachers must have close contact with the parents to give them some assistance with materials and tutoring techniques. Teachers need to assist parents and to help them to succeed in working with children at home, in order to reinforce the work being done at school (Simich-Dudgeon, 1986).

Conclusion

Parental involvement is not simple for most Hispanic/Latino parents, because their own cultural perspectives and knowledge in the English-only environment often is in conflict with the schools' expectations. Teachers and parents of deaf and hard of hearing children should be able to understand their roles properly in order to have better educational opportunities for their deaf and hard of hearing children. It is a matter of asking questions of how to improve the relationships between Hispanic/Latino parents of deaf and hard of hearing children, and educators and administrators regarding the assistance of deaf and hard of hearing children to better their reading and writing English skills, and to use ASL and Spanish as well. It is critical for these deaf and hard of hearing children to know their own culture from their family background and know the

language at school and home. It is important for educators and administrators not to assume and determine that the Hispanic/Latino families are not interested in participating in their children's education. Hence, most Spanish-speaking parents do not know exactly what American educators are here for. Instead, educators should be able to help them understand that they can work together as a team to improve their overall rate of success on deaf and hard of hearing children's education.

Methodology**Reasons for Developing a Resource Directory**

The primary reason for developing a handbook to guide deaf and hard of hearing people in the Miami-Dade area of Florida is to provide them with information so that they can obtain professional help when needed. The handbook will include the most important information (e.g. Advocacy, Education, Health, Legal, Communication, Deaf with Additional Disabilities, Mental Health Services, Self-Help/Support Groups, and Drugs and Alcohol) to guide deaf and hard of hearing people, parents, educators, other members of the deaf community (e.g. interpreters), and other professionals to help them access the resources in Miami, Florida. The handbook also is intended to guide them in locating to services and programs that are accessible to deaf and hard of hearing adults and children. Moreover, the handbook will also incorporate other necessary information, such as tips and national resources.

The handbook will guide deaf and hard of hearing people to become aware of local resources that will help them in different ways and where these resources are located, how to use the resources and which resources are appropriate for their needs

It is also important that parents and others who are advocating or seeking assistance understand what the agency means when using the words: *Deaf*, *Hard of Hearing*, and *"hearing impaired"*, and *fluency in sign language*. That is, all of those who are seeking assistance have the means to communicate with them through sign language, interpreters or other means. For example, if the person is Deaf, he/she can ask questions to find out the depth of the service

persons understanding of Deaf Culture and sign language. For a hard of hearing person, he/she may need to know if the service has an Assistive Listening Device (ALD), or other kinds of communication assistances available. The handbook will not evaluate or endorse whether any services are appropriate for deaf and hard of hearing people. It will be the responsibility of the person seeking assistance to evaluate and decide if the service or organization best suits their needs.

Determination of Need

In March, I met people who work in some of the services that provide help for deaf and hard of hearing people in Miami, Florida. These organizations where they work are: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Mental Health Program at the Jackson Memorial Hospital, Center of Independent Living (CIL), Deaf Service Bureau (DSB), Starship Program (for the severely emotional disabled and emotional handicapped) at Robert Morgan Vocational Institute, and the Department of Human Services (D'Sail). Vocational Rehabilitation was not available at that time. I introduced my handbook plans to the people who worked in those services, and explained why the handbook is important in Miami. They agreed that such a handbook is essential for the Miami deaf and hard of hearing community. I requested their support and they were more than happy to help me to develop the handbook when I am in Miami. Fortunately, I was able to get the copies of organizations, agencies, services, and schools for the deaf and hard of hearing people and they will be included in the process of making a handbook.

Plan of Work

Collect necessary information to develop a Handbook and do research on the organizations- June 2002-August 2002

Form an Advisory Group in the Miami/Dade area that will advice me on this project from time to time- June 2002-August 2002

Collecting the Data

Locating the Resources:

First, using personal contacts that I have already developed, I will return to meet with them and see if there is more information that is needed or can be obtained for this handbook. I will discuss with these resources the appropriate material that the handbook should contain. I will use a form (see Appendix A) to collect the necessary information from each of the agencies that my advisory group and I will use to determine if they should be included in the handbook.

Second, I will also do a search on the web to see if there are other resources in the Miami-Dade area that should be included in the handbook and that might have been overlooked.

Third, through the Miami-Dade are who may be of help in sharing their ideas, culture, knowledge, and insight with me so that the services for all cultures are included. I will personally ask some of these people if they have preferences for one agency over another and why they prefer that agency.

The information needed for the handbook should include:

➤ **Primary Organizations**

Advocacy
Education
Health
Legal

➤ **Secondary Organizations**

Communication
Deaf with Additional Disabilities

Mental Health Services
Self-Help/Support Groups
Drugs and Alcohol

- **Each category will have:**
 - Name of organization
 - Address
 - Contact numbers- Voice, TTY, and Relay
 - Email address
 - Description of activities of what their service does or does

not do.

The information needed of tips and national resources for the handbook will include:

- American Sign Language
- Assistive Listening Devices
- Qualified Interpreters
- TTY/Relay
- Deaf and Additional Disabilities
- Legal information in the city of Miami, the state of Florida, and the United States
- Health information and tips

Producing the Handbook- September 2002-November 2002

The information needed for the handbook will also include:

- Resource Directory application
- Sponsors

Future Plans

The long-term goal is to include a videotape copy of the resources with Spanish/English translation versions and to create a website page as well.

Appendix A
For Resources Directory

Agency Name/Program: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____(V) _____(TTY)

Hours of Service: _____

Days of Services: _____

Contact Person(s):

Services Provided: _____

When was the organization founded? _____

How many people are on the staff? _____

How many full time? _____

How many part time? _____

How many people have sign language skill, what level, what type (i.e. ASL, English, SEE, Spanish, etc.)? _____

Cost of service if any: _____

Does this agency/program offer Volunteering Work if any: Yes ____ No.____
If yes, please write further information:

Printed Material available to clients Titles and cost if any: _____

Additional Information: _____

References

1. Gerner de Garcia, B. (2000). Meeting the Needs of Hispanic/Latino Deaf Students. Deaf Plus: A Multicultural Perspective. San Diego: Dawn Sign Press.
2. Ouellette, S. (2000). Project Inclusion 2001 course: Family unit. Rochester: online: Blackboard@rit.edu.
3. Osterling, J. P, Violand-Sanchez, E., & Vacano, M. (1999, October). Latino families learning together. Educational Leadership 57 (2). 64-8.
4. Ramsey, C.L. (2000). On the Border: Cultures, Families, and Schooling in a Transitional Region. Deaf Plus: A Multicultural Perspective. San Diego: Dawn Sign Press.
5. Sanchez, W. (1995). Working with Diverse Learners and School Staff in a Multicultural Society. ERIC Digest. 1-8.
6. Simich-Dudgeon, C. (1986, December). Parent Involvement and the Education of Limited-English-Proficient Students. ERIC Digest. 1-6.

**A Resource Directory for Hispanic/Latino Parents of Deaf
and Hard of Hearing Children**

Find your way and get the right help!

Category: Communications

✓ Sign Language Training

Interpreting Agencies

Local Media and Publications

Telecommunications

Assistive Listening Devices (Audiology)

Alliances for Families With Deaf Children (AFDC)

3733 N.W. 105 Way

Sunrise, Florida

TTY/Voice: 954-572-0542

TTY/Voice Toll Free: 1-800-258-5571 (Access Code 44)

Email: DeafFamilies@cswebmail.com

Web Page: www.affwdc.org

AFDC is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide services to Deaf children and their hearing family members. This organization is based in South Florida and serves families in Dade and Broward counties. We also provide resources and support to families throughout the state. The organization's ultimate goal is to see every Deaf child enjoy full access to his/her family environment and culture through parental empowerment and family support.

Services available for families in the Dade and Broward counties, for examples,

Home visits will be provided to families with an opportunity to access our services if it is difficult for them to attend AFDC events. Families will have an opportunity to talk about their concerns with professionals in the field of Deaf Education. Deaf adults in the community will mentor families.

Hearing family members can provide a visual environment for their Deaf child by using American Sign Language (ASL). Deaf children who have Deaf parents that use ASL, are part of all conversations from the day they are born. These children are able to have conversations with their parents about anything and everything. Communication is the key to developing a strong bond with your child. This is why ASL classes will be made available to all family members.

Note: During classes, childcare will be provided for Deaf children and their siblings.

These workshops are designed to help families make informed decisions regarding their child. Parent workshops will include topics such as:

- ~How to Read to Your Deaf Child
- ~Ways to Promote Your Child's Academic Success
- ~How to Effectively use a Sign Language Interpreter
- ~Know Your Child's Rights as a Deaf Individual

Note: During workshops, childcare will be provided for Deaf children and their siblings.

Provided materials relating to American Sign Language, Deaf Culture, educational options, cochlear implants, and children's materials are available for families to check out. These materials include videos, books, dictionaries, games, and CD-ROMs.

Shared Reading Project: This is a highly successful program that teaches parents of young Deaf and hard of hearing children effective strategies for reading books together with their children. A Deaf tutor visits the home of a deaf child, and demonstrates to family members how to read a popular children's book to their child. Family members practice signing the book and receive feedback from the Deaf Tutor.

Sign Language Training
✓ Interpreting Agencies
Local Media and Publications
Telecommunications
Assistive Listening Devices (Audiology)

Center for Independent Living of South Florida
501 N.E. First Avenue, Suite 102
Miami, Florida 33132
TTY/Voice: 305-379-6650
Toll Free: 1-800-854-7551
Fax: 305-379-6653
Contact: Alex Suarez

CODA Link, Inc.
1304 S.W. 160 Avenue #340
Sunrise, Florida 33326
TTY/Fax: 954-423-2315
Voice: 954-423-6893
Contact: Donna Fernandez

Deaf Access Communications
5781 Biscayne Blvd
Suite 504
Miami, Florida 33137
Phone: 305-756-3700
Fax: 305-751-6237
Contact: Dwayne Harris

Deaf Services Bureau (DSB)
1250 N.W. 7th Street #207
Miami, Florida 33146
TTY/Voice: 305-560-2866
Fax: 305-560-2864
TTY Msg.: 305-560-2779
Email: DEAFSVC@aol.com
Contact: Ana Hernandez

League For the Hard of Hearing
2800 W. Oakland Park Blvd #306
Oakland Park, Florida 33311
TTY/V: 954-731-7200
TTY Direct: 954-731-7208
Contact: Sandy Rollo

Nationwide Interpreter Resource
P.O. Box 272142
Boca Raton, Florida 33427
TTY/Voice: 561-632-0594
Contact: June Becker

Sign Language Services of South Florida, Inc.
654 N.E. 67 Street
Miami, Florida 33138
Voice: 305-218-3947
Contact: Jim Michaels

Sign Language Services, Inc
1523 Maypop Road
West Palm Beach, Florida 33415
TTY/Voice: 561-969-7778
Contact: Terry Johnson

Sign Language Training
Interpreting Agencies
✓ Local Media and Publications
Telecommunications
Assistive Listening Devices (Audiology)

WLRN Public Radio and Television



WLRN Public Radio and Television
172 N.E. 15th Street, Suite 222
Miami, FL 33132
Voice: 305-995-2218
Voice Toll Free: 1-800-273-6677
Email: info@wlrn.org
Web Page: <http://www.wlrn.org/departments/departmentsID=3>
Web Page: <http://wlrn.org>

Captioned Media Program/National Association of the Deaf

Captioned Media Program/National Association of the Deaf
1447 East Main Street
Spartanburg, SC 29307
TTY: 800-237-6819
Voice: 800-237-6213
Fax: 800-538-5636
Email: info@cfv.org
Web Page: www.cfv.org under <http://www.nad.org>
To order from a catalog, go to <http://www.cfv.org/browsemain.asp>

Captioned Media Program funding is provided by the US Department of Education administered by the organization of The National Association of the Deaf (NAD).

The CMP serves as a clearinghouse of information and materials on the subject of captioning for service to consumers, agencies, corporations, and schools. Clearinghouse offerings include descriptions and sources of open- and closed-captioned educational media, as well as numerous print and online information resources in its *Captioning and Accessibility Information* collection.

The closest captioning agency that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education in conjunction with the captioned Media Program (CMP) to provide captioning services.

VIA Communications

VIA Communications

12550 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 306

North Miami, Florida 33181

Voice: 305-893-2202 ext. 202

Email: mail@viacomminications.com (contact) Dario Fuenmayor

Web Page: <http://www.viacommunications.com>

Services provided such as Closed, Subtitles and method is off-line. The languages are English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Sign Language Training
Interpreting Agencies
Local Media and Publications

✓ Telecommunications

Assistive Listening Devices (Audiology) needs more info about where to get hearing aids, etc

TDI National Directory and Guide: Resource for Telecommunications Accessibility for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc.
8360 Fenton St., Suite 604
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3803
(Cost approximately \$30.00)
Voice: 301-589-3786
TTY: 301-589-3006
Fax: 301-589-3797

Florida Alliance For Assistance Services and Technology (FAAST)

Stein Gerontological Institute
5200 N.E. 2nd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33137-2706
Voice: 305-762-1465
TTY: 305-762-1466/305-751-3189
Toll Free: 1-800-322-7881
Fax: 305-762-1445

Florida Relay Service

Direct Line TTY or Voice: 711
TTY: 1-800-955-8771
Voice: 1-800-955-8770
ADCII: 1-800-955-1339
Sprint TTY OSD (Operator for the Deaf): 1-800-855-4000
Spanish (TTY/Voice/ASCII): 1-800-955-8773
French Creole (TTY/Voice/ASCII): 1-800-955-8707
Customer Service: 1-800-676-3777

Telecommunications Access

Florida Telecommunications Relay Inc.
1131 N. Paul Russell Rd., Suite 101B
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-4860
TTY: 1-800-447-5620
Voice: 1-800-222-3448

This company provides Volume Control Phone, Text Telephone/ Telecommunication Device for the Deaf, Voice Carry Over Telephone (VCO), Audible Ring Signaler (ARS), In Line Amplifier (ILA), and Tactile Ring Signaler (TRS).

Dade/Monroe Counties: TTY: 305-628-3323/Voice: 305-668-4407
Broward County: TTY/Voice: 954-731-7203

Equipment Distribution Locations (F.T.R.I)

South Beach Area:
Third Monday/Hours: 9 AM to 10 AM
The Miami Beach Senior Center
610 Espanola Way (South of Lincoln Road Mall)
Miami Beach, Florida

Hialeah Area:
Third Wednesday/Hours: 1 PM to 2 PM
The Goodlet Adult Center
900 W. 44th Place
Hialeah, Florida 33012

North Miami Beach Area:
Third Friday/Hours: 9 AM to 2 PM
The William and Marjorie McDonald Community Center
17051 N.E. 19th Avenue
North Miami Beach, Florida

Sign Language Training
Interpreting Agencies
Local Media and Publications
Telecommunications

✓ Assistive Listening Devices (Audiology)

Ear Nose & Throat Head & Neck Surgery Diagnostic Center
11760 SW 40th St
Miami, FL
Voice:(305) 225-5774

Kravecas, Morris MD - Ear Nose & Throat Head & Neck
11760 SW 40th St # 743
Miami, FL
Voice:(305) 262-6600

Southeastern Ear-Nose-Throat & Sinus Center
16948 NE 19 Ave
Miami, FL
Voice:(305) 940-1672

Hearing Aid Dealers In Miami, Florida

Advanced Hearing Aid Center
1770 NE Miami Gardens Dr
Miami, FL
Voice:(305) 947-8020

Alonso Hearing Aid Corp
9445 SW 40th St
Miami, FL
Voice:(305) 480-3737

Beltone Hearing Aid Center
12175 S Dixie Hwy
Miami, FL
Voice: (305) 253-1255

Beltone Hearing Aid Center
(305) 253-1255 12175 S Dixie Hwy
Miami, FL

Beltone Hearing Aid Center
16700 NE 19th Av
Miami, FL
(305) 944-0242

Caribe Hearing Aid Service Inc
(305) 854-0036 2261 Coral Way
Miami, FL

Caribe Hearing Aids
(305) 225-5471 10701 SW 38th St
Miami, FL

Cristal Hearing Aid
(305) 225-5471 10701 SW 38th St
Miami, FL

Cristal Hearing Aid
(305) 225-5471 4031 SW 99th Ave
Miami, FL

Hear X Ltd
(305) 274-6798 8947 SW 107th Ave
Miami, FL

Maico Hearing Aids
(305) 693-6761 1190 NW 95th St
Miami, FL

Miracle Ear Hearing Aid Center
(305) 284-0440 10535 S Dixie Hwy
Miami, FL

North Miami Hearing Aid Center
(305) 693-6761 1190 NW 95th St
Miami, FL

Oticon Hearing Aids Of North Miami
(305) 693-6761 1190 NW 95th St
Miami, FL

Professional Hearing Aid Centers Inc
(305) 284-0440 10535 S Dixie Hwy
Miami, FL

Qualitone Hearing Aids
(305) 693-6761 1190 NW 95th St
Miami, FL

Sears Hearing Aid Center
(305) 378-5183 20701 S Allapattah Rd
Miami, FL

Sears Hearing Aid Center
(305) 460-3425 Coral Way
Miami, FL

Sears Hearing Aid Center
(305) 937-7550 19505 Biscayne Blvd
Miami, FL

Sears Hearing Aid Systems
(305) 378-5121 Cutler Ridge Mall
Miami, FL

Siemens Hearing Aids
(305) 693-6761 1190 NW 95th St
Miami, FL

Telex Hearing Aids
(305) 693-6761 1190 NW 95th St
Miami, FL

✓ Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of Exceptional Student Education
Early Childhood Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Miami-Dade County Public Schools (K-12): Web Page: <http://www.dadeschools.net/>
Four Regional Postsecondary Education Centers for Individuals who are Deaf and
Hard of Hearing
Parents Support Groups/Resources
Colleges & Universities: Florida Department of Education
Colleges/Universities

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office Of Exceptional Student Education

Dr. Deborah Finley
Office of Exceptional Student Education School Code: 9615
1500 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 407 A
Miami, Florida 33132
Voice: 305-955-1290
Sec: 305-955-1806
Fax: 305 -995-2049
Bp#: 305-730-7097
305-995-1790
Fax: 305-995-1760
Email: <mailto:ese@dadeschools.net>
Web Page: http://ese.dadeschools.net/services_&_programs.htm (under Deaf or
Hard-of-Hearing section)

The Division of Exceptional Student Education provides services and programs for
students with diverse needs.

Counselor for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students
Office of Exceptional Student Education
1500 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 407 A
Miami, Florida 33132
Voice: 305-955-1290
Fax: 305-995-1760

Counselors for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students:
June Dressler: 305-995-1779 (B) 305-730-7119 (H) 954-920-0330

Wendy Hammeroff-Cohen: 305-995-2709 (B) 305-730-7118 (H) 305-387-1299
Mary Ellen Tracy: 305-995-1775
Darlene A. Watson: 305-9920 ext. #133 (H) 305-362-7974

Adult General Education for Adults with Disabilities Program
Diana Ross, Instructional Supervisor
1500 Biscayne Blvd.
Miami, Florida 33132
Phone: 305-995-2811 Monroe County: 305-296 7541
Fax: 305-995-1760 305-292-6942

Twila Lighttower MDCPS Interpreter Office of Exceptional Student Education
1500 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 407 B
Miami, Florida 33132
Telephone: 305-995-2530
Cellular: 305-968-1477
Fax: 305-995-1760
Email: mdspsterpliason@ix.netcom.com

Heidi Givens, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Reading Specialist
Office of Exceptional Student Education
1500 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 407 B
Miami, Florida 33132
Voice: 305-995-2524
Fax: 305-995-1760
Email: Heidireaddhh?

The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource System/South FDLRS/South Miami-Dade Public Schools
5555 S.W. 93 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33165
Voice: 305-274-1501
Fax: 305-598-7752
Web Page: <http://fdlrs-south.dade.k12.fl.us>
Web Page: <http://fdlrs.brevard.k12.fl.us/fdlrs/index.html>

Dr. Alina Diaz, Coordinator

The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) provide diagnostic and instructional support services to district exceptional student education programs and families of students with exceptionalities statewide. FDLRS supports the State education goals of high student achievement, safe schools, and high performing workforce. FDLRS activities reflect these goals and demonstrate outcomes toward accomplishing them.

FDLRS is comprised of nineteen Associate Centers that serve from one to nine school districts and four Specialized Centers that serve specific student populations. FDLRS collaborates with districts, agencies, communities and other personnel and educational entities providing education and support for students with exceptionalities.

If You Need Help with Homework (FREE) Mondays-Thursdays 5:50-8:30 PM
Dial A Teacher
Voice: 305-995-1600
TTY: 305-995-1140
Fax: 305-995-1170
Web Page: www.dial-a-teacher.com

Dial A Teacher is a "FREE" service provided by Miami-Dade County Public Schools in cooperation with the United Teachers of Dade and WLRN-TV. Dial A Teacher online offers homework help in most subject areas in grades K - 12. And parents can get support from this service, which can also provide parents with assistance in helping their children with homework.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of Exceptional Student Education
✓ Early Childhood Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Miami-Dade County Public Schools (K-12): Web Page: <http://www.dadeschools.net/>
Four Regional Postsecondary Education Centers for Individuals who are Deaf and
Hard of Hearing
Parents Support Groups/Resources
Colleges & Universities: Florida Department of Education
Colleges/Universities

Early Childhood Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

(North)

Debbie Institute Early Intervention Program
Mailman Center for Child Development
University of Miami
1601 N.W. 12 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33101
Voice: 305-243-6631
Fax: 305-243-6921
Contact: Laura Adt and Malinda Gil
Web Page: <http://pediatrics.med.miami.edu/mailman/directory.htm#Infant>

(South)

Merrick Education Center
39 Zamora Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
Voice: 305-460-2903
Fax: 305 447-3761

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of Exceptional Student Education
Early Childhood Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

✓ Miami-Dade County Public Schools (K-12): Web Page:

<http://www.dadeschools.net/>

Four Regional Postsecondary Education Centers for Individuals who are Deaf and
Hard of Hearing

Parents Support Groups/Resources

Colleges & Universities: Florida Department of Education

Colleges/Universities

A School for the Deaf in Florida

Florida School for the Deaf and Blind (K-12)

207 N. San Marco Avenue

St. Augustine, Florida 32084

TTY/Voice: 904-827-2200

Web Page: www.fsdb.k12.fl.us

Elementary Schools for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Hearing Impaired:

Web Page: <http://www.dadeschools.net/schools/elementary.htm>

Location #0101

Acrola Lake Elementary

1037 N.W. 81 Street

Miami, Florida 33150

Voice: 303-836-2820

Fax: 305-694-2340

Web Page: <http://arcolalake.dadeschools.net/>

Cecilia L. Hunter, Principal

Susan B. Berger, Assistant Principal

Clinton B. Neilly II, Assistant Principal

Location #0121

Auburndale Elementary School
3255 S.W. 6th Street
Miami, FL 33135
Voice: 305-445-3587
Fax: 305-446-4709
Web Page: <http://auburndale.dadeschools.net/>

Raquel S. Muñoz, Principal Email: rmunoz@dadeschools.net
Irving Rashkover, Assistant Principal Email: irashkover@aelm.dadeschools.net
Gladys Gimenez, Assistant Principal Email: ggimenez@aelm.dadeschools.net
Adela Figueredo, Assistant Principal

Location #2321

Gulfstream Elementary
20900 S.W. 97th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33190
Voice: 305-235-6811
Fax: 305-254-1721
Web Page: <http://gulfstreamelm.dadeschools.net/>

Susan Lyle, Principal
Deloise B. Brown, Assistant Principal
Norma Sanchez-Zick, Assistant Principal

Location #2401

Hibiscus Elementary
18701 N.W. 1 Avenue
North Miami Beach, Florida 331369
Voice: 305-652-3018
Fax: 305 654-5700
Web Page: <http://www.dade.k12.fl.us/hibiscus/>

Mr. Kenneth Wheeler, Principal
Dr. Rosa White, Assistant Principal

Location #2701

Kenwood Elementary
9300 S.W. 79th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33156
Voice: 305-271-5061
Fax: 305-273-2132
Web Page: <http://kenwood.dadeschools.net/>

Frank Pistella, Principal
Moraima Perez, Assistant Principal
Tania Revilla, Assistant Principal

Location #3281

Miami Lakes Elementary
14250 N.W. 67th Avenue
Hialeah, Florida 33014
Voice: 305-822-7757
Web Page: <http://mles.dadeschools.net/>

Rosy Calvo, Principal
Jennifer Tucker, Assistant Principal

Middle Schools for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Hearing Impaired:
Web Page: <http://www.dadeschools.net/schools/middle.htm>

Location #6111

Cutler Ridge Middle
19400 Gulstream Rd.
Miami, Florida 33157
Voice: 305-235-4761
305-233-8364
Fax: 305 254-3746
Web Page: <http://crms.dade.k12.fl.us/>

Elizabeth Ferrerira-Alves, Principal Email: alves@crms.dade.k12.fl.us
Cris Guthier, Assistant Principal Email: guthier@crms.dade.k12.fl.us
Blanqui Valledor, Assistant Principal Email: valledor@crms.dade.k12.fl.us
John Williams, Assistant Principal Email: williams@crms.dade.k12.fl.us

Location #6231

Hialeah Middle Community School
6027 E. 7th Avenue
Hialeah, Florida 33013
Voice: 305-681-3527
Fax: 305-681-6225
Email: hialeahm@dadeschools.net
Web Page: <http://www.dade.k12.fl.us/hialeahm/>

Raquel Montoya, Principal
Marie Caceres, Assistant Principal
Gladys Fisher, Assistant Principal
Morris Salty, Assistant Principal

Location #6681

Palm Springs Middle
1-25 W. 56 Street
Hialeah, Florida 33012
Voice: 305-821-2460
Fax: 305-828-3987
Crisis Hotline: 305-995-2273
E-Mail: PSMS@palmspringsmiddle.net
Web Page: <http://www.palmspringsmiddle.net/>

Melissa Wolin, Principal Email: mwolin@palmspringsmiddle.net
Louis Allen, Assistant Principal Email: lja5473@aol.com
Jose Enriquez, Jr, Assistant Principal Email: jenriquez@dadeschools.net
Manny Ferrer, Assistant Principal Email: FERRER_M01@firn.edu

Location #6821

Rockway Middle School
9393 S.W. 29th Terrace
Miami, Florida 33165
Voice: 305-221-8212
Fax: 305-221-5940
Web Page: <http://www.dade.k12.fl.us/rockwaym/>

Maria D. Cedeno, Principal
Christina Guerra, Assistant Principal
Thomas Ennis, Assistant Principal
Patricia Duncan, Assistant Principal

High Schools for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Hearing Impaired:

Web Page: <http://www.dadeschools.net/schools/senior.htm>

Location #7751

Barbara Goleman High School
14100 N. 89 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33016
Voice: 305-362-0676
Fax: 305-827-0249
Web Page: <http://bghs.dadeschools.net/>

Marcos Moran, Principal
Maritza M. Garcia, Assistant Principal
Anna Hernandez, Assistant Principal
Joaquin Hernandez, Assistant Principal
Derick McKoy, Assistant Principal
Robin Thomas, Assistant Principal

Location # 7251

Miami Central High School
1781 N.W. 95 Street
Miami, Florida 33147
Voice: 305-696-4161
Fax: 305-836-2872
Web Page: <http://miamicentral.dadeschools.net/>

Samuel Johnson, Principal
Mrs. Ladaga, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Atkins, Assistant Principal
Mr. Clyde Stevens, Jr., Assistant Principal

Location #7741

Southwest Senior High School
8855 S.W. 50 Terrace
Miami, Florida 33165
Voice: 305-274-0181
Fax: 305-596-7370
Web Page: <http://sweagles.dadeschools.net/>

Jorge O. Sotolongo, Principal
Lucia Cox, Assistant Principal
Anne-Marie Duboulay, Assistant Principal
James Jaj, Assistant Principal
Tom Moore, Assistant Principal
Leo Torres, Assistant Principal

Location #7731

Miami Southridge High
19355 S.W. 114 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33157
Voice: 305-238-6110
Fax: 305-253-4456
Web Page: <http://www.miamisouthridge.com/>

Carzell J. Morris, Principal

Location # 7601

William H. Turner Technical Arts High School
10152 N.W. 19 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33147
Voice: 305-691-8324
Fax: 305-693-9463
Web Page: <http://ttech.dade.k12.fl.us/>

Ronnie L. Hunter, Principal
Valmarie Rhoden, Vice Principal

Location #8911

Robert Morgan Vocational Technical Institute-8911

Office of Exceptional Student Education

Robert Morgan Vocational Technical Institute

18180 S.W. 122 Avenue

Miami, Florida 33177

Phone: 305-253-9920 ext. 2171

Fax: 305-253-3023

Web Page: Under construction

Antonio Martinez , Principal

Darlene Watson, Counselor

Nancy Solono, Teacher

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of Exceptional Student Education
Early Childhood Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Miami-Dade County Public Schools (K-12): Web Page: <http://www.dadeschools.net/>
✓ Four Regional Postsecondary Education Centers for Individuals who are Deaf
and Hard of Hearing
Parents Support Groups/Resources
Colleges & Universities: Florida Department of Education
Colleges/Universities

Deaf/hard of hearing students in Post-Secondary Education settings: The Four
Regional Education Centers



Web Page: <http://www.pepnet.org/>

Four Regional Postsecondary Education Centers for Individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing were created to ensure that every postsecondary institution in the United States could easily access the technical assistance and outreach services that the Centers provide.

Postsecondary Education Consortium
Center on Deafness
Claxton Complex A507
The University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN 37996-3400
TTY/Voice: 865-974-0607
Fax: 865-974-3522
E-mail address: pec@utk.edu
Web Page: <http://sunsite.utk.edu/cod/pec/>

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of Exceptional Student Education
Early Childhood Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Miami-Dade County Public Schools (K-12): Web Page: <http://www.dadeschools.net/>
Four Regional Postsecondary Education Centers for Individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

✓ Parents Support Groups/Resources

Colleges & Universities: Florida Department of Education
Colleges/Universities

For Parents: To learn how to raise a deaf child and many more: www.yahoo.com:
Search: Deaf babies

Has Your Child Been Tested Yet?:
<http://www.readersdigest.ca/mag/2001/01/tested.html>

Mothering without Words: <http://www2.umn.edu/comm/f98/mother.html>

How Your Baby Grows and Changes?:
<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/information/socialdev/baby/grow.jsp>

Baby Sign: Real Life: <http://www.handspeak.com/baby/reallife.php>

University of Florida to Screen All Newborns for Hearing Loss:
<http://www.napa.ufl.edu/98news/hearing2.htm>

Alliances for Families With Deaf Children (AFDC)
3733 N.W. 105 Way
Sunrise, Florida
TTY/Voice: 954-572-0542
TTY/Voice Toll Free: 1-800-258-5571 (Access Code 44)
Email: DeafFamilies@cswebmail.com
Web Page: www.affwdc.org
Board of Directors:
Rebecca Burns-Hoffman, Ph.D., Linguist and President
Christie Cohn, Interpreter and Vice President
Marlene Llanes/Deaf parent of a Deaf child Treasurer
Carmen Hurlston. Parent of a Deaf child
Margaret Finnegan, Ph.D., Coordinator, Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Program at Flagler College and Parent of a Deaf child
Jennifer Alon, B.A, Hard of Hearing teacher of Deaf children

AFDC is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide services to Deaf children and their hearing family members. This organization is based in South Florida and serves families in Dade and Broward counties. We also provide resources and support to families throughout the state. The organization's ultimate goal is to see every Deaf child enjoy full access to his/her family environment and culture through parental empowerment and family support.

Services available for families in the Dade and Broward counties:

Home visits:

~Home visits will provide families with an opportunity to access our services if it is difficult for them to attend AFDC events

~Families will have an opportunity to talk about their concerns with professionals in the field of Deaf Education

~Families will be mentored by Deaf adults in the community

American Sign Language classes: Hearing family members can provide a visual environment for their Deaf child by using American Sign Language (ASL). Deaf children who have Deaf parents that use ASL, are part of all conversations from the day they are born. These children are able to have conversations with their parents about anything and everything. Communication is the key to developing a strong bond with your child. This is why ASL classes will be made available to all family members.

Note: During classes, childcare will be provided for Deaf children and their siblings.

Workshops: These workshops are designed to help families make informed decisions regarding their child. Parent workshops will include topics such as:

~How to Read to Your Deaf Child

~Ways to Promote Your Child's Academic Success

~How to Effectively use a Sign Language Interpreter

~Know Your Child's Rights as a Deaf Individual

Note: During workshops, childcare will be provided for Deaf children and their siblings.

Lending Library: Materials relating to American Sign Language, Deaf Culture, educational options, cochlear implants, and children's materials are available for families to check out. These materials include videos, books, dictionaries, games, and CD-ROMs.

Shared Reading Project: This is a highly successful program that teaches parents of young Deaf and hard of hearing children effective strategies for reading books together with their children. A Deaf tutor visits the home of a deaf child, and demonstrates to family members how to read a popular children's book to their child. Family members practice signing the book and receive feedback from the Deaf Tutor.

Parent Information Guide for Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Programs

*** Call your child's school and speak with his or her teacher and/or the principal.**
IMPORTANT- For parents of deaf or hard of hearing child(ren), by law you as a parent with your child present and deaf or hard of hearing students have the right to request for a sign language (ASL) interpreter to attend to the meeting (i.e. Individualized Education Program (IEP) with the school district) with a teacher or a principal.

***For additional information, please call the appropriate ESE Region Director's office:**

Region I
773 East 57th Street
Hialeah, Florida 33013
Voice: 305-687-6565

Region II
1515 N.W. 167 Street
Miami, Florida 33169
Voice: 305-624-8802

Region III
1080 LaBaron Drive
Miami Springs, Florida 33166
Voice: 305-833-8401

Region IV
2201 S.W. 4th Street
Miami, Florida 33135
Voice: 305-643-5780

Region V
9040 S.W. 79th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33156
Voice: 305-595-7022

Region VI
30910 S.W. 157th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33156
Voice: 305-246-5934

Office of Exceptional Student Education and Psychological Services
1500 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 407
Miami, Florida 33132
Voice: 305-955-1721
Fax: 305-995-1760
Ida Diagnostic Learning
Resources System-South
(FDLRS-S)
Voice: 305-274-3501

Bilingual/ESOL ESE Programs
Voice: 305-8889

Programs for Pre-Kindergarten Handicapped
Voice: 305-271-5701
Multiagency Network
Voice: 305-598-2436

Homebound/Hospitalized Programs
Voice: 305-460-2903
Psychological Services
Voice: 305-995-1792

For Further Information:

Dade County Public Schools

Office of Exceptional Student Education and Psychological Services
1500 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 407
Voice: 305-955-1721
Fax: 305-995-1760

Parents of Children with Special Needs (ESE)

Schedule of Workshops for Parents

FDLRS/South

5555 S.W. 93 Avenue

Miami, Florida 33165

To register: 305-274-3501

For more information regarding these workshops, contact: Iliana C. Hernandez,
Parent Service Specialist at FDLRS/South, 305-274-3501, ext. 135

Deaf parents should request for an interpreter, contact your deaf or hard of
hearing child.

If You Need Help with Homework (FREE) Mondays-Thursdays 5:50-8:30 PM

Dial A Teacher

Voice: 305-995-1600

TTY: 305-995-1140

Fax: 305-995-1170

Web Page: www.dial-a-teacher.com

Hotline Service

Dial a Teacher (Children K-12)

TTY (5:30 PM-8:30 PM): 305-995-1140

Voice: 305-995-1600

For additional information on Parental Rights under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), you can contact one of the following organizations:

Parent to Parent of Miami, Inc.
Community Parent Resource Center
C/o Sunrise Community, Suite G
9040 Sunset Drive
Miami, Florida 33173
Voice: 305-271-9797

FDLRS South
Parent Resource
5555 S.W. 93rd Avenue
Miami, Florida 33165
Voice: 305-274-3501

Community Committee for Developmental Handicaps (CCDH)
7925 N.W. 12th Street, Suite 325
Miami, Florida 33126
Voice: 305-594-4466

The Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.
2901 Stirling Road, Suite 206
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33312
Voice: 800-342-0823

Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc
3000 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 500
Miami, Florida 33137

University of Miami Children & Youth Law Clinic
5915 Ponce De Leon Boulevard, Suite 28
Coral Gables, Florida 33146
Voice: 305-284-3123

Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of Exceptional Student Education
Early Childhood Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Miami-Dade County Public Schools (K-12): Web Page: <http://www.dadeschools.net/>
Four Regional Postsecondary Education Centers for Individuals who are Deaf and
Hard of Hearing
Parents Support Groups/Resources
✓ Colleges & Universities: Florida Department of Education
Colleges/Universities

Colleges & Universities: Florida Department of Education

Division of Colleges & Universities
Florida Board of Education
Turlington Building
325 West Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
Voice: 850- 201-7100
Fax: 850-201-7105
Web Page: <http://www.fldcu.org/default.asp>

Rebecca Herman, Statewide Outreach Coordinator
St. Petersburg College
Program for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
2465 Drew St., SS-101
Clearwater, Florida 33765
Voice: 540-961-6262
727-791-2628
Fax: 540-961-1288
727-791-2765
Email: HermanR@spcollege.edu
Web Page: <http://www.pecfla.org/>

Bureau of Elementary, Secondary, and Workforce Development Education
Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of Exceptional Student Education
Early Childhood Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Miami-Dade County Public Schools (K-12): Web Page: <http://www.dadeschools.net/>
Four Regional Postsecondary Education Centers for Individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Parents Support Groups/Resources
Colleges & Universities: Florida Department of Education
✓ Colleges/Universities

IMPORTANT- It is very important to know what services the college or university can offer your needs, for examples, sign language interpreters (ASL) in classes, in events, and during examinations. You want a notetaker, find out if this college or university is able to offer you notetakers for your class notes. You are recommended to get all the best services you need as possible. However, some colleges may refuse to offer you some services you want, for example, captioning.

State Universities in Florida

Barry University

Division of Student Services/Disability Service

11300 N.E. Second Avenue

Miami Shores, Florida 33161-6695

Voice: 305-899-3488

Toll-free: 1-800-756-6000, ext. 3488

Email: disabilityservices@mail.barry.edu

Web Page: <http://www.barry.edu/StudentServices/disability/guide.htm> and

<http://www.barry.edu/StudentServices/disability/descAccommodation.htm>

Florida International University

University Park Campus

Office of Disability Services (ODS)

Miami, FL 33199

TTY: 305-348-3852

Voice: 305-348-3532

Fax: 305-348-3850

Julio Garcia, Ed.D, Director Email: garciaj@fiu.edu

Beverly Paden, Ph.D., Assistant Director Email: Beverly.Paden@fiu.edu

Sharon Fredrick Sutter, Staff Interpreter Email: Sharon.Sutter@fiu.edu

Web Page: <http://www.fiu.edu/>, <http://www.fiu.edu/~disser>

19.1 Programmatic Access for Students with Disabilities, Voice: 305-348-2000

Web Page: <http://www.fiu.edu//provost/polman/sec19/sec19web19-1.htm>

Florida International University

Biscayne Bay Campus

Wolfe University Center 139

3000 N.E. 151 Street

North Miami, Florida 33181

TTY: 305-919-5390

Voice: 305-919-5345

Fax: 305-919-5211

Kathryn Trionfo, Associate Director

Email: trionfok@fiu.edu

Web Page: <http://bbc.fiu.edu/>

http://www.fiu.edu/docs/students_life_services.htm

University of South Florida

Dept of Communication Science & Disorders

4202 Fowler Avenue

Tampa, Florida 33620

TTY: 813 974-9796

Phone: 813 974-2006

Fax: 813 974-0822

Coordinator: Patricia Blake-Rahter, PhD

Deaf Program Founded: 1974

2002 Graduates: NR; All Graduates: 81

Web Page: <http://www.sa.usf.edu/sds/>

University of Florida

Disability Services Office

Post Office Box 113150

Gainesville, Florida 32611

Voice: 352-392-1311

Fax: 352-392-9506

Web Page: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu>

Florida State University

Disability Services Office

211 Westcott Building

Tallahassee, Florida 32306

Voice: 850-644-1085

Fax: 850-644-9936

<http://www.fsu.edu/~staffair/dean/StudentDisability/>

University of North Florida

Disability Services Office Bldg 9/1130

4567 St. Johns Bluff Road, South

Post Office Box 17074

Pottsburg Station

Jacksonville, Florida 32224

TTY: 904 620-2930

Phone: 904 620-2930

Fax: 904 620-2982

Program Director: Dr. Len Roberson, Ph. D., lroberso@unf.edu

Deaf Program Founded: 1973

2002 Graduates: NR; All Graduates: 194

Web Page: <http://www.unf.edu/dept/disabled-services/>

University of West Florida

Disability Services Office

11000 University Parkway

Pensacola, Florida 32514-5750

Voice: 850-474-2200

TTY/Voice: 850 474-2387

Fax: 850-474-3131

Web Page: <http://www.uwf.edu/DSS/>

University of Central Florida

Disability Services Office

Post Office Box 160002

Orlando, Florida 32816-0002

Voice: 407-823-2371

TTY: 407-823-2116

Fax: 407-823-2372

Web Page: <http://www.sds.ucf.edu>

Colleges in the United States

Massachusetts

Boston University

Education of the Deaf

605 Commonwealth Ave

Boston 02215

TTY: 617 353-3205

Phone: 617 353-3205

Fax: 617 353-3292

Director: Robert J. Hoffmeister, Ph. D., deafstdy@bu.edu

Deaf Program Founded: 1982

2002 Graduates: 25; All Graduates: 300

Web Page: www.bu.edu

California

California State University at Northridge

Special Education Dept

18111 Nordhoff St

Northridge 91330

TTY: 818 667-2596

Phone: 818 667-2596

Fax: 818 677-4737

Director: Ellen Schneiderman, PhD, ellen.schneiderman@csun.edu

Deaf Program Founded: 1969

2002 Graduates: 22; All Graduates: 659

Web Page: www.csun.edu

San Diego State University

Dept of Communication Sciences & Disorders

5500 Campanile Dr

San Diego 92182

TTY: 619 594-6137

Phone: 619 594-6137

Fax: 619-594-7109

Coord, Ed. of Deaf: Kathee M. Christensen, PhD, kchriste@mail.sdsu.edu

Deaf Program Founded: 1970

2002 Graduates: 6; All Graduates: 206

Web Page: www.sdsu.edu

San Francisco State University

College of Education, Dept of Special Education

1600 Holloway Avenue

San Francisco 94132 TTY: 415 338-1161

Phone: 415 338-1249

Coordinator, D/HH Prog: Barbara Franklin, Fax: 415 338-0566

PhD, barbf@sfsu.edu

Deaf Program Founded: 1951

2002 Graduates: 13; All Graduates: 548

Web Page: www.sfsu.edu

Michigan

Michigan State University

MA Teacher Prep. in Deaf Blindness

331 Erickson Hall

East Lansing 48824

TTY: 517 355-1871

Phone: 517 355-1871

Fax: 517 353-6393

Director: Susan Bruce, Ph, bruces@msu.edu

Deaf Program Founded: 1966

2002 Graduates: 6; All Graduates: 86

Web Page: www.msu.edu

Michigan State University

Dept of Special Education

343 Erickson Hall

East Lansing 48824

TTY: 517 355-1837

Phone: 517 355-1837

Fax: 517 353-6393

Director: David Stewart, Ed.D, dstewart@msu.edu

Deaf Program Founded: 1955

2002 Graduates: 14; All Graduates: 458

Web Page: www.msu.edu

Eastern Michigan University

Dept of Special Education

Porter Bldg

Ypsilanti 48197

TTY: 313 487-3300

Phone: 313 487-3300

Fax: 313 487-2473

Coordinator: Gayle L. Nash, Ed. D., www.emich.edu/coe/speced

gayle.nash@emich.edu

Deaf Program Founded: 1925

2002 Graduates: 7; All Graduates: 860

Web Page: emich.edu

New York

National Technical Institute for the Deaf/ Rochester Institute of Technology

Lyndon B. Johnson Building

One Lomb Memorial Drive

Rochester, New York 14623-5603

Web Page: <http://ntidweb.rit.edu/>

National Technical Institute for the Deaf

MS - Secondary Ed

52 Lomb Memorial Dr

LBJ Building

Rochester 14623

TTY: 716 475-6480

Phone: 716 475-6480

Fax: 716 475-6500 / 2525

Director: Gerald C. Bateman, EdD, gcbnmp@rit.edu

Deaf Program Founded: 1980

2002 Graduates: 21; All Graduates: 154

Web Page: <http://ntidweb.rit.edu/>

Rochester Institute of Technology

One Lomb Memorial Drive

Rochester, New York 14623-5603

Voice: 585-475-2411

Web Page: <http://www.rit.edu/>

Washington, D.C.

Gallaudet University

800 Florida Avenue, NE

Dept of Education

Washington, DC 20002

TTY/Voice: 202-651-5000

TTY: 202 651-5530

Fax: 202 651-5860

Chair, Dept of Education (Undergrad, Grad, Doctoral): Richard R. Lytle, PhD,
richard.lytle@gallaudet.edu

Web Page: <http://www.gallaudet.edu/>

Deaf Program Founded: 1891

2002 Graduates: 49; All Graduates: 1734

Gallaudet University is the world's largest and the only liberal arts college for the deaf and hard of hearing students.

Community Colleges in Florida

Miami Dade Community College

Kendall Campus

ACCESS Disability Services

11011 S.W. 104 Street

Miami, Florida 33176

Phone: 305-237-2343

TTY/Voice: 305-237-2610

Web Page: <http://www3.mdcc.edu/>

Web Page: <http://www3.mdcc.edu/kendall/access/default.asp>

http://www3.mdcc.edu/kendall/access/s1_hardofhearing.asp

Miami Dade Community College

InterAmerican Campus

ACCESS Disability Services

627 S.W. 27th Avenue

Miami, Florida 33135

Room: 1111

Voice: 305-237-6146

Fax: 305-237-6269

Web Page: <http://www.mdcc.edu/iac/>

Web Page: <http://www.mdcc.edu/iac/access/default.asp>

Broward Community College

Disability Services

225 East Las Olas Boulevard

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Voice: 954-761-7555

Web Page: http://fs.broward.cc.fl.us/dtc/sa/disability_services.htm (need to find the updated website address)

Jean L. McCormick, Director of Disability Services

St Petersburg College

Program for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

2465 Drew St., SS-101

Clearwater, Florida 33765

Voice: 540-961-6262

727-791-2628

Fax: 540-961-1288

727- 791-2765

Web Page: <http://www.spjc.cc.fl.us/Central/OSSD/services.htm>

Category: Individual and Systems Advocacy

✓ Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS)

Disability Services and Independent Living (D/SAIL)

Center for Independent Living (CIL)

Deaf Service Bureau (DSB)

Vocational Referrals

Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Deaf people (VRS)

315 N.W. 27th Avenue, Suite 1

Miami, Florida 33123

TTY: 305-643-7667 7620?

Voice: 305-643-7620

Fax: 305-643-7634

Contact: Ysabel Luzardo

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS)

✓ Disability Services and Independent Living (D/SAIL)

Center for Independent Living (CIL)

Deaf Service Bureau (DSB)

Vocational Referrals

Disability Services and Independent Living (D/SAIL)

1335 N.W. 14th Street

Miami, Florida 33125

TTY: 305-545-3574

Voice: 305-324-5481

Fax: 305-547-7355

Contact: Milagros (Maggie) Fermin, Counselor Email: magdsail@aol.com

Web Page: http://www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/dhs/disabled_services.asp

Miami-Dade County's Department of Human Services (DHS) provides assistance to individuals with disabilities and includes the following:

Independent living skills training that allows individual with a disability to become as independent as possible within the parameters of their disability.

~Counseling

~Group Therapy

~Case Management (oversees that the needs of the individual are being met)

~Personal home care attendant

~Sign Language and Braille classes

~Technical assistant (assistant to public and private sector on issues related to persons with disabilities and disability laws)

~Employment placement assistance

To make an appointment, contact Maggie Fermin (shown above)

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS)
Disability Services and Independent Living (D/SAİL)
✓ Center for Independent Living (CIL)
Deaf Service Bureau (DSB)
Vocational Referrals

Center for Independent Living of South Florida

501 N.E. First Avenue, Suite 102
Miami, Florida 33132
TTY/Voice: 305-379-6650
Fax: 305-379-6653
Kelly Green, Director
Contact: Brenda Rosario, Advocate

Center for Independent Living of Florida Keys (satellite center)

88005 Overseas Highway, Suite 17
Islamorada, Florida 33036
Voice: 305-852-0177
Toll Free: 877-335-0187
Fax: 305-852-0121

The Center for Independent Living of South Florida currently provides an array of independent living services to more than 400 consumers with significant disabilities annually. The Center provides an additional 1000 individuals and businesses with information and referral. The Center is associated with members Round Table Disability, founder; Florida Association of Centers of Independent Living (FACIL), Southeast Center Directors Association (SECDA), and National Council of Independent Living (NCIL). The mission of this program is to assist any individual of any age with a disability to achieve an independent lifestyle to the maximum extent possible. There are programs and services offered in the Center:

Programs: Job placements, follow-ups, and pre-vocational skills, sponsored by the Training and Employment Council of South Florida. On A ROLL program, a collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, to provide G.E.D. preparation. Minor home repairs/ramp project sponsored by Coral Gables Congregational Church.

Services: Information and referral, Self-Advocacy, Systems advocacy, Transition from school to community and work, Housing assistance, Transportation assistance, Benefits counseling, Assistance filing ADA complaints, Parent Support and educational workshops. Loan closet of adaptive equipment (i.e. Free furniture, home furnishings, and clothing when available.). Community service placements for college

undergraduates (with or without disability, enrolled at Barry University, University of Miami, and Florida International University in the fields of Social Work, Psychology, Education, Mental Health, Physical, Occupational or Speech Therapy, and other fields. Court-ordered community service placements offered through agreements with Advocates, Inc. and City of Florida City.

Miami-Dade County Department of Human Service (DHS)

Miami-Dade Office of Disability Services & Independent Living

111 N.W. 1st Street, 22nd Floor

Miami, Florida 33128

TTY: 305-324-5781

Voice: 305-547-5445

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS)
Disability Services and Independent Living (D/SAIL)
Center for Independent Living (CIL)
✓ Deaf Service Bureau (DSB)
Vocational Referrals

Deaf Services Bureau (DSB)

1250 N.W. 7th Street #207

Miami, Florida 33146

TTY/Voice: 305-560-2866

Fax: 305-560-2864

TTY Msg.: 305-560-2779

Email: DEAFSVC@aol.com

Debbie Ally, Director

Contact: Clara Gantes, Client Services Manager/Counselor (TTY# ext. 17)

Sylvia Rodriguez, Client Assistance Specialist

Ana Hernandez

Deaf Service Bureau provides social service programs that include staff with a specialty in working with deaf and hard of hearing people. DSB provides education and advocacy by funding sources, other services providers, public safety agencies, judicial, and legislative system, friends and relatives of the deaf and hard of hearing.

Clients Service Program provides: Referral/information, Advocacy, Pro-Bono Legal Services, Assisting with Public Housing, Driver License Exam Preparation, Immigration and Citizenship Exam Preparation, 911 Training, Deaf Culture Training, ADA information/Referral, ADA Training/Workshop, Sign Language classes, English as a Second Language classes, and Reading and Writing classes.

Interpreter services are provided. Regular services are available during the day and evening. There are emergency services (24 hours). The interpreters are scheduled all over Miami-Dade County in schools, hospitals, doctors' offices, courts, jails, banks, factories, and homes.

Equipment Distribution program is the Miami-Dade and Monroe County distributor of the specialized telecommunications equipment. The equipment is at no cost to Florida residents who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf/blind, or speech impaired. Equipment available: Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), Volume Control Telephones and Carry-Over Telephones, and Volume Control Telephone for the Speech Impaired.

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS)
Disability Services and Independent Living (D/SAIL)
Center for Independent Living (CIL)
Deaf Service Bureau (DSB)
✓ Vocational Referrals

Deaf Access Communications

5781 Biscayne Blvd
Suite 504
Miami, Florida 33137
Voice: 305-756-3700
Fax: 305-751-6237

Category: Deaf with Additional Disabilities

- ✓ Deaf/Blind Resources
- ✓ Deaf with Developmental Disabilities

Disability Services and Independent Living (D/SAIL)

Disability Services and Independent Living (D/SAIL)

1335 N.W. 14th Street

Miami, Florida 33125

TTY: 305-545-3574

Voice: 305-324-5481

Fax: 305-547-7355

Web Page: http://www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/dhs/disabled_services.asp

Contact: Milagros (Maggie) Fermin, Counselor Email: magdsail@aol.com

Easter Seal Society of Dade County, Inc.

Easter Seal Society of Dade County, Inc.

1475 N.W. 14th Avenue

Miami, FL 33125

Voice: 305-325-0470

Fax: 305-325-0578

Contact: Ms. Catherine Rabbito, Executive Director Email: essdade@aol.com

Lighthouse for the Blind of Miami

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind

601 S.W. 8th Avenue

Miami, FL 33130

Voice: 305-856-2288

Fax: 305-285-6967

Web Page: www.miamilighthouse.com

To get info Email: Director@MiamiLighthouse.com

Contact: Ms. Roxann Mayros, Executive Director Email:

rmayros@miamilighthouse.com

Lighthouse of Broward County

Lighthouse of Broward County
650 North Andrews Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311
Voice: 954-463-4217
Web Page: <http://www.lhob.org>

Merrick Educational Center

Merrick Educational Center
39 Zamora Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
Voice: 305-445-5188
Web Page: <http://www.dade.k12.fl.us/merrick/merrickhistory.htm>

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic

Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic
6704 South West 80th Street
Miami, FL 33143
Voice: (305) 666-0552
Fax: (305) 667-2505
Web Page: http://www.rfbd.org/Units/Florida_Unit.htm
Contact: Ms. Christine McCarthy, Executive Director Email: cmccarthy@rfbd.org

Palm Beach County Studio
PO Box 3091
Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991
Voice: 561-417-4002
Web Page: http://www.rfbd.org/Units/Florida_Unit.htm
Toll Free: 1-800-535-0552 (Florida only)
Contact: Kathleen Fisler, Studio Director Email: kfisler@rfbd.org

Miami- Dade and Monroe Counties Talking Book Library System

Miami- Dade and Monroe Counties Talking Book Library System
150 N.E. 79th Street
Miami, Florida 33138-4890
Voice: 305-751-8687
Toll Free: 800-451-9544
TTY: 305-758-6599
Web Page: <http://www.mdpls.org/services/services.html>

Broward County Talking Book Library System

Broward County Talking Book Library System
100 South Andrews Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301
Voice: 954-357-7555
TTY: 954-357-7528
Web Page: <http://www.broward.org/lii02100.htm>

Category: Government

- ✓ City of Miami
- ✓ County of Dade
- ✓ Florida State
- ✓ United States Government

Airport: Miami International Airport

General Information (including parking and paging): (Voice) 305-876-7000

Flight Information: (Voice) 305-876-7770

Miami International Airport Hotel: (Voice) 305-871-4100

Tourist Police: (Voice) 305-876-7373

Miami International Airport provides the community with world-class passenger and cargo service. Ranked first in the United States in international freight and second in the world in total freight, MIA is the leader in passenger and cargo flights to Latin America and the Caribbean with additional nonstop service to Europe and Africa. MIA is currently undergoing a \$4 billion construction and expansion program.

Web Page: www.miami-airport.com

Auto Tags

Finance Department: (Voice) 305-375-5678

Tax Collection Department

140 W. Flagler Street, Room 101

Miami, Florida 33130

Voice: 305-375-5328 or 305-375-5678

South Dade Government Center

10710 S.W. 211th Street (Cutler Ridge Blvd.), Room 104

Miami, Florida 33189

Voice: 305-232-3830

TTY: 305-372-6309

If you decided to relocate along with your vehicle to Florida, by law, Florida requires you to register your vehicle immediately upon employment, place children to public schools, or become a legal resident of the State. Each vehicle brought into Florida to be subject to initial registration fee of \$100, in addition to the title change and annual license tag renewal fee. The fees for auto tags vary according to the size and weight of the vehicle. Call the county Auto Tag Department to find out about the fees. Proof of insurance is required.

If you are a Florida resident, you probably know that vehicle owners are required to renew their vehicle registration during the renewal period that is 90 days prior to the date of the owner's birthday. You should receive the paperwork to do so in the mail prior to your renewal period. If for some reason you don't, call of the following numbers provided above.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Toll-free TTY: 1-800-325-0778

Hours: 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

Please have your Social Security number handy when you call us.

SSI is short for Supplemental Security Income. It pays monthly benefits to people who are age 65 or older, or blind or have a disability and who don't own much or have a lot of income. SSI isn't just for adults. Monthly benefits can go to disabled and blind children, too. People who get SSI can usually get food stamps and Medicaid, too. Medicaid helps pay doctor and hospital bills.

If you don't understand or don't know the details what SSI is or can provide, go to:

Web Page: <http://www.ssa.gov/notices/supplemental-security-income/text-understanding-ssi.htm>

Find your location nearest your house

Web Page: <http://s3abaca.ssa.gov/pro/foi/foi-home.html>

Association for Disabled Americans Inc.

Association for Disabled Americans Inc.

PMB #196

6538 Collins Avenue

Miami Beach, Florida 33141

Voice: 305-864-7070

Fax: 305-864-4140

Email: Ada2000@poboxes.org

Web Page: www.ada2000.org

The Association for Disabled Americans (ADA) purpose is to initiate access and compliance with the Federal "ADA", Fair Housing, Florida Statutes 553 and 316, and the South Florida Building Code, to protect the civil rights of individuals with disabilities. This Association is open to all persons with a disability. The goal is to promote compliance through education, and when necessary.

Miami-Dade Consumer Service Department

Miami-Dade Consumer Service Department

140 West Flagler Street, 9th Floor

Miami, Florida. 33130

TTY: 305-375-4177

Hotline (Voice): 305-375-3677

Fax: 305-375-4120

Email: consumer@co.miami-dade.fl.us

Web Page: www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/csd

Consumer Service Department has the interest of Miami-Dade County consumers always in mind through business regulations and licensing educational programs, complaint medication, and consolations. The Consumer Hotline is the central number for all consumer-related complaints and information. This is the place to call for all of your consumer concerns.

Housing Program

Miami-Dade Housing Agency (MDHA)

1401 N.W. 7th Street

Miami, Florida 33125

TTY: 305-638-6606

Voice: 305-644-5100

For HUD Housing Applications: (Voice) 305- 638-6014

MDHA works to ensure that low-income residents in Miami-Dade have safe, decent and affordable housing. The Public Housing Division manages approximately 10,500 housing units and works to create opportunities for residents' self-sufficiency and economic independence.

✓ Hospitals
Dental Services
Drug/Alcohol
Domestic Violence
Hearing and Speech Services
Health Education and Advocacy
HIV/AIDS
Family and Parenting
Medical Services

IMPORTANT- Information for Parents: Hearing Screening Test

Newborn screening of hearing is done with automated auditory brainstem response tests or, less often, with what are called otoacoustic emission or conventional auditory brainstem response tests. The aim is to detect those babies with hearing deficits and teach them sign language in infancy or give them hearing aids or cochlear implants.

The general purpose of all newborn screening tests is to detect treatable diseases. Most of these disorders are genetic (inherited). Which screening tests should be done is decided in the U.S. on a state-by-state basis. The most common screening tests now include those for hypothyroidism (underactivity of the thyroid gland), PKU (phenylketonuria), galactosemia, and sickle cell disease. The addition of a hearing test to the battery of newborn screening now appears to make medical and economic sense.

As of 1999, only a handful of states in the U.S. mandated newborn hearing screening and only about 15% of all newborns were tested for their hearing in the hospital where they were born.

The overall rate of hearing loss found in one study in the U.S. was about 1 in 330 newborns. The frequency of congenital hearing loss (hearing loss at birth) was 260 per 100,000 births. This is a much higher incidence than for other conditions routinely screened for in newborns.

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Programs: Florida
Web Page: <http://www.infanthearing.org/unhsprograms/florida.html>

Hospitals included on this list are those which, according to state department of health officials in this state, were screening at least 90% of the birth/admissions at the hospital.

In Miami Dade County

Baptist Children's Hospital

8900 North Kendall Drive

Miami, Florida 33176

Voice: (305) 596-KIDS

Email: baptistchildrens@baptisthealth.net.

Mercy Hospital

3663 South Miami Avenue

Miami, FL 33133

Voice: (305) 285-2929

Web Page: <http://www.mercymiami.com/>

Jackson Memorial Hospital

1611 N.W. 12TH Avenue

Miami, Florida 33136-1094

Voice: (305) 585-1111

Web Page: <http://um-jmh.org/JHS/Jackson.html>

South Miami Hospital

6200 SW 73 Street

South Miami, Florida 33143

Voice: (305) 661-4611

University of Miami, School of Medicine

University of Miami, School of Medicine

Coral Gables, Florida 33124

Voice: 305-284-2211

Web Page: <http://www.med.miami.edu/>

In Broward County

Boca Raton Community Hospital

800 Meadows Road
Boca Raton, FL 33486-2368
Voice: (561) 395-7100

Broward General Medical Center

1600 South Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316-2510
Voice: (954) 355-4400

Holy Cross Hospital

4725 North Federal Highway
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308
Voice: (305) 771-8000

Category: Health

Hospitals

Dental Services

- ✓ Drug/Alcohol

Domestic Violence

- ✓ Hearing and Speech Services
- ✓ Health Education and Advocacy
- ✓ HIV/AIDS
- ✓ Family and Parenting

Medical Services

Deaf Access Communications

5781 Biscayne Blvd

Suite 504

Miami, Florida 33137

Voice: 305-756-3700

Fax: 305-751-6237

Hospitals
Dental Services
Drug/Alcohol
 ✓ Domestic Violence
Hearing and Speech Services
Health Education and Advocacy
HIV/AIDS
Family and Parenting
Medical Services

Miami-Dade County
Department of Human Services, Office of Youth and Family Development
Family & Victim Services
2125 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 400
Miami, Florida 33137
Voice: 305-571-7750
Fax: 305-571-7744
Web Page: http://www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/dhs/domestic_violence_svcs.asp

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Department of Human Services (DHS) is Miami-Dade County's largest provider of comprehensive social and human services covering children to elderly, disabled to veterans, welfare clients to farm workers, delinquency prevention to substance abuse and emergency assistance to homeless outreach. DHS has over 65 locations countywide. Within this web site you will find information on the services and programs provided by DHS.

For example, Miami-Dade County's DHS provides crisis intervention and safe space shelter for victims and families of domestic crimes. Other services include counseling, information and referral to other services, transportation, emergency financial assistance, emergency food and clothing, and advocacy and support. This program has had worked with one deaf client with an interpreter. This program is also a court ordered program pre diversion program.

Hotline Services

National Domestic Violence (24 hours)
TTY: 1-800-787-3224
Voice: 1-800-799-7233
Web Page: http://www.co.miami-dade.fl.us/dhs/domestic_violence_svcs.asp

Hospitals

- ✓ Dental Services

Drug/Alcohol

Domestic Violence

Hearing and Speech Services

- ✓ Health Education and Advocacy
- ✓ HIV/AIDS

Family and Parenting

Medical Services

Florida Department of Health

Miami-Dade County Department of Health

Prevention Education-Treatment (PET)

615 Collins Avenue

Miami Beach, Florida

TTY: 305-535-5515

Voice: 305-535-5540

Provides AIDS/HIV Testing, Case Management Medical, and Dental

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday through Friday 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

Tuesday 8:00 A.M.-8:00 P.M.

Saturday 8:00 A.M.-Noon

CDC (HIV/AIDS) FAX information Service

The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Prevention Information Network-(NPIN) develops, identifies, and collects information on the prevention, treatment, and control of HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and tuberculosis (TB), and makes this information available to healthcare providers, patients, grassroots, community organizations, and organizations working in prevention, research, and support services.

The CDC-NPIN FAX is the fax-on-demand service of the CDC National Prevention Network (NPIN), available 24 hours a day.

Toll free CDC-NPIN FAX: 1-800-458-5231 and follow instructions to receive a list of materials available by fax or order specific items

Information by Mail

HIV Information:

Technical Information and Communications Branch
Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention
NCHSTP, CDC
1600 Clifton Road, NE, M/S E -49
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Materials on HIV, STD, and TB Information:

CDC-National Prevention Information Network
P.O. Box 6003
Rockville, Maryland 20849-6003

Information by Phone

HIV/STD Information:

CDC National STD & AIDS Hotline
TTY: 1-800-243-7889
English: 1-800-342-2437 (AIDS)
Spanish: 1-800-344-7432

CDC National Prevention Information Network
TTY: 1-800-243-7012
Voice: 1-800-458-5231

HIV/AIDS Treatment Information Service
Voice: 1-800-HIV-0440 (448-0440)

AIDS Clinical Trials Information Service
Voice: 800-TRIALS-A (874-2572)

Daily News By E-mail

To receive a free subscription of HIV, STD, and TV new articles.

Email: Info@cdcnpin.org

Web Page: www.cdcnpin.org

Hotline Services

CDC National AIDS Hotline (10 AM-10 PM)

Voice: 1-800-243-7889

Hospitals
Dental Services
Drug/Alcohol
Domestic Violence
Hearing and Speech Services
Health Education and Advocacy
HIV/AIDS
Family and Parenting
✓ Medical Services

Agency for Health Care Administration
Medicaid Problem Solving Resources: A Referral Guide

For Medicaid Eligibility: Contact Children and Families (C&F) at the local Public Benefits Service Center. For Closest Center, call at (voice): 305-377-5068

You will be able to:

1. To request a new Medicaid ID hard card if the original is lost, stolen, or never received.
2. To obtain information regarding eligibility for any of the State of Florida public benefits programs.
3. To apply of any of the State of Florida public benefits programs call C&F Relations at (voice): 305-377-5068.

Category: Mental Health Services

- ✓ Mental Health Advocacy
- ✓ Case Management

Clinics and Programs

Consultation and Training

Private Practitioners

- ✓ Self-Help/Support Groups- like parents support group, counseling, mental health, drug/alcohol, and so on

Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outpatient Mental Health Program

Jackson Memorial Hospital

Office Phone: 305-355-8080

Voice: 305-355-8059

TTY: 305-355-8066

Fax: 305-355-8091

Web Page: www.um-jmh.org

Susan M. Williams, Ph.D., Director

Darlene A. Watson, M.S., M.S.W., A.C.S.W., R.S.C., Behavioral Therapist

Leticia N. Calderon, M.S.W, Case Manager/Social Worker

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program in Jackson Memorial Hospital's Mental Health Hospital Center offers a full range of mental health services to children, adolescents, adults, and their families. This program provides comprehensive outpatient mental health services to the deaf and hard of hearing community with various communication needs through therapist who understand deaf cultural issues and are proficient in American Sign Language (ASL) and spoken English.

Services are provided in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program: private counseling (for individuals or families), couples/marriage counseling, group counseling, case management services and referrals, psychiatric evaluations, psychiatric prescriptions, medication management, psychological testing and evaluation, citizenship wavier evaluation, forensic evaluation, consultation and education, and psychoeducational workshops.

This program can help you with many concerns including: depression, rapid changes in emotions, unusual thoughts, low self-esteem, cultural identity issues, anger control, parenting issues, child behavior problems, nervousness, fears, life changes, educational difficulties, job difficulties, help with daily living, social skills development, and assistance locating jobs. For more information, check website or call.

To make an appointment, call the Assessment Center (305)355-7148 (V/TTY) and tell them you want an appointment with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Mental Health Program. The center will ask some background questions, e.g. address and phone number, and then will give the information to the program. The program will reach you to schedule an appointment. Sometimes it may take some time, since there is a waiting list, please be patient if the process takes awhile. If you feel you have a mental health emergency, call Crisis Center at (305)355-7777.

Hotline Service

Jackson Memorial Hospital Mental Health Hospital Center

TTY/Voice: 305-324-4357

Toll Free: 1-800-463-4673

Deaf Access Communications

5781 Biscayne Blvd

Suite 504

Miami, Florida 33137

Voice: 305-756-3700

Fax: 305-751-6237

Agencies that serve Deaf/Hard of hearing People:

Jewish Community Services of South Florida
735 N.E. 125th Street
No. Miami, FL 33161
Job Placement, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program
Rosie Moreno, Job Placement Specialist
Voice: 305-899-1587 ext. 117
Fax: 305-899-1565

SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

Deaf bowling league
Don Carter's Bowling Alley
Kendall Drive and 137th
Every Thursday

Dave and Buster's
Every other Friday evening
Dolphin Mall, Miami

South Florida Deaf Racquetball Association
14451 S.W. 99th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33176
TTY/Fax: 305-232-6448

Other information:

www.nad.org - National Association for the Deaf

www.cfv.org - Captioned Media Program

www.rid.org - National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf www.rid.org

Click here: U S A Deaf Events:

http://users3.ev1.net/~spivey39/u_s_a_deaf_events.htm