



Jeannie Taylor  
DBH DHHS Advisory Committee  
HLAA Representative

---

**Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services  
Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services  
Advisory Committee  
on the Need for Services for Individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

The Advisory Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, August 15, 2018 from 12:30-3:30 at the Kentucky Correctional Industries located in Frankfort, Kentucky.

Nancy Perry, Committee Chairperson, welcomed members and visitors. Roll Call was taken which confirmed quorum along with approval of proxies. Committee members approved the minutes for the May 2018 meeting.

Michelle Niehaus, Program Administrator of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services for Kentucky's Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental, and Intellectual Disabilities, presented an overview of the purpose of the Mental Health Advisory Committee. The overview included highlights from the history of the Advisory Committee along with a review of the role and responsibilities of Committee members. Community mental health facilities were identified, services available to Deaf and Hard of Hearing consumers were described and funding for services within these facilities was discussed. Advisory Committee members formed small discussion groups after Ms. Niehaus' presentation in order to further discuss needs and concerns of the deaf and hard of hearing community and explore how Committee members can be more actively engaged in systems improvement and systems change as we address Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services.

Planning and Implementation Reports from Cumberland River Behavioral Health, Centerstone Kentucky, and Bluegrass Mental Health Services were distributed to Advisory Committee members for review. In addition, Ms. Niehaus shared her Program Administrator's report with Committee members.

Mrs. Niehaus, provided Departmental Updates, reviewed old business, and made announcements about upcoming events and trainings.

## Announcements:

- DeaFestival is September 1, 2018 in Louisville, Kentucky. The event will be held at The Galt House located at 140 North Fourth Street. The event is from 9:45 am - 8:00 pm. Additional information can be found here: <https://www.kcdhh.ky.gov/deafestival/>
- A poster contest is being sponsored by Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) Kentucky Walk4Hearing. Additional information can be found at HLAA's State website: <http://www.hearinglosskentucky.org/>
- Kentucky's HLAA second annual Walk4Hearing will take place on October 13, 2018 at Beckley Creek Park in Louisville, Kentucky. Additional information can be found here: [http://hlaa.convio.net/site/TR?fr\\_id=2482&pg=entry](http://hlaa.convio.net/site/TR?fr_id=2482&pg=entry)
- Kentucky Hands & Voices will host the 2018 Deaf Awareness Day at the Louisville Zoo on September 2, 2018. Additional information can be found here: <https://kyhandsandvoices.org/>
- The next Advisory Committee meeting will be held November 14, 2018 from 12:30-3:30 in Frankfort, Kentucky.

*Additional information about the Kentucky Division of Behavioral Health, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Advisory Committee for Mental Health Services can be located at their website: <http://dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/dhhs-advisory.aspx>*

Jeannie Taylor  
HLAA Representative  
DBH DHHS Advisory Committee  
[Jeannie@hearinglosskentucky.org](mailto:Jeannie@hearinglosskentucky.org)