

Shelter Accessibility Advisory Board 5.2.25

2:00pm - 4:00pm via Zoom

Attendance: Jennifer Shaoul, Beth Diesch, Lisanne Anderson, Crystal Rivera, Erica Strang, Charisma White, Mbacke Thiam, Asa Johnson, Cynthia English

Communi-cards containing QR codes from which to access additional language options are almost finalized for utilization in the Deaf community, and there will be a soft-launch at Intake and in all assessment shelters. Other shelters where Deaf individuals are known to reside may also be considered. We will receive feedback and finalize after said soft-launch.

Meeting Minutes – Discussion of how minutes should be reviewed and approved by the group:

Finalized process:

- Google docs will be available live, and with editing permissions for the group. All group members are asked to review and track changes/add comments within 7 days following the meeting.
- Jennifer is to review/finalize comments at the conclusion of the 7 day period.
- A PDF copy of the finalized document will be saved to group folder; PDF is the copy that will be made public.

Voted for Chair/Vice Chair (including discussion of responsibilities for each role). The committee decided to nominate co-chairs for the position.

- Accepted nominations for Co-Chairs: Asa Johnson, and Cythia English (unanimous approval).

Completed review of the training materials we engaged in the prior meeting; Jen indicated that this training is open to updates/feedback.

- Common thread iterated throughout training–“Don’t assume!” This, as pertains to relevant protocols surrounding disability etiquette, the language used to describe, relate information about, and or address disabled individuals, in addition to in instances where service actions are being performed. Never be afraid to ask!
- Discussed Language: unintended bias/subliminal thoughts represented in language; person-first language; strategies for modeling language and respecting the language that others wish to use to describe themselves.
- Disability Etiquette
- Butler Lawsuit Background
- Scenarios for discussion and brainstorming how RAs could be considered in these situations; reminder of interactive process of the RA process (don’t make assumptions regarding what the person wants)
- Left off on RAs for People with Mobility Disabilities .

Next Steps:

- Group members to review minutes from first three meetings and provide comments/track changes by Friday May 9th. Have comments prepared for the next discussion.
- Jennifer, Asa, and Cynthia to meet prior to the next meeting in order to review position responsibilities, duties and training opportunities.
- Next meeting: Wednesday June 11th 3-5 via Zoom

○ Agenda for next meeting:

- 1.) Discussion surrounding how to provide self advocacy resources for individuals residing in shelter .
- 2.) Resume training modules and review of forms/notices.

