



# E-NEWS

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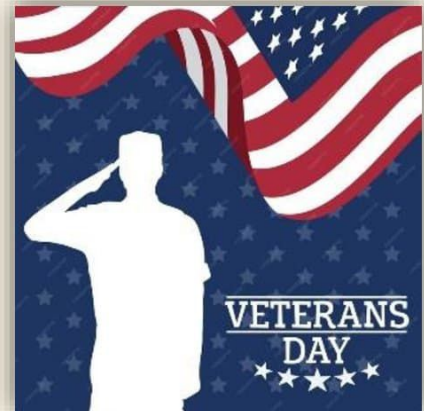


**November 10, 2023**

## From The Executive Director

### **SALUTE TO MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED IN OUR COUNTRY'S ARMED SERVICES!**

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, the Commission held a meeting in Jefferson City. Staff reports included activity from the group and administrative issues. One big concern coming from those reports is the proctoring of the BEI test. Currently, testing in our office is on hold. We knew our contract ended at the end of August, but did not receive a new contract until mid-August. We began working on the new contract, but did not meet the deadline. At that time MCDHH acknowledged that with Texas, but did not receive word until later in September to cease testing which required contacting and making arrangements for interpreters who were caught in the middle of the old and new contract. We continued on, but the state of Missouri changed the way this contract is handled, which meant added time, and procedure to getting this reconfigured and approved which is where we are now. We hate to see this happen and will work through this and plan to improve this process, on our end of things, for the future.



Other things discussed by the commission were:

-PCED language we discovered and were following up with the State Committee for clarification on how the rules read.



-Progress on the LEAD-K committee. DESE worked diligently with MCDHH and MSD to gather representation for the committee that will review and discuss language assessment tools and information for families and make recommendations to DESE. It was inspiring to see the community being zealous about participating. The Office of

Childhood has been reviewing programs in other states to review and collect data and materials to present to the committee. The committee will meet for the first time in December to get introduced to each other and become oriented with the goal and process.

-The commissioners were encouraged, as well as our readers, to let us know if they see anything on our website that needs improving. Several staff underwent brief training on how to work with the

website. We are becoming more familiar with the system, but your patience is appreciated as we attempt making changes and improving the site.

-Communication Access Fund (CAF). During the meeting, Chair Corogenes, addressed the group regarding a CAF which would be designated money that agencies could use to pay for accommodations like interpreter services. Corogenes shared different ways this could happen and how it would benefit Missourians. The Chair and Becky Davis will be exploring ideas and meeting with other agencies for advisement.

-Deaf Senior Living-MCDHH has not made much progress in this area, but did attend a workshop at the NAD conference and will be attending training about the Older Americans Act this month.

Due to time other topics were pushed to the next meeting that will occur in 2024. Mark your calendar for the following dates:

January 18<sup>th</sup> Jefferson City, MO 10:00-2:00

April 4<sup>th</sup> \*Kansas City, MO 10:00-2:00 (possibly before the conference/backup date April 11<sup>th</sup>)

July 18<sup>th</sup> Jefferson City, MO 10:00-2:00

October 10<sup>th</sup> Jefferson City, MO 10:00-2:00

**MCDHH COMMISSION MEETING**  
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES:**



**JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> JCMO 10-2PM**  
**APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup> OR 11<sup>TH</sup> KCMO 10-2 PM**  
**JULY 18<sup>TH</sup> JCMO 10-2PM**  
**OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup> JCMO 10-2PM**



## Amusing Trivia



### **Ella Mae Lentz** **Poet, Educator, and Advocate**

Lentz, the witty dynamo, was born to Deaf parents and one Deaf brother in California. Her educational journey took her from the halls of California School for the Deaf (Fremont) to the vibrant classrooms of Gallaudet University, where she emerged with degrees in English and Drama.

But that's just the start of the story. Lentz is a celebrated figure in the Deaf community, renowned for her ASL poetry and a portfolio of appearances on the small and silver screens. Not to forget, she's etched her wisdom in "The Green Books," ASL curriculum.

Her primary mission? Shifting the perspective of Deafhood from mere hearing loss to a rich identity rooted in visual prowess. She's a road warrior of education, having delivered countless presentations across the expanse of America, championing ASL, Deaf Culture, and the very essence of Deafhood itself.

If you're in need of proof of her artistry, ["The Rosebush"](#) (2008) and ["To A Hearing Mother"](#) (2010) stand as shining examples of her poetic brilliance, immortalized on film.



*"Instead of looking at what deaf people can't do, we need to look at ourselves as people who are visual, and who have a community, we need to look at ourselves in a very positive view to confirm who we are as deaf individuals."*

**- Ella Mae Lentz**

## Mainstream News

The National Weather Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has a Safety Campaign for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community. The link listed below will provide basic, general information regarding various weather topics and weather radio information. Additional education, awareness and outreach events are being considered by NOAA. If you are interested in more information, and/or think that your community should hold an educational class, please contact Amy Sue Guinn; Staff Interpreter at [amysue.guinn@mcdhh.mo.gov](mailto:amysue.guinn@mcdhh.mo.gov) and this information will be forwarded to the NOAA for consideration.  
<https://www.weather.gov/wrn/dhh-safety>



Image description: Lesley and Roberto are two Protactile educators seated facing each other, with their hands on each other's hands rested on Roberto's thigh. Both Lesley and Roberto are wearing sunglasses and dark shirts inside with a desk and wood paneling behind them.

### Protactile Language Theory - Online Certificate Program

- For more information: visit our [website](#)

**Worth up to 1.6 CEUs**  
**Worth 1.6 CRC CE Units**

#### Program Description:

Protactile Language Interpreting National Education Program (PLI) presents a self-directed course of study in Protactile Language Theory. This online certificate program consists of 16 hours of online content, assignments, and assessment, focused on co-navigation, Protactile language, co-presence, Protactile literature, and the Protactile numbering systems and alphabet.

Protactile (PT) is a language that cannot be learned through visual or auditory channels. To fully acquire PT, the speaker and the listener must be in physical contact with one another. Because of this, the PLI program of study primarily focuses on the theory of Protactile, and completion of this program does not indicate language proficiency.

## MCDHH's Upcoming Occasions

*Nothing as of now....*

## General Upcoming Affairs



**November 18, 2023**

**10am to 5pm**

### **MMDC Thanksgiving Dinner**

Where? Boone Electric Cooperative  
1413 Rangeline Street  
Columbia, MO 65205

**MEAT:** Turkey

Drinks will be sold

Bring dish: \$5.00 No dish: \$8.00 No eat/visit only: \$3.00

Bingo game play!! Come and have fun!

**NO OUTSIDE DRINKS!!**

Question? Email at [Walkercad8@gmail.com](mailto:Walkercad8@gmail.com)





**SAVE THE DATES!!!**  
**APRIL 4-6TH, 2024**

**INTERPRETER'S CONFERENCE**  
**KANSAS CITY, MO**



**PARTNERING WITH**  
**KANSAS AND MISSOURI**  
**COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF**  
**AND HARD OF HEARING**



**MORE DETAILS TO COME SOON!**

[HTTPS://MCDHH.MO.GOV](https://MCDHH.MO.GOV)

[HTTPS://KCDHH.KS.GOV](https://KCDHH.KS.GOV)

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

-----IN STATE OPPORTUNITY-----

**MT & Associates is looking for a full time Staff Interpreter & Community Relations Specialist.**  
St. Louis, MO

Are you a passionate ASL interpreter seeking an opportunity to make a significant impact in your community? MT&A Sign Language Practice invites you to join our dynamic team as we shape a more accessible and inclusive world.

**Qualifications:**

- RID/BEI certification - level 4 or 5 minimum.
- Active License or ability to hold a license in Missouri and Illinois.
- Self-motivated, enthusiastic, and committed to the growth of the ASL interpreting field.

**Pay:** Competitive

If you're ready to contribute your skills and be a part of a company that values Professional Excellence, Personal Well-Being, Rewarding Lives and Jobs, Efficiency, and Inclusivity, we encourage you to take the next step.

**Interested? Apply Here:**

<https://mt-associates-sign-language-interpreting-practice.careerplug.com/jobs>

**MT & ASSOCIATES**

**WE ARE HIRING**

JOIN OUR TEAM NOW!

**We Are Looking For**

**STAFF INTERPRETER & COMMUNITY RELATIONS SPECIALIST**

**Requirements**

- ✓ RID/BEI certification - Level 4 or 5 minimum
- ✓ Active License or ability to hold a license in Missouri and Illinois
- ✓ Self-motivated, enthusiastic, and committed to the growth of the ASL interpreting field

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY CLICK HERE**

**MT&A WANTS YOU!**

ASL INTERPRETERS

**Qualifications:**

- Certified Interpreters that are passionate about language accessibility
- State Committee of Interpreters licensure or Missouri Interpreter Licensure

**What We Offer:**

- An encouraging & supportive team that you can TRUST
- Nationwide opportunities, both in-person and VRI
- An "open door" policy to share your feedback & suggestions
- Competitive pay

APPLY NOW

[www.mtapractice.com](http://www.mtapractice.com)  
[recruiting@mtapractice.com](mailto:recruiting@mtapractice.com)

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## -----OUT STATE OPPORTUNITY-----

### **Lecturer, American Sign Language and Deaf Studies (Interpreting)**

*Univ of Kansas Edwards Campus*

- A master's degree from a nationally accredited university is required by the start date of the appointment.
- At least two years' experience teaching ASL/English interpreting related coursework.
- National or state Interpreter certification to include at least one of the following: CDI, CI, CT, NIC, BEI or MICS.

[Job Posting](#) | [Work at KU](#)

### **Lecturer, American Sign Language and Deaf Studies (Advanced ASL)**

*Univ of Kansas Edwards Campus*

- A master's degree from a nationally accredited university in American Sign Language, or closely related field, is required by the start date of the appointment.
- At least three years' experience teaching ASL; minimum of one year in higher education.
- Experience teaching intermediate/advanced ASL courses including ASL III, ASL IV, ASL V, and/or ASL VI.

[Job Posting](#) | [Work at KU](#)



# List of Links Resources

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**Meat:** Turkey

**Drinks will be Sold**

**Bring dish:** \$5.00

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Bingo game play! Come and have fun!

**NO OUTSIDE DRINKS!**

Question? Email at

Walkercad8@gmail.com

## Interpreter's Conference

### KCMO

April 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 *More*

*Details to Come Soon!*

[www.mcdhh.mo.gov](http://www.mcdhh.mo.gov) and [www.kcdhh.ks.gov](http://www.kcdhh.ks.gov)

## Protractile Theory Certificate

Nov 1-15 2024

**Cost:** None

<https://www.protractilelanguageinterpreting.org/certificate-programs.html>

## Ella Mae Lentz YouTube links:

The Rosebush

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9biUSEHRlo>

To A Hearing Mother

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PzpbYDCpyWg>



**Want to post job positions & flyers in our newsletter?**  
Please e-mail  
[Johanna.martin@mcdhh.mo.gov](mailto:Johanna.martin@mcdhh.mo.gov) with image/video descriptions and scripts (if applicable)

**Want MCDHH to share your posts on Facebook?**

- Make your posts sharable
- Direct message us on FB
- We will share!