



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing
www.ncdhhs.gov/dsdhh

WILSON REGIONAL CENTER
2705 Wooten Blvd. SW — Wilson, NC 27893
(252) 243-3104 (V) (252) 243-1951 (TTY) - (800) 999-6828(V) (800) 205-9925(TTY)
(252) 674-1141 (Video Phone)
Fax: (252) 243-7634 Email: Wilson.rc@dhhs.nc.gov

CALENDAR of EVENTS

MAY, JUNE, JULY

Stephanie's Standpoint . . .

You have probably noticed some changes at the Wilson Regional Center. We have a new Interpreting Services Specialist (ISS). Learn more about Jamie Morris on page 4.

We also have a new Title V employee. Her name is Theresa Gaskins. Title V is a federal job training program for older adults. You might be interested in participating in this program that pays its participants for 20 hours of work at a training site per week. Talk with one of the specialists if you are interested.

Another recent change that you may have noticed is the absence of our Office Assistant, Rhonda Hamilton. We have had several different temporary employees working the front desk until Rhonda can return to work.

Regardless of changes at the Wilson Regional Center, our commitment to serving northeastern NC does NOT change. We thank you for your patience as we make adjustments and train new staff.

You may notice some unfamiliar acronyms in the following pages.

We hope this acronym key will be helpful:

NCRID - NC Registry of Interpreter for the Deaf
NCDBA - NC Deaf-Blind Associates
NCBDA - NC Black Deaf Advocates
NCAD - NC Association of the Deaf
NCASLTA - NC American Sign Language Teachers Association

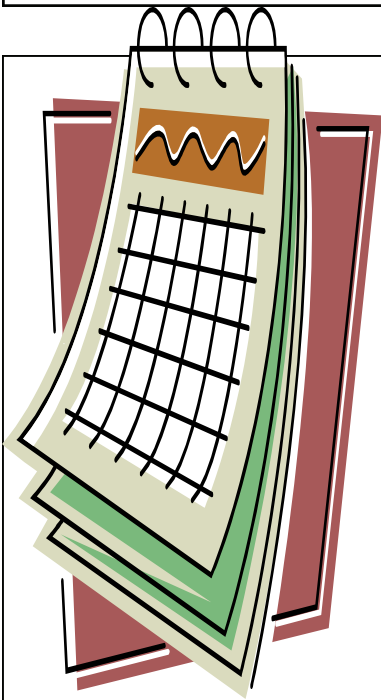


Mark Your Calendar

MAY



- 4 Craven/Carteret County Silent Dinners:** 6pm. Smithfield's Chicken 'N Bar-B-Q, 1419 East Main Street, Havelock, NC
Contact Sandi Sinnott at (252) 649-0317; www.sandi2234@gmail.com
or www.ssinnett@ec.rr.com for more information.
- 5 NCRID Board Meeting:** 10am-3pm at Heritage Green in Greensboro. For information, contact Debbie Batts at dbatts1@nc.rr.com, or 252-230-5081
- 8 Hard of Hearing Group Meeting:** 5:00-6:30pm. Herman Park Center, 903 E. Ash Street, Goldsboro NC - For information call Karen Caputo, Hard of Hearing Specialist.
- 15 Better Hearing and Speech Month - Hearing Screenings and Exhibits, Camden County Health Department:** 8am - 1pm. For more information call Karen Caputo.
- 16 Better Hearing and Speech Month - Hearing Screenings and Exhibits, Hyde County Health Department;** 9am - 2pm. Call Karen Caputo at 1-800-999-6828 for an appointment.
- 22 Hearing Loss Association (HLAA) New Bern Chapter Meeting - 11am at McCarthy Court Apartments - 1325 McCarthy Blvd., New Bern - For information call Karen Caputo, Hard of Hearing Specialist**



Mark Your Calendar for Better Hearing & Speech Month Events

Karen Caputo, with other Regional Center Staff, will have a booth at the following events. If you are in the area, please stop by and say "Hi." Contact Karen Caputo, Hard of Hearing Specialist, at Karen.caputo@dhhs.nc.gov or 800-999-6828 for locations and times for the different events.

May 11th	Wilson Aging Event
May 12th	Martin County Health Fair
May 15th	Camden County Health Department
May 17th	Pamlico County Senior Center, "Aging Well Expo"
May 18th	Edgecombe County May Day
May 30th	Chowan County Senior Center Health Fair
May 30th	Beaufort County Senior Health Fair

JUNE



- 9 Craven/Carteret County Silent Dinners:** 6pm at Ruby Tuesday, 1007 Hwy. 70, New Bern, NC; Contact Sandi Sinnott at (252) 649-0317; [www.sandi2234@gmail.com](mailto:sandi2234@gmail.com) or www.ssinnott@ec.rr.com for more information.
- 16 Blended Fellowship Deaf Mission:** Special banquet for Deaf Advocates, \$5.00 supper; 5pm at Blended Fellowship Mission; 2091 Big Daddy's Road, Pikeville, NC. For more information contact Melanie Seymour by phone (919) 736-7676 or email: Melanie@blendedfellowship.com or go on the website: www.blendedfellowship.com.
- 17-22 30th Annual Sertoma Deaf Camp:** Summer Camp for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth. Sponsored by North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland Sertoma Clubs. Held at the Sertoma 4-H Educational Center, 1105 Camp Sertoma Drive, Westfield, NC. For more information go to www.campsertoma.org.
- 21-24 Hearing Loss Association of America 2012 Conference:** Providence, Rhode Island. Registration information can be found at www.hearingloss.org.
- 22-23 NCRID 2012 Conference: Wilmington, NC.** See www.ncrid.org for details.
- 26 Hearing Loss Association (HLAA) New Bern Chapter Meeting:** 11:00 a.m. at McCarthy Court Apartments, 1325 McCarthy Blvd., New Bern. For more information contact Karen Caputo, Hard of Specialist.

JULY

- 3-7 51st Biennial NAD Conference & Deafestival 2012:** Louisville, Kentucky. Registration information can be found at www.NAD.ORG/LOUISVILLE.com and www.deafestival.org
- 24 Hearing Loss Association (HLAA) New Bern Chapter Meeting:** 11:00 a.m. at McCarthy Court Apartments, 1325 McCarthy Blvd., New Bern. For more information contact Karen Caputo, Hard of Specialist.



Join us in welcoming Jaime Morris to the Wilson Regional Center family.



Welcome Aboard

Hi my name is Jamie Morris. I am the new ISS for the Wilson RC and I am happy to be part of this fabulous team! I received my BA from Gardner-Webb University with a major in ASL and a minor in Psychology. Before I graduated from college I began my interpreting career in SC and in June I will celebrate 10 years as an ASL interpreter. I have lived and interpreted all over eastern NC and parts of SC. My most recent experience was as a staff interpreter at ENCSD before moving to Rochester, NY to interpret at RIT. I moved back to Wake Forest, NC in May of 2010. I have a husband and two beautiful daughters. My oldest daughter is 6 years old and is in her first year of Kindergarten. My youngest is 1 ½ years old and is trying to get the hang of talking while running and climbing on everything. I am extremely excited to be part of the Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing team here in Wilson. I look forward to the challenges and experiences that await my new role as ISS. Thank you all for such a warm welcome and I look forward to working with you all!

MAY

BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH

As a Hard of Hearing Services Specialist, I hear again and again from individuals who are hard of hearing "I hear, I just don't understand." Perhaps we should call May "Better Understanding Month!"

Over the years we all develop communication habits, some good, some bad. When my son was two years old, he had the bad habit of saying "huh?" every time someone spoke to him. He does not have a hearing loss, although from his "huh" in every conversation you would have thought he did.

How are your communication skills? Be honest - then begin today to practice new communication techniques to improve your ability to hear and understand!

1. When you don't understand a question you have been asked, you
 - a. say "huh?"
 - b. nod your head like you understand.
 - c. answer "I heard you say , but I missed the first part of the sentence."
 - d. answer the question you thought they asked.
2. When you meet someone for the first time you
 - a. try to get through the conversation the best you can.
 - b. tell people immediately "I have a hearing loss."
3. Someone asks you to join them for dinner you
 - a. decline because you cannot hear in noisy restaurants.
 - b. ask where they are going and decide whether or not to say no.
 - c. say "yes" but suffer through it and wish you had not agreed to go.
 - d. tell the person you would like to go and would like to talk with them about where and when.
4. You walk up to a group of people who are in the midst of a conversation and
 - a. ask "Hi, what are we talking about?"
 - b. jump right in and join in the conversation, then find people looking at you strangely.
 - c. pull a friend aside and ask what the topic is.

The best actions are 1(c), 2(b), 3(d) and 4(a or c).



North Carolina Black Deaf Advocates

Present

10th Anniversary Celebration



BBQ Cookout



Saturday, May 5th, 2012
11:30a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Pullen Amusement Park – Shelter #4



520 Ashe Avenue,
Raleigh, NC 27606

Admissions:

\$12.00 - Adult (Age 13 and up)

\$5.00 - Children (Age 6-12)

Free - under age 5



Social, Games, Drawing Prize, Dancing and more...

For more information contact:

James Richardson, Vice President – jamesrichardson@tmo.blackberry.net

Maxine Richardson, Secretary – maxinerichardson3@tmo.blackberry.net

VP: 336-218-6496

From Greensboro to Raleigh: Take I-40 East, exit 289 to merge onto Wade Avenue toward I-440/US-1 North, take the I-440 South exit toward I-40 E/Hillsborough St/Sanford, merge onto I-440 South, exit Western Blvd toward NC State University/Downtown, turn left onto Ashe Ave. See park on the left side.

From Wilson to Raleigh: Take 64 W, merge onto I-440 E, merge I-40 W, Exit 298B for S. Saunders St. N toward Raleigh/Downtown, turn right onto S. Saunders St. W, slight right onto McDowell St., take the Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., and turn right onto Ashe Ave. See park on the left side.



NCDDBA Cook Out & Carnival

Date: Saturday, June 23, 2012

Time: 12 PM thru 6 PM

Where: Pullen Park

520 Ashe St Shelter #2

Raleigh, NC 27606

Cost: \$5.00 two hot dogs, chips, and Soda





Deaf-Blind Awareness Month

Handth...The Deaf-Blind World

June is Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Month since Helen Keller's birthday falls on June 27. There are many ways you can be a part of a person's life who is Deaf-Blind regardless of your communication and social skills with this population. Simply put, every person who is Deaf-Blind is an individual with their OWN skills, abilities, challenges, and needs.

People who are Deaf-Blind use various modes of communication: 1) signing in any of these ways: close vision, small signing space, tracking, and tactile; 2) speech including using hearing aids, assistive listening devices (ALD's), lip reading; and 3) printed media such as a computer, dry-erase board, Tele-Braille, Braille display.

People who are Deaf-Blind CAN do ANYTHING as long as adaptations or accommodations are provided. One way YOU can get involved is to be a Support Service Provider (SSP) which involves guiding, reading print, providing environmental and visual information, and facilitating communication. Simply put, an SSP becomes the "eyes" of a person who is Deaf-Blind. SSP's are valuable because the person feels like they have regained their independence and have a sense of control in their life again.

In American Sign Language literature, Eyeth is the imaginary planet where everyone uses visual-manual modes of communication. Of course Earth is the planet where the majority of people can hear and communicate through speech. But on the imaginary planet of Handth, tactile communication is more important, because the majority of inhabitants are deaf-blind.

People who are Deaf-Blind rely on touch or what is better known as tactile communication. Hands are valuable to them, and YOUR hands touch many of their lives. Get involved in the Deaf-Blind World, Handth.

NCRID 2012 CONFERENCE

Wilmington, NC
June 22-23, 2012

Waves of Change and An Ocean of Opportunity

Register Now for the 2012 NCRID Conference!!

NCRID, NCAD & NCASLTA Members and Students

Special Early Bird Rate is ONLY \$50.00!

****Extended \$50 Rate Expires 4/22/2012**

Postmarked by 3/31: Full Conference (Friday & Saturday)

\$50 NCRID/NCAD/NCASLTA Members & Full Time Students (send copy of membership card or student id)
\$75 Non Members

Postmarked by 4/1 to 6/15: Full Conference (Friday & Saturday)

\$75 NCRID/NCAD/NCASLTA Members & Full Time Students (send copy of membership card or student id)
\$100 Non Members

One Day Only (Either Friday Only or Saturday Only): Postmarked 4/1 to 6/10

\$60 NCRID/NCAD/NCASLTA Members & Full Time Students (send copy of membership card or student id)
\$85 Non Members

Postmarked after 6/15 including at the door registration: \$150

Registration for Friday Night's events (awards, keynote, etc.) only: \$25

Holiday Inn, Wilmington

<http://www.wilmingtonhi.com/>

5032 Market Street, Wilmington, NC 28405 -- 910.392.1101

Rate: \$109/night (includes \$20 breakfast voucher per room)

Rate is good until May 25, 2012 ask for the block of rooms for the "RID" Group or visit

[NCRID Conference Hotel](#)

Conference Rate will be honored for a few days before and after the conference in the event you wish to extend your stay and enjoy the beach!

**** Please note, Friday's events will be held at the Holiday Inn.**

Saturday's events will be held at UNC-W.



**You're invited to an
Applebee's® Flapjack Fundraiser breakfast
to support North Carolina Deaf-Blind
Associates**

**\$7.00 per person
NCDBA Wilson Flapjack**

**WHEN: Saturday, June 9, 2012
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**

**WHERE: Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar
2300 Forest Hills Dr.**

Wilson, NC 27894

For More Information:

Please contact John Sherwood, Email: jps2543@earthlink.net. Call:
(919) 324-3762

Valid only at participating restaurant listed above. Ticket valid for pancake event only.
Applebee's menu items are not included as part of purchase.

**Wilson Regional Center
for the Deaf and the Hard
of Hearing**



**Wilson Regional Center
Video Phone Number
(252) 674-1141**

If you are Deaf and do not have a video phone in your home,
you can come to the Wilson Regional Center to use the
Video Relay Service Room
Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Staff Directory

(252) 243-3104 Main Voice

(252) 243-1951 Main TTY

Toll Free: (800) 999-6828 v/tty

Manager - Stephanie Johnson - ext. 201

Office Assistant - Rhonda Hamilton - ext. 200

Hard of Hearing Services Specialist - Karen Caputo - ext. 207

Deaf Services Specialist - Stephanie Scott - ext. 202; Video Phone: (252) 565-1474

Deaf-Blind Services Specialist - Lea Moynihan - ext. 206

Telecommunications Consultant - Diana Charbonneau - ext. 210

Communications Accessibility Consultant - Merri Schermerhorn - ext. 209

Interpreting Services Specialist - Jamie Morris - ext. 204

Wilson Regional Center for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing

Serves 24 counties in NC

Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Edgecombe, Gates,
Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Lenoir, Martin, Northampton, Pamlico, Pasquotank,
Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, Washington, Wayne, Wilson