Legislature Talking points

S162

Single Entry Point

Creating and administering a referral network for services for persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or DeafBlind and for their families, including health, rehabilitative, education, employment, and interpreter services;

Coordinating with the Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Advisory Council to provide annual recommendations to the Governor, including identifying system strengths and gaps in services;

Creating and distributing outreach and educational materials about available resources in a manner that is accessible to persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or DeafBlind;

Establishing effective and collaborative working relationships among the staff of the Agencies of Human Services and of Education, service providers, and community partners

Providing other coordination services that account for the differing needs and attitudes of members of the deaf, hard of hearing, and DeafBlind community and their families

We need this because the Deaf community is small as it is and more and more people are moving out because there isn’t anything here for them.

The Division of Blind and Visually Impaired get over 1 million dollars for Blind people in Vermont and there are only a little over 500 blind people, Deaf get nothing and we have about 400 deaf signing people, 76,000 hard of hearing and late deafened and about 400 deaf/hoh children. This doesn’t make sense that the Blind get all of that money and we have nothing..