

Education and Workforce Development Cabinet
New Executive Director named to KCDHH

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FRANKFORT, Ky. — The Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH) is pleased to announce the selection of its new executive director, Ms. Virginia L. Moore, effective September 1, 2009. Ms. Moore, a long-standing employee of the agency, assumes this post after having served as Deputy Executive Director since November 2008.

Ms. Moore has a strong deaf heritage as she was raised in a predominantly deaf family and has worked with the deaf and hard of hearing community her entire life. Her background includes working as a Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf, co-founding an interpreter referral agency, working as an educational interpreter at a technical college and as an instructor at the Interpreter Training Program at the University of Louisville, and working nationally and internationally as a personal interpreter. Ms. Moore attended Michigan State University and received her B.A. in Psychology and Sociology from Indiana University Southeast.

Since her initial employment in 1994, Ms. Moore has worked in every facet of the agency and continually strives to meet the goals of the diverse community KCDHH serves. Her roles at KCDHH have included: coordinating DeaFestival-KY, serving as the State Interpreter Administrator, working as Executive Staff Advisor, administering the Telecommunications Access Program (TAP), and serving as Interim Executive Director. During her 15 years of service she has assisted in efforts to expand videoconferencing services throughout the state, obtain additional funding for the TAP to include wireless devices in the program, expand interpreter training programs, and place Public Access Videophones in Kentucky's international airports. With extensive knowledge of the issues affecting the deaf and hard of hearing community, she constantly works to foster partnerships within state government and other public and private agencies to enhance the agency's goals while maintaining the high standards and expectations for which KCDHH is renowned.

Her goals for the agency include: enhancing detection and early intervention for infants with a hearing loss; advancing the educational system for deaf and hard of hearing children, including provision of appropriate language models within the classroom; improving access to quality mental health services; expanding the availability of interpreters, especially in rural areas; promoting the agency's outreach efforts; facilitating

the implementation of a statewide emergency notification and warning system; and working to ensure total access to movie theaters throughout Kentucky.

“I am very lucky to work with dedicated, passionate individuals within the agency. Together we will forge partnerships and break down barriers as we work to ensure our diverse population becomes one community”, said Ms. Moore.

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The Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing has spent more than a quarter of a century providing effective and efficient leadership, education, advocacy and programs to eliminate barriers and to meet the social, economic, cultural and intellectual needs of deaf and hard of hearing Kentuckians. For more information, contact:

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KCDHH is an agency within the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet.