

November Newsletter



GCDHH Spotlight

This month's spotlight is EDP Assistant, Jennifer Frew, who started working at GCDHH in 2017. At the time, she barely knew American Sign Language but her knowledge of technology made her a valuable asset. Since then, Jennifer has poured her energy and time into I Can Connect (ICC), making sure every consumer is satisfied and has proper access to telecommunication. Being one of the few hearing people at the office, Jennifer offers her experience of working at GCDHH.

Q: Is this your first time working in a Deaf environment?

A: Yes, this is the first time I have been working with the Deaf community.

Q: What is it like working at GCDHH?

A: Working here at GCDHH has been a life changing experience. I have a passion to unite people in general, so this has given me even more experience in this area on communicating with a culture that I may have never been exposed to. Being able to work in the community has been a wonderful experience for me and I continue to grow with it every day.

Q: What has been the biggest challenge as a Hearing person working in a Deaf environment?

A: The biggest issue has been learning how to communicate with the Deaf community. With it being a different language, it was at first foreign to me as all languages are when you begin to learn them. Now that I have been working directly with the community for three years now, I am becoming more comfortable with my ASL. The community has been so gracious with me as I learn the beautiful language.

Q: Can you tell us about your experience working with the Deafblind community?

A: I started working with the Deafblind community in August of 2016 as an assistant to a VR trainer. As I did not do any training, I was exposed to the programming and technology that would help the clients with the communication and technology assess what they needed in their daily lives. I observed how the software and technology changed and opened up more opportunities that you and I may take for granted. It also taught me to be even more aware of my surroundings when I was assisting clients. I really enjoyed watching each client grow in their understanding of software and equipment that was provided for them. I was given the opportunity of the ICC assistant position and learned the other side of this program. It has been a joy to get to know each client and provide the equipment that fits their needs.

Q: What was your most memorable moment working with a consumer that qualified for ICC's equipment?

A: I think the moment that continues to occur is when I am able to tell a person about the help that we are going to be able to give to them. It is a way to help educate the Deafblind community of the technology that will help them to communicate with their friends, loved ones, businesses, doctors, and more.

Q: What is your take on American Sign Language?

A: ASL has been enjoyable to learn. Being immersed in it at GCDHH, I have been able to learn how to communicate much faster. I still have a long way to go and I look forward to improving my ASL skills

Q: Do you find yourself using it when Deaf and Hard of Hearing People aren't around?

A: Yes, I do use it when I am not around Deaf or HH. I have encouraged my son to take ASL in high school. He is now in his second year of ASL classes and plans to take classes here at GCDHH next year. My daughter also has been learning some ASL so she can communicate with clients that come into her place of employment.

Q: What do you want people to know about ICC and GCDHH?

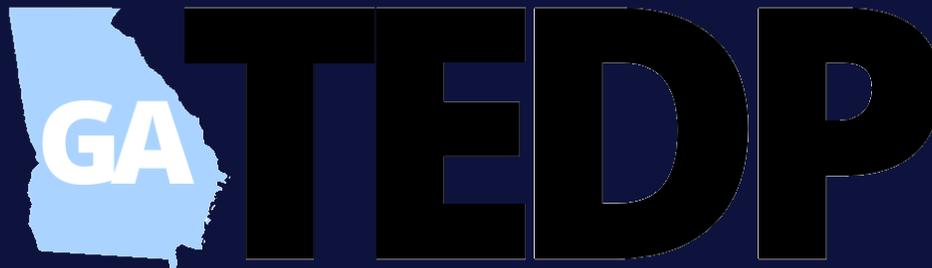
A: ICC is a wonderful program set up for the Deafblind community. I would love for the community to know that we are here to assist them in having the technology to communicate and navigate the world they live in. It has been a wonderful opportunity

GCDHH CLIENT TESTIMONIAL:



ESSIE DAVIS

"When you live alone and you cant hear good, the Quattro Pro helps you to hear better and you feel more safe." She says she can hear now when people come to her door because of the DB200 door announcer. Essie got her Quattro Pro through our [Georgia Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program](#).



ASL ONLINE CLASSES



American Sign Language is the 3rd most common language in the U.S. and a beneficial skill for everyday life. It is a rich & visual language used by the Deaf community. Don't just learn ASL, open your eyes to a whole new culture-Deaf culture!

AGES 14+ ARE WELCOME TO ASL VIRTUAL CLASSES!

LEARN FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE, TABLET, LAPTOP FROM HOME!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THESE COURSES



 ONE-ON-ONE ATTENTION TO EACH STUDENT

 INTERACTIVE ONLINE COURSES

 GAIN ACCESS TO AUTHENTIC SIGNERS

Register today!



VIRTUAL ASL CLASSES : \$80



VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

SATURDAYS

ASL I 10AM-12PM EST

ASL II 1PM-3PM EST

ASL III 3:30PM-5:30PM EST

JANUARY 23, 30

FEBRUARY 6, 20, 27

MARCH 6, 13, 20

THIS IS A NON-CREDIT 2 HOUR COURSE FOR 8 SESSIONS, PLEASE CHOOSE YOUR CLASSES TO REGISTER

DEADLINE: JAN 13, 2021 WEDNESDAY @ NOON



GOT A QUESTION?



CONTACT ANDREA ALSTON
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GEORGIA CENTER OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

Prior to COVID-19, Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (GCDHH) offered American Sign Language (ASL) Courses in-person at the center. When the pandemic started, GCDHH took a new approach with virtual classes for ASL to respect safety concerns. Today, the remote classes are available for community (age 14 and up) and businesses. Below are upcoming available courses:

ASL I- Beginner

ASL II- Intermediate

ASL III- Advanced

*There will be eight two-hour long classes each semester.



The textbook is highly recommended for all ASL units- **A Basic Course in American Sign Language (Second Edition)**. This can be ordered via Amazon. GCDHH offers online ASL classes for children younger than 14 years old for one hour for eight sessions. We also offer private ASL one-on-one for a separate fee. At the end of the semester, a Certificate of Attendance will be given for those who participated. This is only for the proof of participation in ASL course and this does not count as certified for Sign Language Interpreter. If you wanted to become a certified interpreter, you would have to take Interpreting courses at any college/university that offers them.

If you are interested to learn American Sign Language, price inquiry or have questions, please email Community Coordinator, Andrea Alston at:
Aalston@gcdhh.org
404-381-8448

Register Now!

**GCDHH will feature
Signing Santa for
schools this
December.
Contact Lara
Whitfield to reserve
your spot!**



GCDHH PRESENTS

SIGNING SANTA

FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE D/HH AT
GEORGIA STATE OR PUBLIC SCHOOL

Call Lara Whitfield at 404 381 8447 or email at
lwhitfield@gcdhh.org to reserve time slot
from Dec 15th-17th 9am-2pm.

EVENT WILL BE
VIA ZOOM OR VP

Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gcdhh



GCDHH Presents



HOW TO MAKE ORIGAMI WITH MS. MEL

November 21st, 11:00am on Zoom.



**GCDHH is still
hosting Camp
Julienna Journey, an
online opportunity to
take Zoom field trips
from the comfort of
your couch! Our
class in November is
How to Make Origami
with Ms Mel.**

Register Now!

GCDHH is hosting "Literacy Friday"
every second Friday of the month
starting this month. There will be a new

Literacy FRIDAY



children's story posted to GCDHH's Facebook page and Kid's Zone. Be sure to check them out!

GCDHH
Facebook

GCDHH Kid's
Zone

[View Email as Webpage](#)