The Deaf Community's Role in Ensuring Quality Education Access
What’s the NAD?

• National Association of the Deaf, the oldest civil rights organization established in 1880
• Network of over 200 affiliates (including state associations)
• Main focus – disability rights and civil rights
  – Captioning
  – Education
  – Employment
  – Telecommunications
  – Housing
  – Mental Health
Who’s the NAD?

YOUTH PROGRAMS

MARKETING AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES

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preserve, protect, and promote the civil, human and linguistic rights of deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the United States of America.
Captioning

- Washington Redskins stadium did not have captioning
  

- Netflix - not all shows had captioning and was not reliable. NAD with a Deaf person in western Massachusetts sued and won 100% captioning!
  

Employment


- And the U.S. Department of Transportation to waive over 100 commercial drivers that are deaf or hard of hearing (current)
When a toddler in PA was denied medical care because his parents were deaf, NAD fought for and won the right to interpreters and assistive listening devices in doctors’ offices for Deaf parents. *Majocha v. Turner*, 166 F. Supp. 2d 316 (W.D. Pa. 2001).

In Maine, a deaf woman was referred for anger management sessions when became angry over hospital not providing interpreters, then the hospital did not provide interpreters for the sessions. NAD and the U.S. Department of Justice developed a comprehensive model hospital policy. Consent Decree: *DeVinney v. Main Medical Center* (1998).
NAD in court

Education

• In what is believed to be the largest special education settlement in history, the NAD Law and Advocacy Center, along with co-counsel, represented two children who were placed in a classroom for children with mental retardation simply because they were deaf. *F.M. and L.G. v. Barbour County Board of Education* (1999).

• Medical school refused an oral deaf student’s request for CART (captioning) and interpreters, and even when he paid for the interpreters, the school wouldn’t let them in, NAD got involved and won the student’s rights to both.

  *Argenyi v. Creighton University* (2014)
And there’s more!

• Hundreds of cases over the years, including access to the judicial system (interpreters in the courtroom) and telecommunications access (VRS, 911, etc.)
• Thousands of calls requesting assistance (lawyers, information, resources and support)

We have been here for 137 years as an organization and 51 years as an office. Our BEST investment is fighting for both quality education and language access for ALL deaf and hard of hearing children. You are our future!
Thank you.

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