

## STATE OF DELAWARE COUNCIL ON DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING EQUALITY

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April 6, 2010

Mr. William Weaver, CEO Dover Behavioral Health 725 Horsepond Road Dover, DE 19901

RE: Interpreter Services

Dear Mr. Weaver:

I write on behalf of the Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Equality's Behavioral Health on Deafness Committee after receipt of the attached letter which reports that Dover Behavioral Health (DBH) was unable to secure providers of aftercare services who would provide interpreters as part of DBH's Partial Hospitalization Program discharge process.

The Committee believes that DBH has the responsibility to refer and/or send individuals in their programs to aftercare providers who will provide the appropriate services and supports. Therefore, the Committee strongly recommends that DBH refer individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing to providers who will be able to offer interpreter services. Without such an accommodation, individuals are not be able to receive appropriate aftercare and will not succeed in the recovery process.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact me with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Christy Hennessey, Chairperson

Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Equality's Behavioral Health on Deafness Committee

cc: Mr. Rich Pelletier, CODHHE

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