













Each morning I wake up and think about gratitude—we know that a grateful start to the day supports a productive and creative work day. We at NDC are so very grateful and humbled to have the opportunity to work with such committed, passionate stakeholders! Thank you for the opportunity to work with you over NDC's first year, which was about building a strong foundation, engaging with the community, and building an infrastructure.

We are continually reminded: Why are we here? Our purpose is to reduce the gap in postsecondary outcomes for deaf individuals.

How do we do this? NDC has a broad range of activities designed with diverse stakeholders in mind. Highest-quality, accessible, and relevant materials have been developed to support activities that increase dialogue, provide concrete strategies, and increase the use of evidence-based practices for the field.

This year you will see game-based experiences for students, increased e-learning opportunities, and rich multimedia content that bring the authentic stories of deaf individuals to the forefront of how we work to reduce systemic barriers to equal opportunities for success.

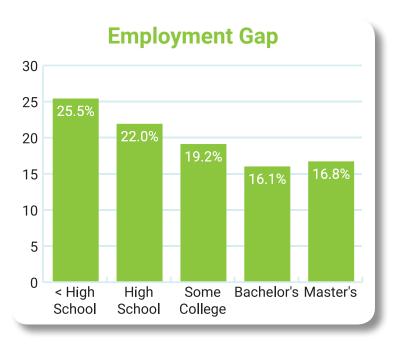
NDC is supported by an incredible network of professionals, collaborators, and community members. Please engage with us, either via social media, our website, bimonthly newsletter, listserv, or in person. We look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Stephanie Cawthon

From the Director's Desk

Our Mission

The National Deaf Center on Postsecondary Outcomes (NDC) is supported by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs. NDC provides evidence-based strategies to deaf individuals, family members, and professionals at the local, state, and national levels with the goal of closing education and employment gaps for deaf individuals.



Educational attainment narrows the employment gap between deaf and hearing people.



Year 1 Accomplishments

Engage for Change | local

NDC hosted six **Engage for Change** | **local** events, where participants shared ideas, strengthened community networks, and proposed strategies to create systemic change at the local level. These events were attended by more than 200 stakeholders across the United States.

Engage for Change | state

NDC organized its first **Engage for Change** | **state** convening to learn about national and state data on outcomes for deaf individuals, strengthen cross-agency conversations on alignment with state initiatives, identify strategies and resources available to support systems change, and shape priorities for future NDC technical assistance activities.

The event, which took place in June, was attended by 71 state education and employment representatives from 38 states, territories, and the District of Columbia. With ongoing support and resources from NDC following the event, state leads are working to build state teams, gather stakeholder input, collect data, and begin designing state-level improvement efforts to close gaps in deaf education attainment and employment.

Engage for Change | national

The **Assessment Task Force**, which met for the first time in October, identifies important issues related to postsecondary outcomes for deaf individuals. Accessible assessment, in both postsecondary and professional settings, is a persistent barrier to equal opportunities for deaf individuals as they transition from high school to postsecondary education and enter the work force. This task force identifies ways to address those issues and bring solutions to targeted audiences through dissemination of white papers, policy briefs, and data.

The **Postsecondary Interpreting Task Force**, which met for the first time in December, focuses on important elements related to interpreting in postsecondary education settings. Research has shown that even with access to the most highly qualified interpreters, deaf individuals still do not get the same quality or quantity of information in postsecondary classrooms (Marschark, 2005). This task force seeks to review the policies and practices of institutions of higher education that are considered exemplars of access services to better understand what contributes to their deaf students' success in both classroom and extracurricular settings.

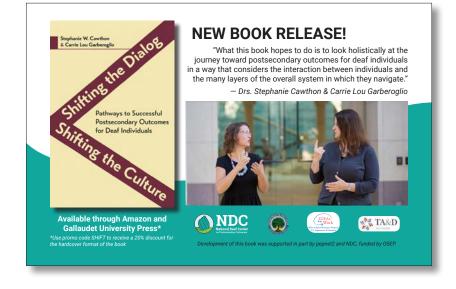
 $oldsymbol{6}$

Reports and Resources

NDC posted more than 80 resources for free download on the website, in addition to dozens of printed publications. The following is a sampling of those resources.

Shifting the Dialog, Shifting the Culture

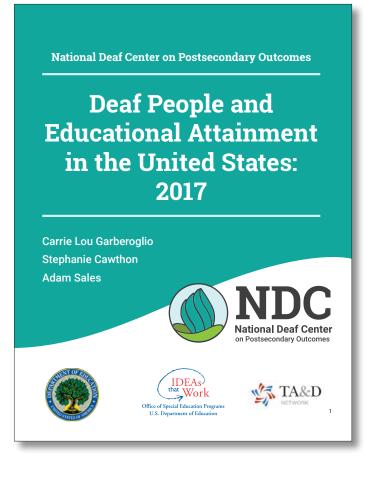
This book discusses the individual and systemic factors that both facilitate and inhibit the attainment of postsecondary education, training, and career goals for deaf individuals.

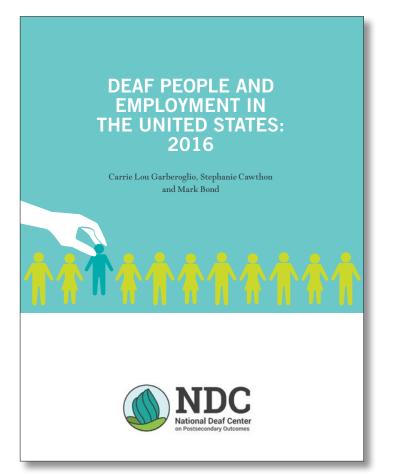


Deaf People and Educational Attainment in the United States: 2017

This report provides a comprehensive overview of the most current data on educational attainment trends and trajectories for deaf individuals in the United States, serving as a resource for community members, educators, researchers, and policymakers.

The report was accessed by more than 300 unique users.



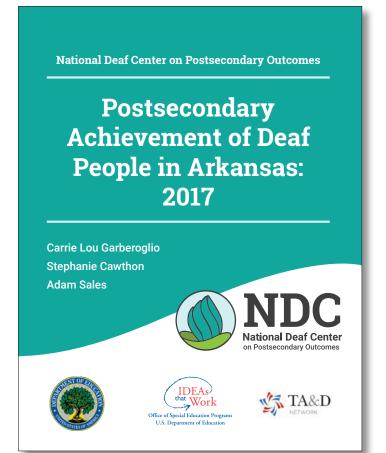


Deaf People and Employment in the United States: 2016

This report provides a comprehensive overview of the most current data on employment trends and trajectories for deaf individuals in the United States.

The report was cited in a December 18 article on npr.org titled "How Is the World Treating People With Disabilities?"

It was accessed by more than 2,500 unique users.



State Reports on Employment and Educational Attainment

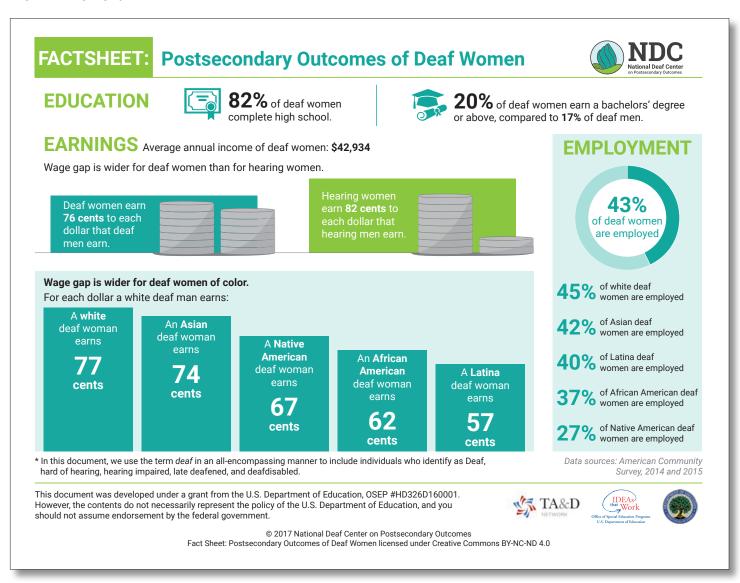
These reports provide current estimates of postsecondary achievement for deaf individuals in each state.

The reports were accessed by more than 250 unique users.

 $oldsymbol{9}$

Factsheet: Postsecondary Outcomes of Women

This infographic illustrates postsecondary outcomes for women of varying demographics, highlighting earnings gaps.



Social Media Outreach



Through its Facebook page, which has more than 3,800 followers, NDC engaged with its community, producing more than 100 posts, including Research Translated! videos, photos from events hosted by NDC and its stakeholders, and links to publications and news articles that highlighted NDC's work and other important facts about postsecondary outcomes for deaf individuals.



The best-performing Facebook post to date is a Research Translated! video titled "High Expectations Contribute to Future Success," which was posted on November 2 and has more than 47,300 views, 1,200 shares, and 3,800 reactions.

New-and-Improved Website

NDC's website was revamped this year to improve the overall aesthetics and usability for NDC's increasingly diverse group of stakeholders. In 2017, 17,238 unique visitors to the website generated more than 97,000 pageviews and 12,000 resource downloads, according to Google Analytics.



NDC Videos

NDC developed six *Research Translated!* videos, which were viewed more than 163,000 times. The videos chat and literacy, community resources,

spotlighted publications on employment data, educational attainment data, after-school activities, online and the impact of higher expectations.



Research Translated! After-School Activities



Research Translated! Educational Data



Research Translated! Community Resources



Research Translated! Online Chat and English Literacy



Research Translated! High Expectations



Research Translated! Employment Data

Reaching Our Stakeholders

Conferences

American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association (ADARA) Portland, OR

Association of College Educators – Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ACE-DHH) San Antonio, TX

International Pacific Rim Conference on Disability and Diversity (PacRim) Honolulu, HI

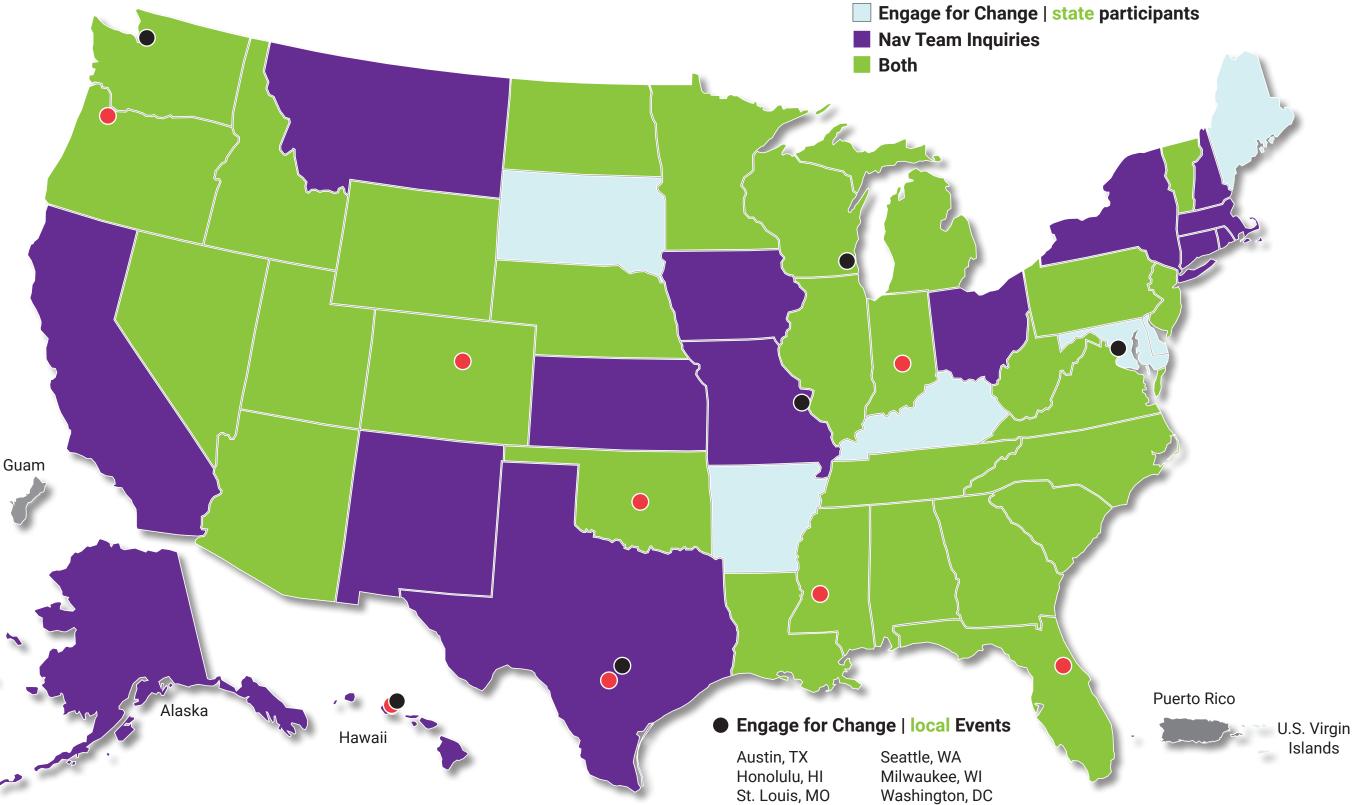
Southeastern Regional Institute on Deafness (SERID) Jackson, MS

National Deaf Education Conference Indianapolis, IN

National Leadership Training Conference Oklahoma City, OK

Association on Higher Education and Disability Orlando, FL

National Association of Interpreters in Education Denver, CO In 2017, NDC attended 10 conferences and hosted six **Engage for Change** | **local** events. In addition, the Nav Team engaged with a variety of stakeholders in more than 200 cities. This map shows where NDC traveled for some of the conferences, where NDC hosted the **Engage for Change** | **local** events and **Engage for Change** | **state** events, and where the Nav Team inquiries originated.



The Community We Serve

NDC works with a broad and diverse set of stakeholders from across the United States and its territories. Below is a sampling of some of the stakeholders with whom we have collaborated.



Audiologists



Disability service professionals



Employers



Individuals



Interpreters



Parents



School administrators



Speech-to-text providers



State administrators



Students



Teachers



Vocational rehabilitation professionals

The Nav Team

Direct Support

The Nav Team responded to more than 400 inquiries received by e-mail and through the NDC website. Inquiries dealt with issues ranging from student access to campus policies affecting disabled students and were initiated by a wide variety of stakeholders, including individuals, families, and professionals who work together to support postsecondary outcomes for deaf individuals.



Tia Ivanko



Stephanie Zito



Lauren "Lore" Kinast

Testimonials

As the following testimonials suggest, the Nav Team's assistance has been well received.

"Thanks for the excellent feedback and resources. This is very, very helpful. I have never dealt with a situation like this before, so I believe I have to move forward cautiously, taking many factors into consideration. I may be in touch again as I revamp my intake procedures and contracts."

"Many thanks to my 'experts,' who obviously spent considerable time and energy putting together this thoughtful and very complete answer to our questions. As a group, I am guessing that those of us who subscribe to the ICU list are now more knowledgeable about CDIs than the vast majority of disability services folks out there."

"Thank you! This is incredibly helpful ... so many valuable resources! The guiding questions are especially helpful, and I will watch the video this afternoon. Again, thank you for taking so much of your time to respond to my posting."

Looking to the Future

In 2018, NDC looks forward to continuing to engage with its stakeholders in support of its belief that all deaf people can succeed. The following are some of NDC's plans for Year 2.



Release an interactive online game for deaf youth

Convene task force meetings on developmental education and accessible media

Host more **Engage for Change** | **local** events in new cities

Attend **conferences**, such as the following:

- **National Deaf Education Conference**
- American Society for Deaf Children
- National Association of the Deaf
- Association on Higher Education and Disability
- Association of College Educators Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Oklahoma Deaf Education Leadership Day
- California Educators of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- American Educational Research Association
- Indiana Deaf Educators and Educational Interpreter Conference
- Hearing Loss Association of America
- Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Expand NDC | explore, a variety of e-learning opportunities ranging from short modules to longer series of courses



View

real stories of deaf people Learn

Collaborate with your colleagues nationwide

Qualified provider hiring

from nationally renowned experts

Effective communication

real people. real stories.







