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Disability Rights Ohio, Deaf Services Center release disability rights resources in American Sign Language

July 28, 2017

COLUMBUS, OH – Disability Rights Ohio (DRO) and Deaf Services Center (DSC) are pleased to announce the release of 17 new videos, interpreting many of DRO’s most requested resources into American Sign Language (ASL). The two organizations worked together on the project, thanks to a \$15,000 grant from the Ohio State Bar Foundation.

The videos address a wide variety of important topics, from requesting accommodations at work to negotiating with your child’s IEP team for special education services. The collection offers more than 3.5 hours of information, which was interpreted into ASL and signed on camera by Molly Estes, who is Deaf and who has a background in assessing and teaching ASL.

“When preparing for this project, it was important for us to work closely with John Moore and Molly Estes at the DSC to select the resources that would be most useful to the Deaf community in Ohio,” says DRO Executive Director Michael Kirkman. “We hope that the approximately 100,000 Ohioans who rely predominantly on ASL to communicate will be able to use this information to advocate for themselves and their families. We also encourage them to contact us if they need further assistance with any disability-related issue.”

“DSC is proud to be a partner with DRO in tearing down communication access barriers with the development of the ASL videos”, John Moore, CEO/Executive Director for DSC explained. “This will enable members of the Deaf and hard of hearing community who are linguistic users of ASL to know their rights in the language they are most comfortable with.”

All 17 videos are available on the DRO YouTube channel, with links from the resources on the DRO website.

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About Disability Rights Ohio: Disability Rights Ohio is the federally and state designated Protection and Advocacy System and Client Assistance Program for the state of Ohio. The mission of Disability Rights Ohio is to advocate for the human, civil and legal rights of people

with disabilities in Ohio. Disability Rights Ohio provides legal advocacy and rights protection to a wide range of people with disabilities.

About the Deaf Services Center:

Since 1991, DSC has grown to be one of the largest community centers for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the State of Ohio. We provide the following services: ***Case Management/Peer Support, ADA Assistance, Advocacy, ASL Instruction, Education, Deaf Equipment Modification Program, C- Print, Interpreting Services (Community and Video), Information and Referral, Rural Outreach, Speaker's Bureau, Career for Deaf, Hard of Hearing Youth and the Deaf Youth Program and Kids of Deaf Adults (KODA).*** (DSC) is a non-profit 501 C-3 organization based in Worthington, Ohio committed to providing direct-based services to Deaf, hard of hearing and late-deafened. DSC is proud to have members of the Deaf community in leadership roles with the Board of Trustees and in management positions.

We have three offices in which we provide services though a 24 county service area. The offices are located at **DSC- Columbus**, 5830 North High Street, Worthington; **DSC - Portsmouth**, 1835 Oakland Avenue, Portsmouth, OH and **DSC- NW Ohio**, 1002 Garden Lake Parkway Toledo, Ohio 43614

We have long have been committed to the betterment of the lives of people who are deaf or have hearing loss. Our mission is to empower the deaf and hard of hearing people and to promote access to communication, services and events in the community. For more information, log on to www.dsc.org or call 614-841-1991.