



## WHERE COMMUNICATION HAPPENS!

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### For Immediate Release

Contact: John L. Moore, CEO/Executive Director  
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### Deaf Services Center Partners with Perkins School for the Blind to provide iCanConnect Program

Columbus, OH – February 7, 2017 – Deaf Services Center, located in Worthington, OH, partnered with The Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown, MA to provide in-person services for the iCanConnect (iCC) program in Ohio, effective on February 1, 2017. iCanConnect, also known as the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program, is an FCC program administered by organizations in all 50 states as well as Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

iCanConnect serves people from a wide range of backgrounds, including older people who have lost their sight and hearing later in life, people with Usher and CHARGE Syndromes, and others with combined significant vision and hearing loss who meet federal income guidelines. The equipment we provide includes smartphones, tablets, computers, screen readers, braille displays, and adaptive software. iCanConnect provides distance communication technologies, training and resources to income-eligible people with significant combined hearing and vision loss. For more information about this program, please go to [www.icanconnect.org/ohio](http://www.icanconnect.org/ohio).

DSC will be working with trainers who are deafblind, deaf and hearing. These trainers have experience working with iCanConnect candidates and will work with them to determine the best way to communicate.

To obtain more information and to see if you or someone you know qualifies, please contact Nicole Veltri at [nveltri@dsc.org](mailto:nveltri@dsc.org) or VP at 614-515-2934 or Jennifer Smith-Dudash, program coordinator, at [jsmith-dudash@dsc.org](mailto:jsmith-dudash@dsc.org).

### About 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. DSC has 3 Centers in Toledo, Central, and Portsmouth dedicated to provide interpreting and speech-to-text services throughout Ohio and neighboring states such as Michigan and Kentucky. Our mission is to empower the deaf and hard of hearing people and to promote access to communication, services and events in the community.

Languages provided by DSC Community Interpreting & Translation services include but not limited to: American Sign Language (ASL), Spanish, French, Somali, Japanese, Mandarin and Nepali.

DSC also provides 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 Options 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, late-deafened and deafblind communities. DSC is a CARF accredited facility in the state of Ohio.

For more information, log on to [www.dsc.org](http://www.dsc.org) or call 614-841-1991 V/TTY.

### **About the Perkins School for the Blind**

Perkins School for the Blind is a progressive, multi-faceted organization working around the world to prepare children and young adults who are blind or deafblind with the education, confidence and skills they need to realize their full potential. Perkins is certified by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to lead the iCanConnect program in Ohio, and is pleased to partner with Deaf Services Center to bring the benefits of iCanConnect to people in Ohio with significant hearing and vision loss who meet income eligibility guidelines.

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