



## **State Leaders' Summit: Making a Commitment to Improve Results for Children and Youth who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

**April 29, 30 & May & 1, 2009**

**Hilton Santa Fe Historic Plaza**  
Santa Fe, NM  
1-800-336-3676

### **2009 PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT AND INFORMATION**

#### **Conference Mission and Purpose:**

The Mission of the National Summit on Deaf Education is to promote and advance knowledge and leadership through professional and parent stakeholder partnerships that result in collaborative state education systems and improved outcomes for children and youth who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The National Summit on Deaf Education joins leaders in education and administration with parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing for the purpose of designing educational systems and services that will successfully launch every DHH student from birth to young adulthood to his/her highest academic and social potential.

State leadership teams will learn strategies about using data to make decisions for improvement as they are applied to accountability in deaf education. State leadership teams will develop action plans to apply the information gained in their respective states.

#### **Expected Outcomes of the Summit:**

- ❖ Participants will connect with others across the country and will leave with ideas and information that they've learned from interactive conversations.
- ❖ States will have formed or strengthened their stakeholder teams that include parents, and state department of education, state school, and regional program leaders, individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, higher education representatives, and other critical players.
- ❖ Participants will identify relevant data to be used for improvement planning and selection of improvement strategies/programs and practice applying data analysis tools that can be used by the full team upon return home.
- ❖ States will leave with an updated action plan, including review of critical team members, actions needed to ensure a functional team, and steps for moving forward with improvement planning.
- ❖ Teams will assess their state's progress in meeting the goals of the National Agenda.

**Who Should Attend?** The Summit is dedicated to creating an environment where vested parties work together. This unique conference provides the opportunity for planning within states, as well as shared-problem solving across states. To effectively plan, it is essential that key stakeholders are at the table including at a minimum representation from:

- Parents (those with a non-parental professional role cannot be considered as the parent representative)
- State Department of Education
- State, or other, Special Schools and Programs for the Deaf

Additional team members to consider include representatives from higher education, early childhood deaf education, local programs, or others who have a vested interest and potential influence in improving educational outcomes for children and youth who are deaf or hard of hearing.

To address the Summit goals, states will be required to register as a team with at least these three entities represented. Exceptions may be made in cases where a state has attended fewer than three Summits and is still in the process of building internal commitment to change aligned with the National Agenda. A second exception is for individuals representing relevant national organizations or agencies who are not part of a state team. All exceptions must be verified by contacting Cheryl Johnson at [cheryl@colorado.edu](mailto:cheryl@colorado.edu) before registering.

**Registration:** For teams that register prior to April 15, the registration cost is \$225 per person, except for parent leaders who as team members will have their registration fee waived. For teams that register after April 15, the registration fee is \$250 per person. To register, go to <http://www.usu.edu/mprrc/dhhs Summit/summitregistration.cfm>. Your team may also qualify for an additional \$500.00 stipend to support parent travel.

**The parent participation stipend** incentive is intended to provide parent travel support from the Summit for up to \$500 to promote and encourage parent participation. Start now to identify your parent leader, or if you are a parent interested in this opportunity—make yourself known to the state department of education and/or superintendent of the school for the deaf in your state. In every state there is a dependable parent who is committed to systemic improvement and is capable of representing the collective issues faced by parents and students from a parent’s point of view (please note that parent leaders should be there in the role of parent and not a professional in another capacity who also happens to be a parent of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing). **The Parent Participation Stipend is available on a first-come, first-served basis to states that have exhausted all other means to cover the cost of bringing a parent leader to the Summit.** To apply for a Parent Participation Stipend, go to [www.ndepnow.org](http://www.ndepnow.org). Stipends are limited, so early registration is encouraged to obtain the full savings benefit that is available.

**Payment:** There is a registration fee which is to be paid either by check or purchase order (sorry, no credit cards) to the Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center. If you or your team registers before April 15, your registration fee is \$225 per person (except for the parent leader registration fee which is waived). If you or your team registers after April 15, your registration fee is \$250 per person. Please mail payment to the following address:

Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center  
 Attn: Tina McComber  
 1780 North Research Parkway, Suite 112  
 North Logan, UT 84341

**Confirmation:** All team members registered will receive e-mail confirmation upon registration. A second e-mail confirmation will be sent in March to every registered participant.

**Cancellation:** All cancellations made prior to April 21, 2009 will receive a full refund. No refunds will be provided for cancellations made after April 21.

**Hotel Accommodations:** A block of rooms is being held at the Hilton Santa Fe Historic Park, at the rate of \$179/night. To receive this special rate you must make your reservation by calling (800) 336-3676. Specify your participation with the State Leader's Summit to get the negotiated rate. If you have any problems while making reservations, contact Tina McComber at [tina.mccomber@usu.edu](mailto:tina.mccomber@usu.edu) or 435-752-0238, ext. 10. **Please note: If you plan to also attend the CEASD Conference, please let the hotel know. You will need to make reservations under two different room blocks.**

**Airport Ground Transportation:** There are some flights directly into Santa Fe via Great Lakes Airline, but the best option is to fly into Albuquerque. It is about an hour drive from the Albuquerque airport to Santa Fe, if you choose to rent a car. In addition, shuttle service is available through:

- Airport Shuttle Santa Fe - [www.sandiashuttle.com](http://www.sandiashuttle.com)
- Rail Runner Express - [www.nmrailrunner.com/](http://www.nmrailrunner.com/)

**Other Summit Information:**

A copy of the draft Summit agenda:

Parent Participation Stipend information: [www.ndepnow.org](http://www.ndepnow.org)

Information about the hotel and location:

[http://www1.hilton.com/en\\_US/hi/hotel/SFEHIHF-Hilton-Santa-Fe-Historic-Plaza-New-](http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/SFEHIHF-Hilton-Santa-Fe-Historic-Plaza-New-Mexico/index.do?brand_id=HI&brand_directory=/en/hi/&xch=299776365,SOV333D1AQZEUCSGBIW2VCQ)

[Mexico/index.do?brand\\_id=HI&brand\\_directory=/en/hi/&xch=299776365,SOV333D1AQZEUCSGBIW2VCQ](http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/SFEHIHF-Hilton-Santa-Fe-Historic-Plaza-New-Mexico/index.do?brand_id=HI&brand_directory=/en/hi/&xch=299776365,SOV333D1AQZEUCSGBIW2VCQ)

Past Summit Notes: [www.ndepnow.org](http://www.ndepnow.org)