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New State Director of Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deafblind Services: Laura Siegel, MBA

The Department of Disabilities, Aging & Independent Living (DAIL) is pleased to announce it has hired Laura Siegel for the role of Director of Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind Services. Laura has an MBA in Healthcare Management and was most recently the Deaf Independence Program Coordinator for the Vermont Center for Independent Living where she worked to advocate for changes in state laws and policies to improve equal access for Deaf and Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind individuals. Laura has a long history working with the Vermont Association of the Deaf and as a member of the Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind Advisory Council in addition to providing direct services through her work in a Designated Agency, the Perkins School for the Deaf and Blind and the Deaf Vermonters Advocacy Services. DAIL is confident that Laura's knowledge, skills, and experience will allow her to "hit the ground running" as she collaborates with stakeholders to identify the systemic needs of all Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind Vermonters.

This new position will include coordination of services and supports provided across state government to Vermonters who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or DeafBlind. The position acts as single point of entry for information, resources, and links to available services across the state. Laura will work closely with stakeholders to identify service gaps and advise on program development to meet identified gaps. Stakeholders include, but are not limited to, Vermonters who are deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind, and their families, the [Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind Advisory Council](#), [Vermont Association for the Deaf](#), [Vermont Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America](#), [Vermont Center for Independent Living](#), [Vermont Department of Health](#), [Vermont Agency of Education](#) and [Nine East Network](#).

Laura started her position on March 29, 2021.

About the Department of Disabilities, Aging & Independent Living (DAIL):

Our mission is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.

<http://dail.vermont.gov/>

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