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Organization:	Deaf Action Center of Louisiana
Project Name:	AccessAmerica Video Remote Interpreting
Project Type:	Public Computer Center
State(s):	Louisiana, Alabama, California, Texas
Federal Award:	\$1,380,513

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The AccessAmerica Video Remote Interpreting project plans to install 81 new videoconferencing stations, and enhance the user experience at 19 existing stations that serve individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing in Northwest Louisiana, and sites in Alabama, California, and Texas. The project intends to use broadband and videoconference technology to provide on-demand, cost-effective sign language interpretation at a total of 100 community partner sites, including community anchor institutions such as hospitals, courts, public safety agencies, shelters, schools, and libraries. Each state-of-the-art video conferencing unit is expected to connect to trained American Sign Language interpreters working at a central call center or otherwise remotely.

The Deaf Action Center's AccessAmerica Video Remote Interpreting project also proposes to:

- Enhance the delivery of health care, legal services, job training, and education to people who are deaf by offering low-cost interpretation services.
- Assist community anchor institutions to provide timely and efficient services to people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.
- Create online presentations with job skills training for people who are deaf, training for employers of workers who are deaf, and continuing education for American Sign Language interpreters.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The Deaf Action Center is a 27-year-old not-for-profit organization chartered to advocate for people who are deaf or heard-of-hearing. The Center has operated its AccessAmerica Video Remote Interpreting project since 2006 to provide low-cost remote American Sign Language interpretation to a variety of institutions. The Deaf Action Center also intends to hire five translator sole proprietorships, which are Small Disadvantaged Businesses.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- 21 Louisiana libraries
- 21st and 42nd Judicial Districts of Louisiana
- Bossier Sheriff's Department, Police Department, and School Board
- Caddo Sheriff's Department
- CHRISTUS Health
- City of Shreveport
- Goodwill Industries
- Louisiana Department of Corrections
- Louisiana Rehabilitation Services
- Louisiana State University-Alexandria and Shreveport
- Louisiana Technical College-Lamar Salter College
- Ochsner Westbank
- Office for Addictive Disorders, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
- Richland College
- Shreveport Police Department
- Tandberg
- Willis-Knighton Health System

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant.

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