



Dear Current and Future Members of CAID,

Hello! Let me introduce myself. My name is Stefanie Kessen, and I am the new president of the Convention of American Instructors for the Deaf (CAID). Together with our newly elected council, we are excited to reach out to you regarding CAID and the current direction of this powerful and impactful organization.

Established in 1850, CAID was born with the mission of bringing fellow teaching professionals together to share experiences and ideas for the purpose of improving learning opportunities for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children, adolescents and young adults. In its peak, CAID had more than 1,100 members, offered a listserv, special interest groups, teacher awards and hosted biennial conventions across the country.

Since then, the field of Deaf Education has evolved and the needs of teachers in the field have changed. CAID recognizes these changes. Where in the past, CAID members tended to work side by side at regional centers (state schools or self-contained programs), currently, most teachers in Deaf Education are spread out often working in relative isolation, doing their best to meet the needs of their students with varying degrees of success and frustration.

**CAID has a new mission...**

CAID's focus is consistent with a current generation. We are attempting to reach out to the thousands of teachers working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing students in diverse educational environments (early intervention through graduation), most of whom are relatively isolated from colleagues experiencing similar challenges.

**Now, in the year 2022, CAID is restructuring.....**

With a new council, new vision, and new direction, CAID is seeking feedback from fellow teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. We would like your input as we move forward with new initiatives, rooted in the desire to serve our field in the most powerful and impactful way.

Can you help us? CAID has created a survey to help us identify the greatest and most unmet needs in the current landscape of Deaf Education. Please complete [this survey](#) by May 15, 2022. The results of this survey will be instrumental as we move forward with new initiatives and opportunities to support you and future teachers of the Deaf and Hard of



Hearing. **Those who complete the [survey](#) will be entered into a drawing for a \$50.00 Amazon gift card!**

Would you like to join us and become a member of CAID? New members can take part in our mission by signing up at the discounted rate of \$30. Membership in CAID will give you the opportunity to help reshape and rebuild our organization for current and future teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. In addition, you receive reduced rates for liability insurance as well as life, auto and dental insurance. [CLICK HERE TO JOIN US NOW](#)

Thank you for your support during this exciting and pivotal time. We look forward to your responses in our survey, and hope you will consider joining us as a member of CAID. **Participate before May 15th and be entered into our drawing for a \$50.00 gift card to Amazon!**

Sincerely,  
Stefanie Kessen, President

Gail Wright, President Elect  
Jennifer Hills, Communications Officer  
Natasha Kraft, Treasurer  
Ellen Nichols, Regional Representative  
Alexandria Roman, Regional Representative  
Helen Lovato, Office Manager