

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
AUGUST 16, 2006

CEPIN RECEIVES COURSE APPROVAL FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

The Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network (CEPIN) is proud to announce that the "Emergency Responders and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community: Taking the First Steps to Disaster Preparedness" curriculum was approved by the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Grants and Training earlier this week.

The training is designed to encourage networking, preparation and communication between emergency responders and deaf and hard of hearing people prior to disaster situations.

"TDI is extremely pleased to get the great news from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. We acknowledge the valuable contributions from the four partnering centers, NVRC, Deaf, Inc., DCARA and CSD, toward the successful development of this unique training curriculum. Kudos also goes to the National Center for Biomedical Research and Training at Louisiana State University for its support and expertise on the project," said Claude Stout, TDI Executive Director. "TDI looks forward to fulfilling the objectives from the training on the collaborative working relationships in local communities throughout America between consumers who are deaf and hard of hearing and emergency responders."

"This is an excellent course, and we're proud of all the work that people associated with CEPIN have put into it," said Neil McDevitt, CEPIN National Coordinator. "We especially want to recognize the hard work of the 20 certified instructors, 13 subject matter experts, four regional specialists and the two past CEPIN staff members in making this course a reality."

Fourteen workshops are scheduled to take place in various states throughout the country, along with three Train-the-Trainer workshops. The Train-the-Trainer workshops teaches participants how to offer the "Emergency Responders and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community: Taking the First Steps to Disaster Preparedness" in their local communities.

The training offerings below are listed according to region. For the most up-to-date information and to get your registration forms, visit our website at [www.cepintdi.org](http://www.cepintdi.org), or contact your regional specialist.

CEPIN would like to thank Hamilton Relay for providing lunch and refreshments at all official workshops being presented during this grant period.

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Southeastern United States:

Serving: Alabama (AL), District of Columbia (DC), Florida (FL), Georgia (GA), Kentucky (KY), Maryland (MD), Mississippi (MS), North Carolina (NC), Puerto Rico (PR), South Carolina (SC), Tennessee (TN), U.S. Virgin Islands (VI), Virginia (VA), West Virginia (WV)

Contact: Lise Hamlin  
CEPIN Regional Emergency Preparedness Specialist

Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Persons  
(NVRC)

E-mail: [LHamlin@nvrc.org](mailto:LHamlin@nvrc.org)

[www.nvrc.org](http://www.nvrc.org)

September 19, 2006  
Miami/Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

September 25, 2006  
Atlanta, Georgia

October 18, 2006  
Baltimore, Maryland

October 24, 2006  
October 25, 2006 (Train-the-Trainer)  
Fairfax, Virginia

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Northeastern United States:

Serving: Connecticut (CT), Delaware (DE), Illinois (IL), Indiana (IN),  
Massachusetts (MA), Maine (ME), Michigan (MI), New Hampshire (NH), New  
Jersey (NJ), New York (NY), Ohio (OH), Pennsylvania (PA), Rhode Island  
(RI), Vermont (VT), Wisconsin (WI)

Contact: Stephanie Clark  
CEPIN Regional Emergency Preparedness Specialist  
DEAF, Inc.

E-mail: [sclark@deafinonline.org](mailto:sclark@deafinonline.org)

[www.deafinonline.org](http://www.deafinonline.org)

August 28, 2006  
Detroit, Michigan

September 19, 2006  
Syracuse, New York

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Midwestern United States:

Serving: Arkansas (AR), Colorado (CO), Iowa (IA), Kansas (KS), Louisiana  
(LA), Minnesota (MN), Missouri (MO), Nebraska (NE), New Mexico (NM),  
North Dakota (ND), Oklahoma (OK), South Dakota (SD), Texas (TX), Wyoming  
(WY)

Contact: Glenna Cooper  
CEPIN Regional Director  
Communication Services for the Deaf (CSD)

E-mail: [gcooper@c-s-d.org](mailto:gcooper@c-s-d.org)

[www.c-s-d.org](http://www.c-s-d.org)

August 29, 2006  
St. Louis, Missouri (tentative, check website for confirmed date)

September 12, 2006  
Lincoln, Nebraska

September 14, 2006  
St. Paul, Minnesota

September 21, 2006  
September 22, 2006 (Train-the-Trainer)  
Austin, Texas

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Western United States:

Serving: Alaska (AK), Arizona (AZ), California (CA), Hawaii(HI), Idaho (ID), Montana (MT), Nevada (NV), Oregon (OR), Utah (UT), Washington (WA)

Contact: Christine Seymour  
CEPIN Regional Emergency Preparedness Specialist  
Deaf Counseling Advocacy and Referral Agency (DCARA)  
E-mail: [christine.seymour@dcara.org](mailto:christine.seymour@dcara.org)  
[www.dcara.org](http://www.dcara.org)

August 22, 2006 (FULL)  
Las Vegas, Nevada

September 6, 2006  
Los Angeles, California

September 13, 2006  
Salt Lake City, Utah

September 18, 2006  
September 19, 2006 (Train-the-Trainer)  
Honolulu, Hawaii

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About CEPIN:

The CEPIN Project is coordinated by Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security awarded TDI nearly \$1.5 million for the two-year CEPIN project, which focuses on developing model community education programs for emergency responders and Deaf and Hard of Hearing consumers.

&#61607; New England & Great Lakes Region - DEAF, Inc.:  
<http://www.deafinonline.org/>

&#61607; Mid-Atlantic & Southeast Region - Northern Virginia  
Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Persons: [www.nvrc.org](http://www.nvrc.org)

&#61607; Midwest & Southwest Region - CSD Of Oklahoma:  
[www.c-s-d.org](http://www.c-s-d.org)

&#61607; West & Hawaii Region - Deaf Counseling Advocacy and  
Referral Agency: [www.dcara.org](http://www.dcara.org)

For more information about CEPIN, visit [www.cepintdi.org](http://www.cepintdi.org).

About TDI:

Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. is a nonprofit advocacy organization that promotes equal access to telecommunications, media and information technology for individuals who are Deaf and Hard

of Hearing. Since 1968, TDI has successfully advocated for a variety of federal legislation to improve the lives of people with hearing loss, including the Hearing Aid Compatibility Act of 1988, the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Television Decoder Circuitry Act, both of 1990, and the Telecommunications Act of 1996. In addition, TDI advocates for administrative rules and policies that will provide greater access to wireless technology, as well as complete and high-quality captioning of television programs. Since its inception, TDI has promoted equal access to 9-1-1 centers and other public safety answering points, and is now working to ensure full access for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to information during natural or manmade disasters and other types of emergencies. TDI annually publishes a national directory and resource guide, commonly known as The Blue Book, which is a popular resource book for people with hearing loss, as well as The GA-SK Quarterly News Magazine. For more information about TDI, visit [www.tdi-online.org](http://www.tdi-online.org).

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