

History of Robert G. Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

**Compiled & Written by Jodi B. Kinner
Edited By Valerie G. Kinney**

2013

Acknowledgement

Eleanor McCowan requested that I work on the Utah Deaf History project. For this, I am thankful. If this were not for her request, none of this would have happened.

“A Brief History of the Origins of the Robert G. Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing” is the basis from which we have added more information. I thank Dr. Robert G. Sanderson for writing this book. This made my work so much easier.

I thank Marilyn T. Call for taking the time to review this document for accuracy.

I gratefully acknowledge the enthusiastic support from W. David Mortensen while working on this project.

I acknowledge and extend my heartfelt gratitude to Valerie G. Kinney for her vital support by donating her time to edit and provide consultation guidance when completing this document.

Finally, words alone cannot express the thanks I owe to my husband, Duane Kinner, and my children, Joshua and Danielle for their support and patience in completing this project.

Note

For more information about the history of Sanderson Community Center, a book titled, “A Brief History of the Origins of the Robert G. Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing,” can be purchased at the UAD Bookstore.

This document does not intent to duplicate Dr. Robert G. Sanderson’s work. The purpose of this history is to fill in missing pieces in Dr. Sanderson’s book. Apparently, because of his status, it may not have been appropriate to include some history, such as the battles by the Utah Deaf community with the state authority’s decision-making process regarding the community center for the deaf, Dr. Grant B. Bitter’s objection to the services of the community center for the deaf and W. David Mortensen’s strong advocacy, in his book. The goal of this document is to help the readers see the big picture of how deaf leaders overcame hurdles in forming the Sanderson Community Center.

A Gathering Place of their Own

Dr. Robert G. Sanderson wrote of his memory in his “A Brief History of the Origins of the Robert G. Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing” book that the idea of having a meeting place for the deaf first surfaced at the Utah Association of the Deaf convention in 1946. He at this time lived in his native state, Nevada, attended his first convention and observed deaf individuals talking about how fun it would be if they had a “Club for the Deaf” where they could establish their own rules and meet at their own time and convenience. The Utah Deaf community was aware that clubs for the deaf were located in most large cities. So they discussed “Why not Utah?” “Why not Salt Lake City?” “Why not Ogden?” (Sanderson, 2004).

He said for years, the Utah Deaf community gathered for socials, parties, athletic events, and such. While gathering, they always asked, “Why do we always have to go begging for time and space?” They had to take whatever time was available, not necessarily the time, date and place they wanted. They rented a hotel ballroom, an auditorium from a local utility, the gymnasium at the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, and Murray B. Allen Center for the Blind. Strict rules were given -- “in by seven, out by nine,” and “pay the janitor overtime past nine.” The Utah Deaf community appreciated the cooperation of blind individuals and their leaders for utilizing their facility even through the Utah Deaf community envied having their own meeting place (Sanderson, 2004).



Dr. Robert G. Sanderson, a board member of the Utah Association for the Deaf and lobbyist

Possible Factors that Prevented Activism

With this in mind, Dr. Sanderson shared his theory that there were four possible factors that prevented the Deaf community from getting the frequently mentioned “club for the deaf.” 1. The population of deaf adults was not large enough to support financially an independent or freestanding facility. 2. A large majority of the deaf adult population belonged to the dominant religion, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which actively discouraged the use of alcohol. Activists in other states would sell alcohol in order to support the club. 3. Many deaf people had an “eight to five” production job to earn a living and support a family, which left them with no time to meet with high-level professionals in education, community agencies or the legislature. A lot of them couldn’t afford to lose pay to participate in politics. Very few professionally employed deaf people were allowed to engage in non-job community related activities with pay. 4. There was a lack of trained deaf leaders who were ready and able to articulate the needs of deaf people to the hearing majority who had the power and money to make things happen (Sanderson, 2004).

Likewise, Dr. Sanderson observed that deaf people demonstrated leadership skills as officers in various organizations of the deaf, such as Utah Association of the Deaf, local divisions of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf, Utah Athletic Club of the Deaf, and others. However, they didn’t have specific training, which would boost them up to a higher level, remove fear, and enable them to meet with and talk to leaders of the hearing power structure (Sanderson, 2004).

These underlying reasons were probably why an independent club for the deaf, a county or a state supported center for the deaf similar to the Murray B. Allen Center for the Blind in Salt Lake City, had not been developed (Sanderson, 2004).

Trained Utah Deaf Leaders

Things were about to change when Utah deaf leaders, including Dr. Robert G. Sanderson, who moved to Utah from Nevada in 1947, observed the ability of two national deaf leaders, graduates of Gallaudet College, Dr. Boyce Williams and Dr. Malcolm Norwood to express themselves to the hearing leaders of the power structure. Dr. Williams was the director of the Office of Deafness in the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration under the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. He reached



Dr. Boyce Williams
Photo courtesy of Gallaudet University

the top level of people within the administration with a powerful message. He brought national attention to the needs of deaf and hard of hearing that had been neglected for years when more attention was being focused on other people with disabilities in America. Dr. Norwood was the director of the Office of Captioned Films for the Deaf. He took extra steps to educate top-level administrators in the Department of Education of the need of deaf adults for education via films with captions (Sanderson, 2004).

In the same fashion, Dr. Williams and Dr. Norwood took great effort to achieve accessibility needs that would benefit the general deaf population, including the Deaf community in Utah. At the same time, they inspired Utah Deaf leaders in expanding their legislative leadership skills and developing communication skills to meet the needs of deaf adult population. It has to do with the history of the Robert G. Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing because Dr. Williams and Dr. Norwood were models for the Utah deaf leaders. They conducted local, regional and

national workshops on the various aspects of deafness. Some Utahns attended where they learned about themselves and their own needs (Sanderson, 2004).

Through a grant in 1962, the Rehabilitation Services Administration established the National Leadership Training Program in the Area of the Deaf at San Fernando Valley State College (later renamed California State University at Northridge) in California. This college became the first in the nation to employ sign language interpreters on a full time basis in a graduate school. Many deaf and hearing people applied. There were five deaf and ten hearing persons. Dr. Robert G. Sanderson of Utah was one of the deaf applicants to become a member of the LTP Class of 1965 (UAD Bulletin, Winter 1964; Sanderson, 2004).

Observation of the National Deaf Clubs

In the meantime, other deaf people were still actively trying to find a way to establish a club for the deaf. There was much talk, but little action. There was a lack of “know how” among leaders. They thought of developing a club for the deaf and a service agency to meet the needs of social, educational and economic problems the deaf people faced. Deaf club would be patterned after existing clubs in large metropolitan cities (Sanderson, 2004).

While Dr. Sanderson served as president of the National Association of the Deaf, he visited clubs that focused on serving social interaction needs, such as cards, captioned movies, sports, chatting,



Dr. Malcolm Norwood

parties and so forth. The clubs were mostly funded by liquor and food sales. Some of these clubs purchased their own buildings and some of them were in bad shape. Dr. Sanderson noticed that many of the people in these clubs complained about the lack of jobs for deaf people, lack of mental health services and other needs. It was apparent to him that club leaders lacked the training to directly address the needs of the deaf population they served, other than simply furnishing a meeting place. Furthermore, he noticed that newsletters and magazines produced by deaf people around the country did not define the need nor push for comprehensive centers for deaf people. There were, however, frequent articles in professional journals expressing the need for psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers who could communicate effectively with deaf people who used sign language. Dr. Boyce Williams, whom Dr. Sanderson became very close friends, through the Rehabilitation Services Administration, set up and funded a number of workshops to explore these problems (Sanderson, 2004; Stewart, *DHSHH*, April 2012). The plan was to set up a national rehabilitation program for the deaf in every state (Stewart, *DHSHH*, April 2012).

UAD Officers Becomes Activists

While all things going on at the national level, deaf Utahns did not want to be left behind, so they organized a lobbying effort to get rehabilitation services for deaf Utahns.



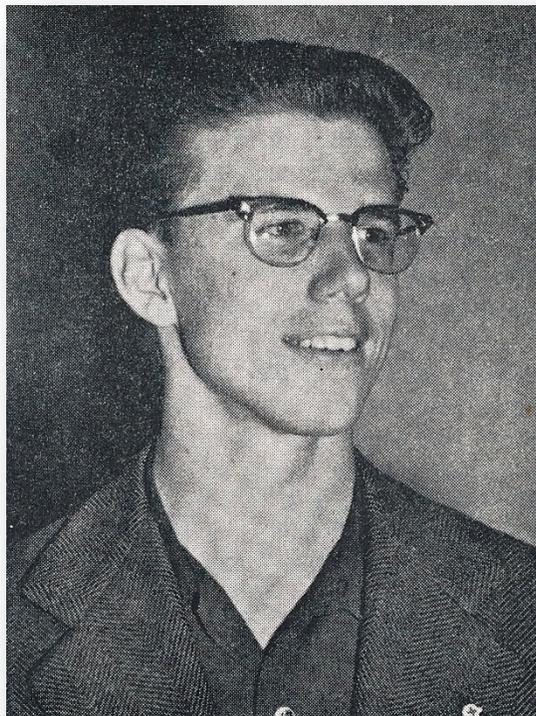
Eugene W. Petersen,
a board member of the Utah
Association for the Deaf and lobbyist
The Utah Eagle, April 1955

Several Deaf Utahns, encouraged by national developments and obvious local needs, became activists. Among the activists at that time were officers of the Utah Association of the Deaf, Dr. Robert G. Sanderson, Eugene W. Petersen, and G. Leon Curtis (Sanderson, 2004).

The proposal for the Services to the Deaf Adults came from Utah Association of the Deaf officers and its members. In 1962, tentative efforts were begun by the three officers, Dr.

Sanderson, Mr. Peterson and Mr. Curtis, to establish an office that would serve deaf people of the state on a full-time basis. They were concerned about inaccessibility of services to deaf adults. Their goal was for the State of Utah to provide more adequate social services for them. It was nearly impossible for deaf adults to access necessary and available services because of communication barriers (UAD Bulletin, Winter 1965).

Deaf leaders proposed that Services to the Adult Deaf for the State of Utah be formed under the direction of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and suggested that the personnel divide its time between vocational rehabilitation and straight social services designed to meet the needs of deaf adults. Their vision of social services included counseling, interpreting as well as adjustment services such as areas as legal, personal, social, emotional, marriage and family, financial, and educational areas where communication barriers had left deaf adults at a serious disadvantage. Additionally, it was proposed that the accessible services be staffed by qualified personnel who thoroughly understood deaf adults and could communicate effectively with them in order to prevent or untangle serious problems and deprivations suffered by the deaf population. The leaders also emphasized that the proposed agency would not involve itself in personal problems until approached by the individuals concerned and then only when the problems were obviously beyond their capacity to solve alone. Deaf leaders would not attempt to replace, duplicate or influence the activities of existing organizations in the Deaf community (UAD Bulletin, Spring 1965).



**G. Leon Curtis, a board member of the Utah Association for the Deaf and lobbyist
The Utah Eagle, April 1955**

For this reason, UAD favored a study of problems faced by deaf adults in the social service system and underlined the request for documenting the need for services to the deaf adults and carefully evaluating the manner in which needed services might be provided effectively and economically (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963).

Without delay, Dr. Sanderson, Mr. Petersen and Mr. Curtis came up with the idea of approaching the Salt Lake Area United Fund for assistance in establishing Services for Deaf. Dr. Sanderson was soon to leave Utah to join the National Leadership Training Program in the Area of the Deaf in California. Mr. Petersen and Mr. Curtis were left to carry the ball (Sanderson, 2004).

Did You Know?

In 1963, most deaf adults had usually been exposed to hearing aids, lip reading, and speech training for many years. Those were seldom the kinds of vocational rehabilitation services to which they responded. Rather, they had pressing need for other personal adjustment services, vocational training, counseling, and placement. Speech and hearing centers had little value for them. Many professionals mistakenly include the deaf with million of hard of hearing consumers. The latter received communication chiefly with their ears. They are not a distinct population group. Their loss of hearing was gradual. Their speech and language had been established in the usual way and were near normal. They seek mostly 'speech and hearing' services: auditory training, hearing aids, lip reading, and speech correction (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963, p. 3).

The Community Services Council Forms

In this case, the United Fund people were highly interested in the problems described by the deaf leaders, so they referred the matter to its coordinating agency, the Community Services Council, for further study. The referral was adopted as a project by the Community Services Council in March, 1963. A committee of the Community Services Council was assigned to study all the community agencies to see whether any of them could provide the needed services (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963).

The Community Services Council appointed a representative committee of fourteen deaf and hearing people, representing a wide range of community interests, to



Ray G. Wenger, a member of the Community Services Council committee

make a study of problems of the deaf adults that could wrap them into an existing agency. Larry W. Blake was the chairman of the committee. The members of the committee were: G. Harold Bradley; Philip R. Clinger; Marguerite Davis; Clarence O. Fingerle; Vera Gee; Madeleine Helfrey; C. Russell Neale; R. Elwood Pace; Eugene W. Petersen (deaf), Eula Pusey (interpreter), Brigham E. Roberts; Ray G. Wenger (deaf), and Jerry Westberg (deaf) (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963; UAD Bulletin, Spring 1964; Sanderson, 2004).

The committee met throughout the year of 1963, often weekly. They spent many hours of their time studying problems of the deaf adults. The findings of the committee were incorporated in a report, "Services to Adult Deaf, Salt Lake Area." The report of this committee received national attention and in fact, about 100 copies were requested for a national workshop for social workers being held in Berkeley, California on November 18-22, 1963 (Sanderson, 2004).

The Community Services Council reported the problems in serving the deaf adults, as follows:

1. It is difficult for the deaf person to communicate with family, friends, and professional persons.
2. The deaf person cannot understand details regarding arrangements and plans of action.
3. It is difficult to train the deaf person because of the communication barrier.
4. Counseling services are essentially a verbal understanding. The success of which is contingent upon freedom of communication. This is impaired in work with the deaf.

5. Absence of free, spontaneous communication present a problem. None of the several adult deaf consumers known to agencies over the past years has remained in counseling for an effective period of time. This may be due to limited skills in work with the deaf, or what has been noted as the deaf person's unwillingness to be introspective or to become involved in a casework relationship.
6. The communication barrier limits the social activities in which the deaf may participate.
7. Training the deaf in lipreading is difficult.
8. It is difficult to obtain family health information in the case finding conducted by public health nurses.
9. Deaf parents have difficulty in training their hearing children in speech. Discipline problems arise because of the breakdown in communication between parent and child.
10. The communication barrier makes it difficult to administer hearing evaluations.
11. Deaf persons do not know how to use community resources through which health and welfare services are available (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963, p. 4).

While communication barriers were identified, most of the 27 agencies responded indicated that the full range of services offered were available to the deaf population. However, the communication barriers limited the kind and quality of services, which can be provided (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963).

Utah Association for the Deaf clarified that "the handicap of deafness lies in the communication barrier it imposes, and involves more than speech and lip reading lessons. The great handicap of deafness is not to so much the ability to speak and hear, but the mental starvation inherent in a language deficiency. In the education of the deaf, every step waits on the necessity of building a working vocabulary which requires long hours spent in the development of oral speech and lip reading. As a



Jerry Westberg, a member of the Community Services Council committee

result, the deaf are generally three to four years behind their hearing peers, regardless of methods used in their education.” UAD further elaborated, “This language deficiency is carried over into adult life and accentuated by the deprivation of the normal auditory stimuli of radio, televisions, forums, theater, screen, conversation, etc. As a consequence, the average deaf adult is below the norm in his grasp of the social, economic and political facts of life, and in his appreciation of the cultural and humanitarian facets of modern society” (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963, p. 3).

After the study, it became clear that effective services for deaf people could best be established within the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. This division offered the



Larry W. Blake, left, accepts the first UAD Award from Pres. G. Leon Curtis at the 21st Biennial Convention of the Utah Association for the Deaf. Miss Dixie Lee Nasfell was interpreter for the ceremony. The award, a beautifully engraved silver tray, was presented to Mr. Blake in appreciation for his efforts in behalf of the adult deaf people in Utah.

UAD Bulletin, Fall 1965

advantage of statewide services through local district offices, and availability of a wide range of specialized professionals accustomed to dealing with people with disabilities (UAD Bulletin, Winter, 1965).

The Community Services Council, after considering this matter for two months, presented its study to the State Board of Education. The request for a supplemental budget was approved of this

modest but extended program of services to the deaf adults of Utah. The administration of the Division of Rehabilitation recognized the lack of accessible services for deaf adults and strongly supported this proposal (UAD Bulletin, Spring 1965).

Did You Know?

In 1963, the Utah Association for the Deaf was not included in the agency services listing designated for the deaf because it was a membership organization rather than an agency incorporated to serve a designated clientele through the provision of professional services. Through its activities as a membership organization, it met many of the social and recreational needs of deaf adults and conducted a public information program aimed at developing a better understanding of deafness (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1963, p. 4).

Lobbying the 1965 Utah State Legislature for Services to the Deaf Adults

At this time, it became apparent to some local deaf leaders that a desirable “club for the deaf” was not really financially feasible (Sanderson, 2004). The Community Services Council Committee focused on working with the Utah legislature to secure funding for the services to be provided under Office of Rehabilitation Services. During the 1965 Utah State Legislature session, several UAD officers and some members sacrificed several days’ pay to go with UAD president, G. Leon Curtis, to the Capitol for talks with Governor Calvin L. Rampton, to secure his support for funding, and to lobby the 1965 legislature. Active in this effort were Eugene W. Petersen, Joseph B. Burnett, Ned C. Wheeler, and Eula Pusey, an interpreter and a strong advocate of deaf people (Curtis, UAD Bulletin, Spring 1965; Sanderson, 2004).



Joseph B. Burnett, a board member of the Utah Association for the Deaf and lobbyist

However, the Legislative Budget Committee had excess funding requests, which affected the inability for the state to finance all requests. The committee had to make

some cuts and the appropriation for services for the deaf was eliminated (UAD Bulletin, Spring 1965).

UAD did not give up. They did intensive campaigning to persuade the legislature that these funds should be reinstated. To do this, the deaf leaders met with members of the State Legislature. A bill was drafted and introduced by Representatives Della L. Loveridge (D-Salt Lake), Nathaniel D. Clark (D-Ogden) and Earl H. Whittaker (R-

Circleville). Meetings were held with Governor Rampton and various representatives and senators. Many deaf people wrote letters to their local legislators (UAD Bulletin, Spring 1965).



Ned C. Wheeler, a board member of the Utah Association for the Deaf and lobbyist

The bill itself never came up to vote, but the strategy succeeded when the powerful Joint Appropriations Committee took another look at the matter and found a way to squeeze in a portion of the requested funds (UAD Bulletin, Spring 1965).

The legislature recognized the unique problems faced by deaf and hard of hearing adults in an increasingly complex society. They obliged by appropriating \$10,000 to the Department of Public Instruction for the “straight” social services to deaf and hard of hearing adults (UAD Bulletin, Spring 1965; Sanderson, 2004). It was a large sum at the time, which would bring in matching funds that totaled an amount of \$26,713 from the federal government to the Office of Rehabilitation Services for a new office (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1966).

Ultimately, UAD pushed hard for more adequate services for the deaf adults. It was a long, hard pull that led to the United Fund, the Community Services Council and

finally to the State Legislature. Along the way, UAD made friends in the hearing community.

With this in mind, UAD clarified that they did not want special consideration for the deaf. What they wanted was equal consideration in return for equal contributions. In a complex and competitive world, deaf people would face comparatively greater disadvantage and would need assistance (UAD Bulletin, Spring 1965).

Dr. Robert G. Sanderson Appointed as the First State Coordinator of Services to Deaf People in the United States

When funds became available on July 30, 1965, the Utah Merit System Council announced the opening of a new position: Coordinator, Services to the Adult Deaf, in the Department of Public Instruction. Dr.

Vaughn Hall was the State Administrator of the Division of Rehabilitation at that time (Sanderson, 2004).

Dr. Robert G. Sanderson, who was still president of the National Association of the Deaf and had just completed his master's degree in Educational Administration in California, was a fortunate choice, said the Utah Deaf community. When the position opened, Dr. Sanderson applied and obtained the job with strong support from the Deaf community. On November 15, 1965, he was appointed as the first state coordinator of services



**Robert G. Sanderson, first state coordinator of services to deaf people in the United States
UAD Bulletin, Winter 1965**

to deaf people in the United States, and his office was located at the Atlas Building, 36 West Second South in Salt Lake City (Sanderson, 2004). While working in this position, he led advocacy efforts to establish a community center that the deaf could call their own, and developed a specialized rehabilitation unit for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Finally, special services for deaf adults were set up in the Division of Rehabilitation with a deaf man, Dr. Sanderson behind the desk. In Washington, D.C., Dr. Boyce Williams, Dr. Mary Switzer and others copied Utah's rehabilitation system. The positions as well as responsibilities soon became a pattern for other state Rehabilitation Divisions to follow (Sanderson, 2004). Dr. Sanderson probably could not have won the position without the support of the community.

Over the years, Dr. Sanderson became a "rehab man," counselor, coordinator, and director. He was known as the "Father of Vocational Rehabilitation."

One-Year Anniversary of Services to Deaf Adults

The one-year anniversary of Services for Deaf Adults was observed in the fall of 1966. Dr. Sanderson and his "staff," Mildred Richardson, a secretary, struggled to keep up with the ever-increasing burden that had fallen on their shoulders. In previous years, Utah Division of Rehabilitation served an average of 11 deaf and hard of hearing clients a year. By the time, Dr. Sanderson obtained his position, the word spread that there was someone behind the desk who understood their language; his caseloads increased to 94. There were many deaf and hard of hearing people in need of assistance, who had been held back in the past because of communication barriers. Dr. Sanderson was able to bridge that barrier; there was more than enough work to keep a vocational rehabilitation counselor busy (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1966).

He served in double roles in the combination of social services and rehabilitation services. Dr. Sanderson's new job was overwhelming. He carried many hats by assuming his responsibilities in the areas of rehabilitating, counseling, training, placing a job,

coordinating the adult education and sign language classes, and advocating captioned films (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1966).



Utah Governor Calvin L. Rampton
Source: Wikipedia

In spite of many problems and occasional frustrations, Dr. Sanderson found his job the most rewarding of a varied career. As he stated in the UAD Bulletin, Fall 1966, "I enjoy working with these people. The great majority are capable, self-reliant and a credit to the community. Some of them need

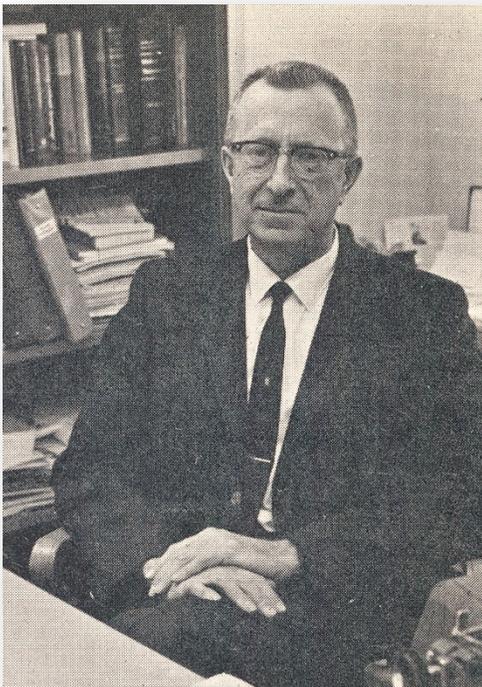
guidance, some additional training, others may need only a chance; they all need more understanding. The one thing they don't need or want is sympathy. The office is here to work with the deaf adults, to help when needed. But it was not and never was intended to 'do for' them" (UAD Bulletin, Fall 1966).

The Growth in Rehabilitation Services

Eugene Petersen, president of Utah Association for the Deaf, reported that in the past two years from 1965 to 1967, the Rehabilitation Services had been good to deaf adults in Utah. Under Rehabilitation Services, the number had grown to 135 new consumers who had been helped or were receiving help with 15 or 16 more on the waiting list. The Utah State Legislature was impressed and provided funds for an additional counselor and office help. Legislature also passed a bill providing for interpreters for deaf people in court. Dr. Sanderson as a service coordinator no longer had to look for an interpreter in court proceedings (UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967).

Most consumers were people UAD had never heard of. They did not use sign language and they probably never would be a part of the Deaf community, but they were deaf, and they needed help. Now, at long last, they were receiving the kind of understanding and assistance they needed (UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967).

At the time, many of these people had multiple disabilities (UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967). Young deaf adults were applying for rehabilitation services had



**Robert G. Sanderson, a coordinator
of the deaf services
UAD Bulletin, Summer 1968**

been increased. Training, counseling and placement were exceedingly difficult (UAD Bulletin, Fall, 1966). Utah School for the Deaf had more than one third of its student population with multiple disabilities (UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967).

It was assumed UAD was not needed and the state would take care of deaf people. Dr. Sanderson argued that any deaf person who believed that the “state will take care of us” was completely wrong. It was expected to “give them everything they wanted and to “help deaf people more.” The

philosophy of rehabilitation was that of working with, not for (UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967).

Dr. Sanderson responded saying that those who get the most out of their help were those who were willing to work hard for themselves. Studying in school or learning a trade can take a long time, and it can be difficult for deaf people. Those who did not succeed in finding a suitable job were usually those who gave up or dropped out; those who succeed in getting work in the trade they wanted were those who stayed with it and

developed the necessary skills and competencies. He pointed out that the type of assistance in the rehabilitation program for deaf people would not create dependency. The goal was to assist deaf people along the road to independence and enable them to share more equitably in community resources. Community sponsored adult education programs, for instance, aimed to overcome educational deficiencies for deaf people, which made them dependent. The rehabilitation program provided appropriate training to enable them to become independent. Utah was not alone with this situation; other states experienced similar problems (UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer 1967).

Needless to say, Dr. Sanderson emphasized that National Association of the Deaf and Utah Association for the Deaf must continue working actively to assist a segment of the deaf population which could not always help itself; those with multi-disabilities. The number of people with multi-disabilities was increasing and volunteer organizations must continually bring their unique needs to the attention of appropriate governmental agencies. Utah School for the Deaf was fully aware of the problems facing these exceptional children and the cooperative efforts between USD and rehabilitation services were developed (UAD Bulletin, Spring-Summer, 1967).

Did You Know?

In 1965, the percentage of multi-disabilities deaf children was increasing, and whether the educational authorities want it or not, the day when many of residential school will be taken over by these people was in sight. This may be for deaf children with multiple disabilities, but it means deaf children with normal minds and normal capabilities was pushed into the oral day schools where all too often their educational birthright was sacrificed in a pallid pretense at integration (UAD Bulletin, Spring 1965).

Beth Ann Stewart Campbell's New Role in the Deaf Section

In 1967, Dr. Sanderson and his secretary, Linda Campbell, were the only two employees in the deaf unit (Stewart, DSDHH April 2012).

Three years later in 1970, Beth Ann Stewart Campbell began her employment as a rehabilitation aide in the Services to the Deaf Section, Division of Adult Education and

Training, Utah State Board of Education. She was hired as a result of resolution passed by the Utah Association for the Deaf at the 1969 convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. She was hired because a female counselor was requested to meet the consumers who would feel more comfortable talking with a woman than with a man (UAD Bulletin, Fall-Winter 1970-71).

She was an assistant working with Dr. Sanderson and Jack White, Rehabilitation Counselor (he was in charge of the office in Provo). Her job duties included intake (registering consumers), interpreting, job finding, case reporting, follow-up, and work adjustment counseling (UAD Bulletin, Fall-Winter 1970-71).



Beth Ann Stewart Campbell
By Robert L. Bonnell

Ms. Campbell was well known to deaf people in Utah as the daughter of deaf parents, Arnold and Zelma Moon (UAD Bulletin, Fall-Winter 1970-71). While working at the rehabilitation office, her interpreting duties eventually expanded a great deal over the years (Beth Ann Campbell, personal communication, September 20, 2012).