

# Hearing, Speech & Deafness Center

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For Immediate Release  
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November 21, 2011  
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## **Nonprofit Finds Aligned Acquisition to Meet both Mission and Margin**

For 75 years, Hearing, Speech & Deafness Center has been serving the Pacific Northwest as a nonprofit agency. During those years, the organization has collaborated and partnered with entities in all three sectors of nonprofit, corporate and government. Now Hearing, Speech & Deafness Center has taken partnership to a new level by acquiring the assets and services of a mission-aligned for-profit business, SignOn Interpreting Services.

The Center, which serves over 5,000 people a year provides services to people who are deaf or hard of hearing in 13 counties of Western Washington. Services begin for newborns and carry through to elderly clients, and represent all socio-economic levels. SignOn has a list of 500 clients including schools and universities, health care providers, government agencies, the legal system, corporations, small businesses, nonprofits and the arts. Through the asset acquisition Hearing, Speech & Deafness Center, the largest and most established nonprofit agency in the Pacific Northwest serving deaf and hard of hearing people, and SignOn, the largest sign language interpreting agency in the Pacific Northwest, will continue providing unparalleled communication access.

“Now instead of referring inquiries to SignOn, we can just answer ‘One moment, let me transfer you’” said Hearing, Speech & Deafness Center CEO Susie Burdick. “This new relationship will now add even more benefits to the community. As part of a nonprofit agency, the 14 year old interpreting program will help Hearing, Speech & Deafness Center serve more people and serve them more fully.”

SignOn officially begins its new chapter as a program of Hearing, Speech & Deafness Center on December 1, 2011. SignOn only uses certified, qualified interpreters and specializes in high quality customer service, matching the right sign language interpreter for each situation.