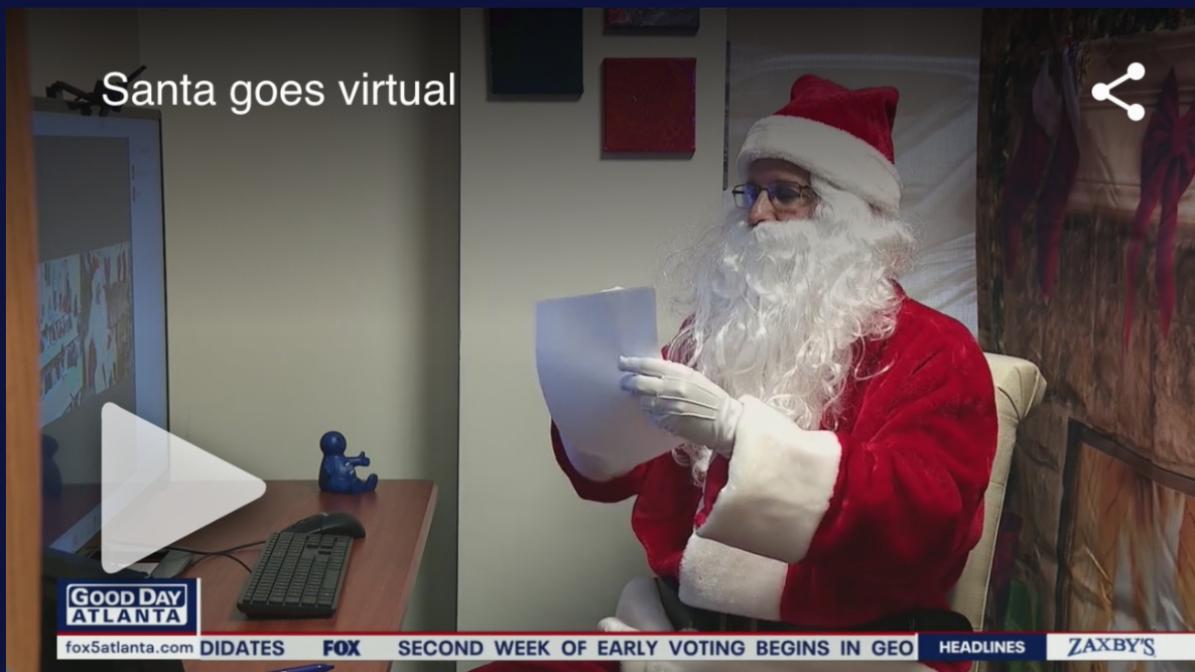# January Newsletter

5 New Year's Resolutions to Make in 2021

It's a new year, and for many people, that means taking on new resolutions or goals to strive for. If you don't already have any New Year's resolutions, or just want to add some more to your list, here are some great ideas:

1. **Learn ASL.** What better way to start the year than to learn a new language? Imagine the look on your Deaf friend or family member's face when you show them you are learning ASL. GCDHH offers virtual ASL classes in ASL 1, 2, and 3 at a low cost. Scroll down to the bottom of this newsletter for more info on how to sign up!
2. **Read about Deaf Culture**. Immerse yourself in the world of Deaf Culture with a great book, such as Train Go Sorry. There are additional books about Deaf Culture available on Amazon or your local library.
3. **Attend an ASL event.** While COVID-19 restrictions will likely stay in place for a good part of 2021, we hope that by the end of the year we might be able to have events again, such as movies, ASL poetry, and general meet-ups. Stay tuned to our calendar for any upcoming events.
4. **Make your company more Deaf-friendly.** Whether you work at a big company, or own a small business, you can advocate for your company to be

more Deaf-friendly. This includes asking them to caption videos they post to social media, design apps with Deaf people in mind, or getting contracted with an interpreting company.

5. **Sponsor a child to go to Camp Juliena.** Every year, GCDHH hosts Camp Juliena, a week-long summer camp that's a great opportunity for Deaf children to learn new things and participate in fun activities. Many parents can not afford to send their children to this camp, so your donations go a long way in helping them. Learn more about Camp Juliena, <u>HERE</u>:

Signing Santa Featured on the News

Jimmy Peterson (AKA Signing Santa) was recently featured on Fox 5 News while he did Zoom meetings with children at Cumming Elementary School. Be sure to watch the video and read the full article <u>here</u>!

GCDHH CLIENT TESTIMONIAL:

RAYMOND AND VANESSA NICHOLSON

Due to the pandemic, many resources are closed for in-person services. This resulted in hardship for Raymond and Vanessa Nicholson to get their Social Security cards replaced. With limited language, they needed assistance in filling out the application to apply for a new card. GCDHH's Community Coordinator, Andrea Alston stepped in to assist with the application by arranging for an in-person meeting. The three met with strict PPE including masks and staying six feet away. With Andrea's assistance in American Sign Language, the Nicholsons were able to understand the application and complete it. Today, with their new Social Security cards, they're extremely grateful for the extra step the Community Coordinator took to make it all happen.

ASL ONLINE CLASSES

American Sign Language is the 3rd most common language in the U.S. and a beneficial skill for everyday life. It is a rich & visual language used by the Deaf community. Don't just learn ASL, open your eyes to a whole new culture-Deaf culture!

AGES 14+ ARE WELCOME TO ASL VIRTUAL CLASSES!

LEARN FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE, TABLET, LAPTOP FROM HOME!

VIRTUAL ASL CLASSES : $80

VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

SATURDAYS

ASL I 10AM-12PM EST
ASL II 1PM-3PM EST
ASL III 3:30PM-5:30PM EST

JANUARY 23, 30
FEBRUARY 6, 20, 27
MARCH 6, 13, 20

THIS IS A NON-CREDIT 2 HOUR COURSE FOR 8 SESSIONS , PLEASE CHOOSE YOUR CLASSES TO REGISTER

DEADLINE: JAN 13, 2021 WEDNESDAY @ NOON

HIGHLIGHTS OF THESE COURSES

ONE-ON-ONE ATTENTION TO EACH STUDENT

INTERACTIVE ONLINE COURSES

GAIN ACCESS TO AUTHENTIC SIGNERS

Register today!

GOT A QUESTION?

CONTACT ANDREA ALSTON
AALSTON@GCDHH.ORG

Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Prior to COVID-19, Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (GCDHH) offered American Sign Language (ASL) Courses in-person at the center. When the pandemic started, GCDHH took a new approach with virtual classes for ASL to respect safety concerns. Today, the remote classes are available for community (age 14 and up) and businesses. Below are upcoming available courses:

ASL I- Beginner
ASL II- Intermediate
ASL III- Advanced

*There will be eight two-hour long classes each semester.

Angelo teaching children ASL.

The textbook is highly recommended for all ASL units- **A Basic Course in American Sign Language (Second Edition).** This can be ordered via Amazon. GCDHH offers online ASL classes for children younger than 14 years old for one hour for eight sessions. We also offer private ASL one-on-one for a separate fee. At the end of the semester, a Certificate of Attendance will be given for those who participated. This is only for the proof of participation in ASL course and this does not count as certified for Sign Language Interpreter. If you wanted to become a certified interpreter, you would have to take Interpreting courses at any college/university that offers them.

If you are interested to learn American Sign Language, price inquiry or have questions, please email Community Coordinator, Andrea Alston at:
Aalston@gcdhh.org
404-381-8448

Register Now!

Did you know you can sign up your workplace for virtual American Sign Language Classes?

GCDHH offers customized ASL classes for businesses and workplaces. With a flat rate (prices are negotiable), your company can pick the hours and multiple dates for virtual ASL classes. You and your co-workers will take sessions and practice together on learning a new language. If interested, you can bring this available course to the attention of your management and contact us at Aalston@gcdhh.org. Your company can make a difference in language accessibility for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community!

Fill out Questionnaire

GCDHH is hosting "Literacy Friday" every second Friday of the month starting this month. There will be a new children's story posted to GCDHH's Facebook page and Kid's Zone. Be sure to check them out!

GCDHH Facebook

GCDHH Kid's Zone

Follow us on Social Media!

View Email as Webpage