#### **AMANDA FRIEND** VR BRANCH MANAGER OF DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SER-VICES AND STATE COORDINATOR OF DEAF SERVICES

AMANDAF.FRIEND@KY.GOV

VIDEOPHONE 502-385-0701

EQUAL EDUCATION, PROGRAM AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNI-TIES PRINTED WITH FEDERAL FUNDS. KY OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SERVICES 500 MERO STREET, 4TH FLOOR NE FRANKFORT, KY 40621





# DEAF

Individuals who use sign language are served by Rehabilitation Counselors for the Deaf (RCD's). These Counselors are proficient in sign language/home gesture communication and communication options awareness. There are RCDs statewide available to provide these specialized services:

CONTACT: AMANDA F. FRIEND AMANDAF.FRIEND@KY.GOV

# HARD OF HEARING

Individuals who do not use sign language are served by Communication Specialists (CS's). These counselors have received specialized training about hearing loss and available technology.

CONTACT: AMANDA F. FRIEND AMANDAF.FRIEND@KY.GOV

- Technology and training on assistive listening devices (ALDs) and assistive and alerting devices.
- Rehabilitation Technology evaluations from OVR and OFB for hearing and vision on devices they may benefit from.
- Communication Training including American Sign Language, Tactile, other type of communication.
- Information & referral for other services outside of OVR/OFB they might be qualify for.

## For more information about the services: Contact Amanda Friend at

AmandaF.Friend@Ky.gov

## **DEAF-BLIND**

Individuals who have combined hearing and vision loss may be served by a RCD, CS and/or a Rehabilitation Counselor for the Blind, depending on their communication preference.

**CONTACT: TONIA GATTON** 

TONIA. GATTON@KY.GOV

### EXAMPLES OF SERVICES WE PRO-VIDES BUT NOT LIMITED TO;

- Guidance and Counseling
- Information and referrals for other services that may impact with long term employment. Resources including advocacy, laws, budgeting, support system, SSA benefits and much more
- Training programs to seek appropriate employment with support services/ disability resource centers. Vocational training if college is not in their plan.
- Rehabilitation technology assessments at workplace for accommodations.
- Job placement assistance/Community Rehabilitation Provider/Supported Employment.
- Interpreting services, oral and signing.
- Communication needs/technology assessment for home and workplace.

\*\*PRE-EST SERVICES (AGE 14-21): YOUR SCHOOLS SHOULD HAVE THIS. IF NOT- EMAIL —AMANDA FRIEND.