



2021 Newsletter Update

1. **Refugees/Immigrants:** Look forward to the fast-approaching drama “In Their Own Signs” by six wonderful Deaf actors from Columbia, Guatemala, Iraq, Liberia, and the Philippines. Each actor takes a few minutes to show their own story with all the others playing supporting roles, and then they switch. Our refugee immigrant classes continue at different sites as we prepare to assist new individuals and families with more refugees welcomed in 2022 – **HOPE!**

2.



DeafCAN! students from the Philippines, Iraq, Liberia, Colombia, and Guatemala tell their stories with drama including poverty, slavery, domestic violence, war, deaf education, terrorism & bombs, jobs, pregnancy, death of family members, coming to America, learning & dreaming of a better future... DeafCAN do!



2. **DeafBlind:** With COVID subsiding, our SSP service hours with our DB friends are FINALLY inching up and we hope to add new individuals in 2022. COVID has been devastating for up-close and tactile communication and guiding – **HOPE!**

3. **Prison/First Deaf Halfway House in 2022:** Just today, Nov. 3, we received word to resume our visits to D/HH inmates at SCI Phoenix to listen, learn and provide support. We now hope the other State and County jails will follow, meanwhile we continue to write letters and accept video calls to maintain support until their gates open again. We are laying the groundwork for the first halfway house for D/HH returning citizens in PA, maybe the country. As tough as things are on the inside, many new challenges can be just as difficult, and short-lived, without support when one gets out. We are searching for either a 3-bedroom apartment or house, preferably in the West Chester area, to welcome and assist those returning to their families and communities – **HOPE!**

4. **“As ‘easy’ as 1 2 3” - requires a #4** and Deaf artist RuthJoy captured it well in her attached art. Who is holding up all those served and making it all possible? In 2020, DeafCAN! received an amazing \$102,000 in contributions/grants, with over \$40,000 coming from individuals. Your gifts supported entirely all three vital services to these doubly and triply isolated sub-populations. We ALL stand on the foundations of others. For all we say thank you, thank you thank you! **Hope and action in 2022!**

