



School for the Deaf

South Dakota
School for the Deaf
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

History

The South Dakota School for the Deaf (SDSD) has continuously provided elementary, secondary, and early childhood programs for residents of South Dakota and western Minnesota whose hearing loss precluded successful academic achievement in public schools for many years. In addition, beginning in 1977, SDSD began serving mainstream students, their teachers, and parents through its outreach programs. SDSD was established in 1880 and was placed under the control of the state Board of Regents in 1943 by a constitutional amendment. Dr. Maureen Schloss is the current superintendent.

Campus

The campus is situated in the eastern part of Sioux Falls and includes three major buildings on 13.1 acres of land. Over the last five years, the school has received about two million dollars in renovation and repairs. The campus is easily noticed on East Tenth Street and accessible at 2001 East Eighth Street. Present projects include the renovation of the Myklebust Gym facility (in planning).

Related Staff Support

Instruction at SDSD follows state requirements and is specifically designed to counteract the linguistic, educational, and social handicapping conditions of hearing losses. An audiologist, two speech language pathologists, a bilingual language specialist, and a transition coordinator directly provide related services. Additional specialists are contracted as well, including psychologists and occupational and physical therapists. Guidance and mental health counseling are provided as needed. All instructional and related services are designed to support deaf and hard of hearing students working toward state regular education or special education standards that have been developed by the state of South Dakota, Department of Education.

The school provides free audiological examinations to children birth – 21 years and free academic assessments to deaf or hard of hearing children in South Dakota. Please contact the SDSD main office for any evaluative services (605) 367-5200.

Instructional Philosophies

The school has completed a period of restructuring to meet new federal and state guidelines and currently runs two educational platforms to provide parents with choices and to provide students with complete language learning opportunities. The first program uses the bilingual approach, which balances American Sign Language and written English. The second program is an auditory oral program. Auditory oral teachers have the training to embed auditory oral speech and language development training into the normal K – 8 classes. With this classroom work and the help of speech therapy, these cochlear implanted and hard of hearing students are able to acquire oral speech much more quickly than in a traditional mainstream setting.

The instructional staff in either program is developing a linguistic “bridging” program to assist students with broadening their use and understanding of language, and they continue to analyze a wealth of technical information about the linguistic growth of their students to assist the student’s language growth and development.

Activities

SDSD also offers opportunities for take in social and sport activities after school hours. If varsity sports cannot be offered due to a small number of participants, SDSD encourages involvement within the Sioux Falls community with the YMCA. Organized after school activities allow students to participate in bowling, arts and crafts, swimming, Tae-Kwon Do, school plays, a student council, and an academic bowl competition with other deaf schools in the upper mid-west.



Students at SDSD have access to a wide range of programs suited to their spiritual needs. Two churches in the area employ signing leaders and those leaders and the child’s parents are responsible for religion classes and transportation.

A State Resource

The School also serves as a state resource center by providing assessment, consultation, and personnel training for local schools that choose to educate deaf and hard of hearing children within their own local system. Outreach staff and related service staff are available to provide some of these services in local schools; however, in house evaluations are much more thorough. Directors of Special Education for local school districts should work with their local SDSD outreach staff to set up such opportunities with the SDSD Program Specialist who coordinates student evaluation.

The SDSD Outreach Staff are typically the front line contacts for South Dakota families who deal with deaf and hearing issues. These staff are highly trained and experienced professionals who primarily assist families with deaf and hard of hearing children between the ages of birth – 3 years. These students are primarily home-based and the SDSD staff member's primary goal is assisting the parents and families to establish early communication with the child. They also assist school districts and families with hard of hearing children or deaf children who remain in their local school districts for their education. Parent training via in-service and distance learning, a school Internet database, and specific supports are available to families as needed, and are primary foundations for the outreach program.

SDSD has recently established a distance learning potential with technology and is gearing to use visual communications to enhance meetings with parents and school district staff concerning SDSD students, and parent sign courses. This program will be enhanced by the presence of a large Internet SDSD Web page that will provide information and accessibility regarding deafness and deaf issues to parents and school district staff.

Summer School Programs

SDSD offers an extended school year (ESY) program every year to students who demonstrate skill regression. Enrollment in ESY is determined by the Individual Instructional Program (IEP) team. Local school district staff, teachers, parents, and SDSD staff are part of each SDSD IEP team. The program typically includes speech therapy and instruction in literacy, written language, and mathematics.

Security/Teacher Training/Consultants/Visitors

Anyone who works with the children on more than one occasion is expected to complete a state and federal background check, including a tuberculosis screening at SDSD expense. Tours of the campus and school can be arranged by contacting the main office at the school in advance (605)367-5200.



South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Aberdeen, South Dakota

For over one hundred years the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired has provided educational services and programs to students, parents, and local school districts.

From the very beginning, the emphasis of instruction was to provide students with vision loss an equal opportunity for an education. In addition to academics, students are taught the skills that help them be successful at work, at home, and in the community.



Ribbon-cutting for new playground

Today, the SDSBVI not only provides an educational program for blind and visually impaired students on the campus in Aberdeen, but also serves students in local schools statewide. As the vision specialists for the state, SDSBVI personnel do evaluations, provide books and classroom materials, conduct awareness and training programs, and provide consultation in areas ranging from preschool intervention to technology and transition.

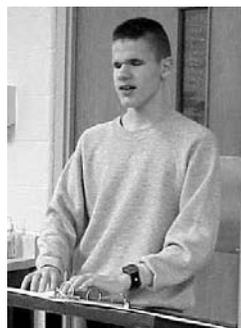
The South Dakota School for the Blind was opened on March 1, 1900 in Gary, South Dakota, under the jurisdiction of the Board of Charities and Corrections. On July 1, 1945 the school was placed under the governance of the South Dakota

Board of Regents. In 1959, the Legislature appropriated funds for construction of a new school in Aberdeen near Northern State University. Classes began in the new building on September 18, 1961. The name of the school was changed in 1970 to the South Dakota School for the Visually Handicapped. In 1979, the mission of the school was expanded to include “deaf-blind” students as well as those who were blind or visually impaired. On July 1, 1999 the school’s name was changed to the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SDSBVI).

The school is accredited by the State of South Dakota and is in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations governing special education. The school has been accredited by the National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Handicapped since 1980. In 1994, the SDSBVI became the first school in the state to be accredited by the North Central Association in the Special Function Schools category.

On Campus Program

The SDSBVI places strong emphasis on involvement in the wider community. The school works with the Aberdeen public and parochial schools to have students take classes with their sighted peers. This is done at the pre-school, elementary, junior high, and high school levels. In addition, the Hub Area Multi-District Vocational Center, Aberdeen Adjustment Training Center and Northern State University have provided opportunities for expanded educational opportunities. Community based education, recreation, and employment experiences help students to acquire skills that will last a lifetime.



The South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired provides an academic program for students from kindergarten through high school. In addition to the subjects normally taught in public schools, special emphasis is given to adapting teaching materials and methods to meet the unique needs of blind learners. Teaching the Expanded Core Curriculum of blindness skills is particularly important. Braille, orientation and mobility, daily living skills, low vision

utilization, assistive technology, social skills, recreation, and career awareness are a regular part of this expanded curriculum. Older students spend time living in on-campus apartments to perfect their skills of independence. A completely individualized education program (IEP) is designed annually for each student.

Parents, students, our vision specialists and local school district representatives are all involved in this process.

During June and July, enrolled students can continue their programs to prevent regression of skills. Students from public school programs can use this time to work on the specialized skills in the Expanded Core Curriculum, which may not be available during the regular school year.

Outreach Program

The SDSVBI provides service to blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind students statewide through evaluation, consultation, staff development and shared resources.

Multidisciplinary evaluations conducted by the SDSBVI staff are available for students enrolled in public school programs at no cost. The team of vision specialists evaluates the child's strengths and needs and makes specific educational recommendations.

Outreach Vision Consultants travel the entire state to work with parents and school district personnel. They provide information on appropriate teaching methods and classroom adaptations, loan equipment and teaching materials, provide training for students and staff, and generally serve as a support for parents and teachers.

The *Transition Specialist* works with students, parents, local schools and adult service providers (especially Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired) to develop realistic post high school plans and ensure that the student has the experiences needed to adequately prepare them for further education, vocational training or employment.



Martin Pfothenauer teaches student how to use his cane.

SDSBVI personnel provide staff development and community presentations on a variety of topics related to blindness. Increasing public awareness of vision loss and the potential of blind people is part of our mission. Cooperative efforts with Northern State University have made it possible to develop on-line courses for teachers and paraprofessionals that can be accessed on the Internet.

The SDSBVI professional library collection and specialized materials are available for interlibrary loan. The collection may be accessed on the SDLN.

Any student, under the age of 21 who has a vision loss that makes it difficult or impossible for him or her to carry on satisfactory classwork, is eligible for services from the SDSBVI. The services provided are determined by the individual child's needs and may include evaluation, consultation services or placement at the school in Aberdeen. The SDSBVI serves day students and has a residential program for students



who do not live within easy driving distance. All services provided by the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired are without charge to local schools or parents. Out-of-state students can be served on a tuition basis.

We encourage you to visit the school when you are in Aberdeen. We would be happy to give you a tour and talk about our services.

Toll-Free Number: 1-888-275-3814

Internet Home Page: www.sdsbvi.sdbor.edu

South Dakota Human Services Center Yankton, South Dakota



The site for the South Dakota Human Services Center (originally known as the Dakota Hospital for the Insane and later named the Yankton State Hospital) was selected by Governor Howard on September 24, 1878. The facility, the first public institution in the Dakota Territory, was opened on April 11, 1879. Nine men and eight women, Dakota Territory residents previously cared for in institutions in Minnesota and Nebraska, were admitted by transfer.

The Legislature of 1881 authorized an issue of \$40,000 in territorial bonds for the purpose of constructing a substantial hospital building. Additions were made to the original building - first, by a central section for administration and later by an extension to the west. This was followed by two large wings constructed at the ends of the main building. In 1949 and 1951, the Legislature appropriated money for rebuilding the east and west wings respectively. The central section, destroyed by fire in 1957, was replaced by the Medical Institute Building completed in 1961. Other additions to the hospital complex include Employee's Building, constructed in 1951 for employee housing, Hospital Building (1954), Edmunds Building (1956) for employee housing, Chapel (1959), Central Dietary Building (1968) and Activities Center (1973).

Funds appropriated by the 1976 Legislative Session allowed for renovation of Pierce Building to meet standards for federal funding support. Renovation was

completed in January 1978 and nursing home patients were transferred to the building in early February 1978. The 119-bed intermediate care/skilled-nursing facility was certified for Medicaid funding shortly after that and routinely experienced a 98 percent occupancy rate.

In fiscal year 1992, Governor George Mickelson requested, and the Legislature approved, a \$30 million reconstruction project at the Human Services Center. The existing campus was found to have some significant structural deficiencies and did not meet the needs of patient treatment as it is known today. The intention of the building project was to provide modern, safe, efficient buildings for all patients. The cost of new construction was significantly less than attempting to remodel the existing old buildings. Some buildings used for patient treatment and housing dated back to 1903. Any remodeling of these buildings would not address certain issues related to efficiency, staff and patient safety.

The new hospital, named the George S. Mickelson Center for the Neurosciences, is located on state-owned land to the north of the south campus area. The entire campus is referred to as the Human Services Center. Some support buildings on the current site, such as the Dietary Building and the Activities Building continue to be used as a part of the new campus.

The hospital provides psychiatric diagnoses and inpatient treatment that includes psychological evaluations, recreational, occupational and educational services. It also provides special programs in the area of chemical dependency treatment, vocational assessment and training through an agreement with the Division of Rehabilitation Services located on the Center's grounds. Forensic psychiatric evaluations are completed by referral from the courts.



Aerial view of South Dakota Human Services Center North & South Campus.

Since October 1977, the Human Services Center and the Department of Psychiatry, University of South Dakota School of Medicine, have cooperated in recruitment efforts and have significantly improved both the quality and quantity of psychiatrists and other professional staff at the Human Services Center. University of South Dakota sophomore and junior medical students receive part of their medical school training at the Center, and four to eight weeks elective training is available to senior medical students. Physicians in the School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry Residency Program are required to spend part of their residency at the Human Services Center. The Center also serves as an intern training site for physical therapy, pharmacy, occupational therapy, psychology, nursing, social work and other related programs.

A State Penitentiary Trusty Program was initiated on the Human Services Center campus in fiscal year 1978. Ten penitentiary inmates were assigned to the Human Services Center to assist with farm and dairy operations. The program has proved to be successful with the maximum census being increased to 300 trusties. Of this population, 79 trusties are assigned to various departments including food services, laundry, grounds maintenance and custodial services.

The building that formerly housed the Women's Correctional Facility until mid-fiscal year 1985 was renovated and reopened in fiscal year 1986 as a maximum security penitentiary psychiatric correctional treatment unit. The 26-bed Penitentiary Correctional Treatment Unit was staffed and operated by the State Penitentiary. In fiscal year 1990, administration of this unit was shifted to the Human Services Center. The Security Treatment Unit continued to treat female inmates from the penitentiary who needed inpatient psychiatric care, provided forensic evaluations and treatment services to Human Services Center patients who required a secure treatment environment until its closure in December, 1997. Human Services Center patients needing a more secure treatment environment are now transferred to the Intensive Treatment Unit, (Cedar Two), located on the new campus.

The Human Services Center average daily inpatient census for fiscal year 2004 was 265. This compares to 260 in fiscal year 2003 and 263 in fiscal year 2002. In fiscal year 2002 Human Services Center had 1773 admissions, 1372 for psychiatric treatment and 401 for chemical dependency treatment. In fiscal year 2003, there were 1776 admissions, 1395 for psychiatric treatment and 381 for chemical dependency treatment. In fiscal year 2004 there were 2025 admissions, 1632 for psychiatric treatment and 393 for chemical dependency treatment.

The fiscal year 2005 operating budget for the Human Services Center is \$34,678,849.

South Dakota Human Services Center

PO Box 7600, Yankton, SD 57078-7600

(605) 668-3100 - Website: www.state.sd.us/dhs/mcn

South Dakota Developmental Center – Redfield Redfield, South Dakota

The South Dakota Developmental Center (SDDC), a Title XIX residential intermediate care facility (ICF/MR), is a division of the Department of Human Services that provides services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Established by an act of the legislature in 1899, SDDC was opened for admission to individuals in 1902. The census reached an all-time high of approximately 1200 in the mid-1960s. In 2004, SDDC's end of year census was 176 individuals.



The facility's 90-acre campus is located on approximately 370 acres of state-owned land adjacent to the northwest city limits of Redfield, South Dakota. Environmental Services staff members provide necessary remodeling and upgrades to meet the needs of individuals. Individuals served at SDDC spend the majority of their time between the 18 residential living units, an activity center, chapel, vocational training centers, the Grace Schaefer School and a food service building. Health Care Services, Administration and Granite office buildings, as well as Environmental Services buildings, which include a powerhouse, water plant, laundry, maintenance and carpenter shops and warehouses, also dot the campus.

Mission

The mission of the South Dakota Developmental Center is to provide individualized services to persons with developmental disabilities when community based options are not available, enabling them to reach their highest level of independence. Individuals served at SDDC require more supervision and support than can be provided within a community setting.



Aerial view of the SDDC Campus – Fall 2004

Provision of Services

SDDC takes the Interdisciplinary (ID) Team approach to provision of services. Program development for each individual begins with thorough evaluations and assessments in all areas of daily living, with recommendations being addressed by an ID Team. The ID Team, including the individual served and his/her guardian and family, determines which combination of therapies, activities or training services are needed to enable the individual to progress to his/her highest level of independence. All services are monitored and revised as needed throughout the year to continually meet the needs of the individual.

SDDC's service delivery system offers a variety of treatments necessary to meet the diverse needs and abilities of the individuals. Based on the needs of each individual, development may focus on the areas of personal care, social interaction skills, behavioral impulse control, making appropriate choices, domestic skills, etc. Depending upon the individual, techniques may be utilized to enhance sensory motor skills, responses to stimuli, orientation to one's environment, etc.

The SDDC provides a wide variety of training and vocational opportunities for individuals both on and off campus. Each individual is assessed to determine personal abilities and preferences to determine an appropriate vocational assignment. Individuals are paid competitive wages based on a productivity rating and the baseline market standard. This assessment determines each individual's prevailing hourly wage. Educational training is also offered.

Opportunities for socialization and participation in recreational activities are offered both on campus and within the community. Individuals at SDDC utilize numerous community resources, including additional medical services provided by the local clinic and hospital, shopping at local retail stores, dining at area restaurants, attending local churches, viewing movies at the local theater or drive in, cheering at sporting events, attending classes provided by the Redfield Public School, or spending a sunny afternoon fishing along the banks of Turtle Creek.

Program One

The six living environments within the Willhite building house the adult males served by Program One. The overall intent of the program is to focus on increasing the individuals' understanding of how their behaviors affect themselves and others, helping the individuals understand the boundaries of appropriate behavior, and aiding the individuals and their families in replacing negative behaviors with positive behaviors.

Program One offers specialized services for individuals who have been referred because of extremely challenging behaviors. Progress in treatment affords individuals an opportunity to move to a transitional living area as individuals increase their ability to make well-informed decisions and choices. Development of vocational skills and appropriate behavior in the work setting is the keystone of training in Program One.

Program Two

Program Two, also known as the Turtle Creek Youth Program, is a year round educational and residential program for youth ages 10 to 21. The program serves behaviorally challenged school-aged children and adolescents. To meet admission criteria, the youth must have a developmental disability, display behaviors that are dangerous or cause concern for the child or others, have unsuccessfully received treatment in a less restrictive environment, and be eligible for Title XIX funding. Education is provided through the Redfield Public School. The program also offers training in social skills, making good choices in life, group and individual counseling, chemical dependency and prevention, vocational and domestic skills training and recreational activities. The focus is on preparing the youth to live productive lives within a community setting.

Program Three

Program Three provides services to a wide range of individuals of varying ages and skill levels. Many of the individuals served within Program Three have multiple disabilities and/or have behavioral concerns. Program Three is housed in the Cottage complex and serves adult males and females.

To encourage growth and development, individuals reside in an environment that promotes interaction between peers and staff. The program promotes greater self-sufficiency and self-control on the part of the individuals and encourages

participation by individuals in all facets of their lives. Individuals receive the assistance and supports necessary to achieve the most constructive and satisfying life possible.

Proximity locking systems have been installed on three of the Cottages to provide a safe living environment for individuals who may wander from their home area and for individuals who do not possess necessary safety skills.

Contact Information

Phone: 605-472-2400

Internet: www.state.sd.us/dhs/Redfield/page1.htm

E-mail: infosddc@dhs-rf.state.sd.us

Michael J. Fitzmaurice

South Dakota Veterans Home

Hot Springs, South Dakota

The Dakota Territorial Legislature met in February 1889. While in session, they passed a bill establishing the Dakota Soldiers' Home to be located in Hot Springs, South Dakota. The bill carried an appropriation of \$45,000 for construction. The object of the Home was to provide the care and subsistence for veterans and their wives and widows who met eligibility requirements for admission to the Home. The cornerstone of the first building was placed on November 11, 1889. This building remains in service and houses the Home's administrative offices and recreational facilities.

The State Veterans' Home grounds cover approximately 193 acres. This offers a serene setting carved out of the beautiful southern Black Hills. By preserving the old and adding conveniences of the new, a true home environment exists. The four major structures are for residents along with a central heating plant, laundry and maintenance shop.

The Veterans' Home recently remodeled the 52 nursing home rooms and dining facility. The rooms and surrounding support areas are up to standards of the American with Disabilities Act and current nursing home regulations. The three dining areas have been consolidated to one allowing nursing care residents a very positive dining experience. The two kitchens have been combined to one efficient modern one.



The home offers the following services: dietician, pharmacist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, physician, chaplain, social services and extensive activities, including a tour bus and pontoon boat.



Memorial Day, 2004

The Veterans' Home has 100 assisted living beds and 52 nursing care beds. Applications for admission are made through the veteran's County or Tribal Veterans Service Officer in the county in which they claim legal residence. The Home's maintenance fees for a single veteran, widow or widower in assisted living units is 50 percent of the gross monthly income, not to exceed actual costs of care. Married couples who are Home members pay 55 percent of the combined gross monthly income. Single members pay 70 percent of the gross monthly income for care in the nursing care units. An assisted living resident retains a minimum income of \$175. Members in the nursing care unit retain a minimum income of \$150 per month, and married couples retain a minimum of \$225.



**Residents and Staff at a
'Support the Troops Rally'
in March, 2003**

On October 3, 1998, the Home was renamed the Michael J. Fitzmaurice South Dakota Veterans Home in honor of a Vietnam War Congressional Medal of Honor recipient.



Michael J. Fitzmaurice Metal of Honor Monument