

MINISTRY TO THE DEAF COMMUNITY

Social Policy Resolution

CA91.06.36



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Adopted by the 1991 Churchwide Assembly.

Whereas

To refer the motion to the Division for Church in Society together with the response from the Division for Church in Society for attention and appropriate action as follows:

Whereas, 94 percent of the deaf population in the United States is unchurched; and

Whereas, only two deaf ELCA pastors are presently serving the deaf population; and

Whereas, the ELCA Church Council has affirmed the cultural identity and unique needs and aspirations of the deaf community; and

Whereas, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has committed itself to provide assistance to the deaf community for ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (CC91.4.52); and

Whereas, the deaf community identified ministry priorities at its August 1991 ELCA churchwide conference; therefore, be it

Resolved

RESOLVED, that the ELCA 1991 Churchwide Assembly direct the Division for Social Ministry Organizations or its successor unit to establish a desk for deaf ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by January 1, 1992; and be it further

RESOLVED, that such desk be staffed by a deaf person who is fluent in sign language and knowledgeable in deaf culture.