

Deafblind Newsletter - September 2007

## Washington State ODHH Chooses HumanWare to Design and Manufacture New DeafBlind Communicator

The Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) in the State of Washington had a strong desire to serve the state's deafblind population with new telecommunications technology for both TTY and face-to-face applications. Existing technology did not meet their needs. After extensive research, ODHH found that companies that were capable of producing the level of technology they needed did not have the resources to risk on such a small market.

ODHH decided to find the money required to help subsidize the development of the desired products. They put together a focus group that included deafblind individuals, as well as professionals who worked closely with the deafblind population, to come up with a specification for the



For more information contact Jim Halliday at jim.halliday@humanware.com

product. They were able to secure a significant amount of money for the project and set up a bid process that attracted developers. One company stood out because of its existing position in the blindness marketplace with an extremely powerful yet easy-to-use product called BrailleNote. HumanWare was then chosen to develop the new DeafBlind Communicator.

The DeafBlind Communicator project is well underway.

Add your name and email address to the newsletter list and every four to six weeks you will receive new information about the philosophy behind the product, specifications, field test results, basic functions, more advanced forms of communication, mainstream applications, and the various other components and options.



**Sample of Possible Satellite Communicator** 

If you are interested in receiving updates about the development progress request this newsletter by emailing your name and email address to <a href="mailto:jim.halliday@humanware.com">jim.halliday@humanware.com</a>.



For more information about HumanWare and its other fine products visit our website at www.humanware.com