

# **CONSTITUTION**

## **GEORGIA BAPTIST CONFERENCE OF THE DEAF**

### **ARTICLE I: NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Georgia Baptist Conference of the Deaf.

### **ARTICLE II: GOAL**

The goal of this conference shall be to encourage church services, teaching, training, and Christian fellowship among the deaf workers and the deaf throughout the Georgia Baptist Convention; to bring together, unite and counsel those of like faith and beliefs. The conference shall accept the Holy Bible as the only necessary rule of faith and action. It shall elect its own officers, choose its own committees, and plan its own meetings.

### **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of the conference shall include the deaf and workers with the deaf in churches which give to the Cooperative Program (Georgia Baptist and Southern Baptist Conventions). These people are encouraged to be involved in as much as possible. Those who come as elected messengers of the churches shall be known as active members and have full privilege of discussing and voting. All others shall be recognized as visitors. (Elected Messenger) - One who has been voted on in a monthly, quarterly or other business meeting (conference) to represent their churches at the conference (GBCD).

### **ARTICLE IV: AFFILIATION**

This conference shall cooperate with all the agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention, of which it is a part.

### **ARTICLE V: ADMINISTRATION**

Officers may be deaf or hearing, except for trustees, where one deaf and one hearing person shall be elected annually. A deaf person should be elected president every two years. The officers of the conference shall be: (1) President, (2) Vice-President, (3) Secretary, (4) Treasurer, (5) Historian, (6) Interpreter Coordinator, (7) Deaf Ministry Workshop Coordinator, (8) Jr. GBCD Coordinator, (9) Children's Program Coordinator, and (10) Worship Coordinator, 11) Webmaster and 12) Four Trustees.

### **ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES**

The conference shall have the following committees: (1) Credentials, (2) Nominating, and (3) Steering. (4) Carter F. Bearden Missions Fund Committee. The president may appoint other committees as needed

### **ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS**

The regular session of the conference shall be held yearly at Norman Park one year and Toccoa the next, except when these places are not available. GBCD officers will present a date 2 years in advance for approval at GBCD annual business meeting. If this is not possible, because we are between annual meetings, the officers can make needed changes in this meeting place.

### **ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS**

The Constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting. Any amendment must be given in writing to the Steering Committee at the beginning of the conference.