

**Alabama Baptist Conference of the Deaf
Executive Board Meeting
Via Zoom Meeting
January 24, 2026**

Those in attendance:

Executive Board:

Crystal Huffman, Chairperson – Eden Westside Baptist Church

Michele Tiano, Assistant Chairperson – Alabama Deaf Church

Paul Pitts, Treasurer – Meadow Brook Baptist Church

Jin Mayer, Secretary – First Baptist Church Prattville

Jenny Hutto – New Deaf Church

Teresa Sheppard, Host team representation – The Grove Church

Others:

Joshua Huffman – SBOM

Steve Dye - SBOM

Jeff Farmer, Overseer – Eden Westside Baptist Church

Those not in attendance:

Executive Board:

Kristy Kennedy – SBOM

Ray Sevie – First Baptist Church Prattville (replaced Jin Mayer)

Prayer and Open:

Crystal Huffman opened the meeting at 4:37pm.

Jeff Farmer opened in prayer.

Crystal Huffman, Chairperson

Board Meeting Agenda for ABCD 2026

1. Silent Auction

ABCD will host a Silent Auction during the conference. Board members will contact their churches to encourage participation to contribute items or themed baskets for donation. Proceeds will support conference expenses and future budget growth.

2. T-Shirt Deadline

Crystal Huffman will send pre-order T-shirt by email. Once after pre-order approved, T-shirt with registration and food will have a deadline of March 3rd. All agreed.

3. Church Support Letter

Board members will contact their churches ASAP for any update about church support letter. Approved funds will be sent to the State Board. The funds cover conference expenses, ensure all bills are paid, and increase future ABCD budget.

4. Budget Discussion & Honorariums

Last year - Worship Leader Honorarium \$300
Guest Speakers Honorarium (ABCD & JrABCD) \$400 total

This year ABCD 2026 will us The Grove Worship Team – Possible 3 to 4 worship leaders.
ABCD Board agreed to use Honorarium to cover worship team registrations - \$80 per leader - \$240 to \$320 approved.

5. Nursery Team

Kasey Gamble, leader of ABCD Nursery. All workers must complete Ministry Safe training.
ABCD Board agreed to cover Four Nursery volunteers' registration fees \$320.

6. Conference Cost Summary

Estimated Expense:
Guest Speaker Honorariums \$400 2X
Speakers Mileage (estimated) \$200
Worship Leaders (3) \$ 240
- Possible (4) \$320
JrABCD Worship Leaders (2) \$160
Nursery Registrations (4) \$320
JrABCD Speaker Hotel (if needed) \$350
All total (estimated) \$2,150 that we need for ABCD 2026

Main Speaker House Update – Steve Dye is opening his home to host ABCD Speaker Tony Tiano and his Family, saving hotel costs.

Board Members approved Estimated cover listed costs.

7. Budget Overview UPDATE -January 24, 2026

Remaining ABCD Last Year's budget: \$1,428
ALSBOM contribution this year: \$1,000
Total Budget available funds: \$2,428

Remaining conference expenses will be covered through attendee registrations, Silent auction proceeds, T-shirt sales and Donations. All agreed.

8. JrABCD

Mia Teagus, JrABCD director – Matthew Dixon has accepted the invitation to lead JrABCD. Daniel Shropshire and Lydia Standifer as JrABCD Worship Leaders. JrABCD session details are needed to complete the JrABCD flyer. The Flyer will be sent to Steve Dye ASAP for promotion and distribution. Supports outreach to Deaf students and families.

9. Registration/Food

Food Deadline - Taco Mama & Chick-fil-A require final counts 2 days before the conference. The Deadline for registration, food and t-shirt is March 3rd. All agreed.

Registrations remain open until conference day. Registrations after deadline will not receive meals plus late fee of \$20. Board agreed that they will order a few more extra lunches in case of last minute.

Follow up with ALSBOM Board, they will do meal cost coverage, Reimbursement process, and Payment method (individual or hosting church).

10. Interpreter Conference/Workshop

Last year, about 9 interpreters attended.

Steve Dye will decide which sized rooms can be used for both JrABCD or Interpreter conference after registration with numbers of attendees.

Crystal Huffman and Joshua Huffman had meeting with Kris Courson January 23rd to gather information and determine next steps. Same as last year but the interpreters from interpreter workshop can join with us at Worship for their social with deaf.

11. Sunday Morning Schedule – Steve Dye/Sara Lansford from Children Ministry, The Grove Church

Only on Sunday, if deaf children attend Sunday, Steve asked Board to pick one of staff from ABCD Nursery to be with deaf children due to communication. The schedule is 9am to 12pm for nursery (0-5 years old).

12. Board Discussion Updates: 2026-2027 Term

Board stepping down: (Need to share the New Board at the end of ABCD 2026)

1. Jin Mayer - Ray Sevirie represents Prattville Deaf Ministry.
2. Crystal Huffman - Eden Westside Baptist Church will vote new Board soon.
3. Michele Tiano - Alabama Deaf Church will need to vote new Board.
4. Via email January 24, 2026, after meeting, Teresa Sheppard will step down, she will ask anyone to replace her, or The Grove Church will vote new Board.

Chairperson role will become available 2026.

13. ABCD Website Update – Joshua Huffman

The ABCD website is still in process and under development. His goal for the website to be available before the conference – Share the website with all churches and attendees, highlight new features and resources, and provide access to ABCD history and archives.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Steve Dye closed in prayer.

Alabama Baptist Conference of the Deaf

March 6-8, 2026

The Grove Church, Madison, AL

Theme: "Unrooted"

Romans 12:2

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect". ESV

Conference Speaker: Tony Tiano

Worship Leaders: Rickey Clemons, Connie Caine, Adam Pace and Teresa Sheppard

JrABCD Speaker: Matthew Dixon

JrABCD Worship Leaders: Daniel Shropshire and Lydia Standifer

Interpreter Conference: Kris Courson