

WHO WE SERVE

MCDHH's constituents are those Missourians that have a hearing loss which affects their daily lives. MCDHH works to ensure the right of *all* individuals with a hearing loss to equal access to communication regardless of their preferred communication method.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Missouri Commission for the
Deaf and Hard of Hearing
3216 Emerald Lane, Suite B
Jefferson City, MO 65109

(573) 526-5205 (V/TTY)
(855) 783-3177 (TOLL-FREE)

E-mail: MCDHH@mcdhh.mo.gov
<http://www.mcdhh.mo.gov>

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

OFFICE HOLIDAYS

New Year's Day
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
George Washington's Birthday
Harry Truman's Birthday
Memorial Day

Independence Day
Columbus Day
Thanksgiving Day

Labor Day
Veterans' Day
Christmas Day

VISOR CARD COMMUNICATION

****To Request for a copy****



I am a Deaf Person

Communication Card for Law Enforcement Officers

This card will help you communicate with me. Please point to the pictures on the other side of this card.

When communicating with me:

- ⇒ Get my attention first.
- ⇒ Look at me when you speak.
- ⇒ For simple communication writing notes MAY help, but not always.
- ⇒ I cannot lip-read everything you say.
- ⇒ A hearing aid does not make me hear everything you say.
- ⇒ Avoid shining a flashlight in my face as this will hamper my ability to communicate.
- ⇒ Though I may speak for myself this does not mean I can hear and understand what you say.

If I am arrested or asked to come in for questioning I will need:

- ⇒ A Missouri Certified & Licensed interpreter.
- ⇒ To make a phone call (using high-speed internet services and a computer, a Captel Telephone, and/or my wireless device).
- ⇒ A Stenographer/Communication Access Real-Time Translation (CART) for captioning conversations.
- ⇒ Other accommodations.

For more information, please
call 855-783-3177



This voluntary informational program was developed by the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing with the endorsement from Missouri Sheriff's Association.

www.mcdhh.mo.gov



Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing



An agency of the State, RSMo.161.400

VISION

As a dynamic, evolving organization, the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will be a recognized, impartial leader in providing innovative, proactive public services to improve the quality of life for deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind Missourians.

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide effective and efficient leadership, education, advocacy and programs to eliminate barriers and to meet the social, economic, educational, cultural and intellectual needs of deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind Missourians.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Leadership

We are committed to providing strong, visionary leadership that encourages initiatives, advocates for policies and programs for those whom we serve, and fosters open supportive communication.

Innovation

We are committed to proactive, creative and strategic approaches in the continuous evaluation and improvement of our services.

Equality

We are committed to ensuring that all deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind Missourians receive equitable, or fair, opportunities to live, work and contribute just as all other citizens of Missouri.

Public Service as a Public Trust

As public servants, we are committed to being open, ethical, responsive, and accountable. We are also dedicated to the public we serve and to fostering an honest environment free of bias with respect to all individuals. We are committed to delivering all service fairly and ethically, and will place the needs of deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind Missourians at the center of our activities.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

The Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing consists of nine members who are knowledgeable about issues related to hearing loss, and who have demonstrated a commitment to the full participation of deaf and hard of hearing people in all aspects of community life. The governor appoints the members of the Commission, and the Commission meets at least four times a year.

“IMPROVING THE LIVES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF ALL MISSOURIANS WITH HEARING LOSS”

PROGRAM AND SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

Advocacy. MCDHH advocates for communications access and improved services for Missourians with hearing loss.

Representation. MCDHH represents the needs of deaf and hard of hearing citizens of Missouri before the legislature and other state agencies.

Empowerment. MCDHH empowers deaf and hard of hearing people by providing workshops, training, technical assistance, and an annual Empowerment Symposium that concerns techniques of self advocacy and the legal rights of persons with hearing loss.

Education. MCDHH conducts workshops, presents at conferences, and exhibits at various places for the purpose of educating the hearing public concerning the personal, familial, occupational and social problems associated with hearing loss.

MICS. MCDHH administers the Missouri Interpreter Certification System on behalf of all Missourians who use sign language. MICS activities include:

- ◆ Assessing the skill level of and **certifying** all interpreters in Missouri.
- ◆ Maintaining a **registry of interpreters** certified in the MICS.
- ◆ Providing **continuing education** opportunities for the professional development of Missouri interpreters.
- ◆ Hosting an annual **interpreters conference** that is usually attended by over six hundred people.

Technical Assistance. MCDHH provides technical assistance concerning the ADA, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, IDEA, the Missouri Human Rights Act, and filing complaints with the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Missouri Commission on Human Rights.

Library. MCDHH maintains a library of books, magazines, newsletters, videos, and brochures that are available for reading on site at any time.

Public Policy Development. MCDHH initiates and assists the legislature and other state agencies in the development of public policies affecting people with hearing loss.

Information. MCDHH provides a broad spectrum of information concerning topics such as hearing loss, assistive technology, interpreting, Relay Missouri, Deaf Culture, the Telecommunications Access Program, sign language, Interpreter Training Programs, and the legal rights of deaf and hard of hearing people.

Referral. When appropriate, MCDHH provides referrals to other information sources and service providers.

Electronic Resources. MCDHH maintains a website (www.mcdhh.mo.gov) and a listserv (MCDHH-L) for the timely dissemination of information and action alerts to the general public.

Publications. MCDHH publishes an occasional newsletter (MCDHH NEWS), an Interpreters Manual, and a Quick Reference Series discussing topics of interest to people with hearing loss.

Lifetime Achievement Awards. MCDHH provides public recognition of individuals who have worked in behalf of deaf and hard of hearing Missourians for many years.

Deaf Awareness. MCDHH hosts “Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Days” at major venues in order to demonstrate for the general public the need for communications access for people with hearing loss.

Training. MCDHH provides educational and training workshops throughout the state concerning various topics related to hearing loss.

Census. MCDHH conducts and maintains a census of the deaf and hard of hearing population in Missouri.

“We are stronger when we speak with one accord; we are mightier when we walk in unity!!!”