

Spring 4-30-2012

Maine-Lines: A Newsletter for People who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Late-Deafened, Spring 2012

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

Maine Division of Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing and Late Deafened

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MAINE-LINES

THE DIVISION FOR THE DEAF, HARD OF HEARING &
LATE DEAFENED



Independence Without Fear

Independence Without Fear **Deaf-Blind - Dual-Sensory Impaired - Support Service Provider Potluck!**

There will be a potluck dinner for Deaf-Blind/Dual-Sensory Impaired consumers, Support Service Providers (SSP-Human Guides) and Deaf-Blind Interpreters on Thursday, May 10th from 5 PM - 7 PM in the Multi-purpose Room of the Iris Network at 189 Park Avenue in Portland. Bring a dish, bring a friend interested in becoming a SSP, or bring a Deaf-Blind consumer; but above all, bring yourself! Graduating students are invited to bring their parents along to get a taste of what you have been doing. This is a time to celebrate our on-going program, to meet each other, and to get back on track possibly with the program, and refresh your skills a bit. There is a lot going on this summer in terms of trainings and events that we want to share with you, but most of all we want to get together.

For more information, contact Brenda Dootz at the Iris Network, 189 Park Avenue, Portland, 774-6273 X3328, BDootz@theiris.org.

Deaf Maine **The *NOT YET READY* Program**



NOTYET Interpreters Elaine Williams, Danielle Albee and Ashley Whittaker hard at work interpreting at the Chocolate Lover's Fling on Sunday, April 1, 2012.

Could you describe the *Not Yet Ready* program for our readers?

NOTYET (for short) is a collaboration between the University of Southern Maine (USM) and Alpha One. In essence, the program puts student interpreters together with members of the Deaf community in a mutually beneficial environment, where the students provide interpreting services in exchange for support and feedback from Deaf adults.

The program was designed to serve multiple purposes. First, as a USM course in the interpreter training track, it provides a safe environment for neophyte interpreters to get some field practice. Second, as an Alpha One program, it is intended to foster a sense of equality and team-building camaraderie between the interpreters and the consumers/mentors.

Third, it is meant to provide greater access for Signing Deaf people to events that might not normally be interpreted. And finally, the program is meant to emphasize that interpreting is a professional service: the student interpreters are expected to conduct themselves as professionals; and the Deaf consumers/mentors, for their part, are required to provide support and feedback to their interpreters (which is why they're considered mentors as well as service consumers).

The program developed through a series of meetings during the winter of 2004-5 that involved members of the Deaf community, the interpreting community, and other interested parties. From these meetings, and through the use of open, publicly accessible online comment and collaboration tools, we were able to create a set of policies and procedures that are meant to ensure the legitimacy of the program.

For a student, enrollment in the course is required, along with attendance at monthly classes, fulfillment of a flexible number of assignments totaling not less than ten hours, plus maintenance of a journal.

For a consumer/mentor, a minimum of one orientation session is required, at which the consumer/mentor will be asked to sign an agreement to abide by the program policies, as well as a legal release.

All program documentation is posted on the DeafMaine website, at <http://www.deafmaine.com/notyet.html>, in PDF format.

When did this program start?

The first class took place in the fall of 2005. It has been offered every semester since, with the exception the fall 2008 term, when there were too few students to make a class feasible.

What are some of the benefits of using the *Not Yet Ready* program?

For students, the benefits include safe opportunities to try interpreting in different situations and getting to know members of the Deaf community as peers.

For consumers/mentors, the benefits include getting interpreters for situations where they would otherwise be unavailable, getting to know next-generation interpreters, and getting a chance to have a real impact on the development of those interpreters.

What is the process to use the *Not Yet Ready* program?

Anyone seeking to obtain NOTYET services needs to complete and submit a Service Request form to the instruction team. When this form comes in, the instruction team evaluates the request to make sure it is legal, safe and appropriate. Once a request has been approved, it is offered to the student interpreters - and, if no consumer/mentor has been specified in the request, also to the consumer/mentors.

Once a NOTYET team has formed (a minimum of one student and one consumer/mentor are required to form a team), the team notifies the instructors that they are willing to undertake the assignment.

The instructors put the team and the requestor in contact with one another.

The service is provided (there is a backup procedure for no-shows). The NOTYET team members together fill out an Evaluation form and submit this to the instruction team.

The assignment is logged and the students credited.

Could you give me an example of why someone would want to use the *Not Yet Ready* program?

The program has been used at family events (holiday gatherings, etc.), in small-scale neighborhood workshops and gatherings, and the like.

These are situations where no legal obligation exists for the provision of interpreters, but where Deaf people appreciate having them.

Is there a cost to use the *Not Yet Ready* program?

Not for consumer/mentors. Students pay the usual fees for a one-credit USM course.

What do you feel is important for people to know about the *Not Yet Ready* program?

First off, this program is in no way a substitute for professional interpreting in any situation where law or logic dictates that a professional is required. And also, besides giving people a chance to have certain events interpreted, the program also allows consumers to be involved in the development of new interpreters and to interact with them as peers.

Are Deaf interpreters available through the *Not Yet Ready* program?

No, not yet. We would like to include this service but have not been able to work it in.



NOTYET mentors Sitara Sheikh and Michelle Ames enjoying the services of NOTYET interpreters at the Chocolate Lover's Fling on Sunday, April 1, 2012.

Contact info:

Dr. Judy Shepard-Kegl & Brenda Schertz at the ASL Lab, USM, 49 Exeter Street, Portland. 207-780-4989 V, 207-766-7098 VP.

John Dunleavy at Alpha One, 127 Main Street, South Portland. 207-767-2189 V, 207-766-7127 VP.

Maine Center on Deafness (MCD) Welcomes Jana Roberts!



Jana Roberts, Civil Rights Program Manager,
Maine Center on Deafness

Hello my name is Jana Roberts and I'm the new Civil Rights Program manager at the Maine Center on Deafness. Here's a bit of my history: I moved to Maine in 1996 after graduating from Gallaudet with a Masters Degree in Social Work. I worked primarily for Community Counseling Center for 12 years with some other consultation positions on the side. I spent the past four years at Maine Medical Center while continuing a private counseling practice for the Deaf. After a few years away from Deafness I missed it, and I wanted to "go home" as I have shared with others.

I am happily divorced and the mother of three very active and hilarious children, Hailey, 11 years; Jackson, 10 years and Lucas, 9 years.

Now I am working in a new capacity as the Director of the Civil Rights Program for MCD. This Program seeks to preserve and advocate for the basic rights assigned to all people through the legal spectrum (Constitution to ADA to District Courts). The position is a full-time position with Beth Gallie as the part-time attorney and Meryl Troop as an advocate in the civil rights program and also an interpreter. The work is ever changing as we are able to advocate for the culturally Deaf in fluent American Sign Language, advocate for the hard of hearing and their unique needs, while also working hard to advocate for the late-deafened population which is growing quickly and continues to be prevalent in the work place.

Ensuring the understanding of the role culture, communication, and accommodation in Maine is crucial, whether it's a native ASL user or a

non-signing late-deafened grandfather. The scope of our work is focused on civil rights, but the breadth of the clients we can serve is extreme. We are proud to know that we can meet the communication needs of the spectrum of hearing loss and work to solve conflicts or difficulties for those individuals.



The Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened (CDHHLDD)

is recruiting new members. If interested, please contact Terry Morrell, Director of the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened at 470-7668.

The Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened meetings are open to the public and take place at the Central Maine Commerce Center, Department of Labor, in Augusta, in the Frances Perkins conference room, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM. The meeting dates for 2012 are June 14 and October 11, 2012.

Division for the Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing & Late-Deafened Five-Year Plan Summary John Shattuck

The Five-Year Plan began in 2008 with the Commission for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened members working together to address the needs of the Deaf, hard-of-hearing and late-deafened communities. The work continues to progress in many different areas. Following is a summary of the progress and the work accomplished.

Senior Citizens:

- Much of the emphasis for services focused on the training of service providers throughout the state as to the needs of elders who are Deaf, hard of hearing or late deafened. To that end,

the Maine Center on Deafness (MCD) was contracted to develop a training curriculum and implement an ambitious state-wide training program for providers of elder services including Agencies on Aging, Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS), Gould Health Services, and Pine Tree Legal. An updated brochure reminds former students of Maine School for the Deaf and Governor Baxter School for the Deaf (GBSD) that counseling services are available.

- Hearing Aids: In recognition of the need of hearing aids for elders, a centralized hearing aid resource center was established at Alpha One where inquiries could be made regarding the program availability for elders. Contact was made with Legislative members to consider having the Telecommunications Equipment Program include hearing aids.
- Although steps had been taken to establish a Deaf Senior/GBSD Senior Student “Adoption” Program to enhance a generational connection, we were not able to implement.

Employment:

- A specialty caseload of hard of hearing/late deafened has been established in Portland.
- Under a “Campaign for State Employment”, we were able to place a number of people under the Special Appointment Program.
- A comprehensive curriculum for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) counselor training regarding the special needs of those who are hard of hearing and late deafened was developed by two rehabilitation counselors in the Portland office.

Education:

- In an effort to establish standards for interpreters and transliterators in the educational settings, we did research and documented all state standards from around the country.

- We established the SignNet program through Alpha One providing basic computer instruction offered in American Sign Language (ASL).

Public Safety/Judicial:

- Training curriculum has been developed by MCD.
- To ensure that people are informed of their rights to interpreters and CART in court proceedings, a notice is continuously placed in Maine-Lines.

Leadership and Advocacy:

- Legislation was passed to change the name of the Division to include “Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened” as well as enhance the authority of the “Advisory Committee” to become a “Commission” with members appointed by the Governor rather than the Bureau Director.
- As a part of Youth Leadership training, visits and tours of the State House and Legislature hosted by legislators were established in coordination with Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MECDHH).
- Sponsored MECDHH students to attend the Maine Youth Action Network conference.
- Added a Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing Student as a voting member of the Commission.

Public/State Accessibility:

- Installed video phones for all state employees who are Deaf and use Sign Language.
- Installed video phones for all state employees who provide services to the Deaf community.
- Installed video phones to all statewide Career Centers.
- Installed a video phone in the State House.

Services for People Who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Late Deafened With a Vision Loss:

- Through collaboration with the Division for the Blind & Visually Impaired, established Support Service Provider (SSP) training provided through the Helen Keller National Center.

Areas that still need to be considered for further attention:

- Social;
- Services for People Who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Late Deafened with an Intellectual Disability;
- Parent/Family Support;
- Mental Health Services;
- Legal/Medical Services.



Amy Sneirson, departing Commission member, receives an award from the Commission & Terry Morrell, Director, DDHLD for her dedication to the Deaf, hard-of-hearing & late-deafened communities.

Maine Human Rights Commission's (MHRC) New Executive Director Amy Sneirson

The Maine Human Rights Commission is the state agency charged with the responsibility of enforcing Maine's anti-discrimination laws. The Commission receives and investigates complaints of unlawful discrimination in employment, housing, education, access to public accommodations, and extension of credit. The Commission attempts to resolve those complaints to the mutual satisfaction of all who are involved. The Commission may pursue a remedy in court when alternative solutions have failed.

Contact Information:

19 Union Street, State House Station 51
Augusta, ME 04333
Phone: 207.624.6290
Fax: 207.624.8729
TTY: 1.888.577.6690



PUBLIC ACCESS

INSTRUCTIONS: 19 Union Street is a secure building. Public access is located in the back of the

building. The Union Street entrance is not a public entrance. **The 19 Union Street lobby does not have a receptionist. Visitors must use the lobby telephone, TTY or videophone to announce your arrival.** An agency building directory is posted next to the phone. A staff member will direct you to go up one level. Follow the sign to the Commission entrance. If you need assistance entering the secure building, let the Commission know you're coming and they will meet you in the lobby.

Governor Signs Law Amendment for the Director of the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened

The job responsibilities for the Director of the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened have expanded to include direct supervision and oversight of vocational rehabilitation counselors who provide counseling to deaf, hard-of-hearing and late-deafened persons and who are within the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation within the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services.

Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §1413-E, as amended by PL 2009, c. 174, §19, is further amended to read:

§ 1413-E. Director of the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened

1. Director. The Director of the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened is responsible for administering the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened and its programs and policies, including generating and seeking out financial aid, grants and money and overseeing vocational rehabilitation counselors who provide counseling to deaf, hard-of-hearing and late-deafened persons and who are within the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation within the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services.

2. Director of the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened; staff; qualifications. The Director of the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened and the staff must be knowledgeable of the needs of deaf, hard-of-hearing and late-deafened persons and possess the ability to communicate on a meaningful basis with those persons.

Maine State Business Offices Will Be Switching Over to 711-Traditional Relay & Video Relay Services

Maine State business offices will be made accessible for Deaf and hard of hearing individuals by communicating through relay services by the end of the 2012 calendar year. The exceptions will be Deaf or hard-of-hearing State employees, the State Psychiatric Hospitals and State Correctional Facilities. The exceptions will be using traditional TTYs and/or TTYs and video phones.

In past years Maine State business offices have used TTYs, NexTalk (a computer based TTY system) and Relay services. Of all the communicating methods, Relay seems to be the most effective. Relay is 24/7, 365 days a year and it is what makes communication throughout the United States accessible for Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals.

Most State employees know how to answer Relay calls, but if they do not, they will be trained by the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened before the switch over. The exact date for the switch is to be determined.

Thank you, community members, for your continued patience and support.

**In Memory of James Levier
June 23, 1940-March 16, 2001
You are missed.**



Did You Know?

◆ Contact numbers for the Department of Labor, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors for Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

Terry Morrell, Supervisor.....207-470-7668 (VP)
Carlton Ming, Hard-of-Hearing Counselor...347-3200 (V)
Ginny Pelletier, Rehab. Assistant.....207-470-7670 (VP)
Joe Roquebecil, Deaf Counselor.....207-221-5526 (VP)
Sitara Sheikh, Deaf Counselor.....207-226-7271 (VP)

◆ WANTED, USED HEARING AIDS



Do you have a pair of hearing aids in a drawer?

Want to put them to good use? Mail them to the Penobscot Community Health Center/Warren Center. We will fix them, and pass them along to an individual in need. Penobscot Community Health Center (PCHC)/Warren Center, P.O. Box 439, Bangor, Maine 04401. Tel. 941-2850 (V); 877-542-9000 (V); 941-4932 (TTY); Web site: www.pchcbangor.org

◆ Resources - A Guide to Services for People who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened Resource guides are available!!

For your current issue, see the contact information below or see the Guide on-line at www.maine.gov/rehab/dod

Nancy Melanson
Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened
150 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

623-7958 (V)
1-888-755-0023 (TTY)
Nancy.A.Melanson@Maine.Gov

◆ Do you have trouble using the telephone? The **Telecommunications Equipment Program (TEP)** provides adaptive No-cost and Low-Cost telecommunications equipment to Maine residents who cannot use a regular telephone due to **ANY** sensory intellectual or physical disability. Contact Sarah-Jane Wing, Equipment Program Manager, at sjwing@mcdmaine.org, and Erin Sprinkle, Equipment Program Specialist at esprinkle@mcdmaine.org, or call 866-680-9674 (VP).

Civil Rights Program at the Maine Center on Deafness (MCD) promotes the rights of D/deaf, late-deafened and hard-of-hearing people throughout the state. MCD advocates for D/deaf, late-deafened and hard-of-hearing individuals whose civil rights related to hearing loss have been violated in employment, housing, federal, state and local government programs, education, or public accommodation situations. Contact the MCD Civil Rights Program staff:

Jana Roberts, Civil Rights Program Director at jroberts@mcdmaine.org, Beth Gallie, Attorney at bgallie@mcdmaine.org and Meryl Troop, Civil Rights Advocate & Staff Interpreter at mtroop@mcdmaine.org, or call 1-800-639-3884 (V/TTY); 866-347-0275 (VP).



New Hearing Aid Opportunity for Seniors

Maine's Bureau of Rehabilitation Services is excited to announce that the **Maine Center on Deafness (MCD)** can now provide a **single hearing aid** for senior citizens who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened. The hearing aids will be one option under the existing **adaptive telecommunications equipment Lending Program**. To be eligible, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- Maine resident;
- 65 years of age or older;
- Household income no greater than 220% of Federal guidelines;
- A recent audiogram showing at least a 40db loss in one or both ears;
- New client to the Lending Program;
- A preference is given to older individuals living alone.

The **Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS)** is able to purchase hearing aids for eligible Maine people who are clients of Vocational Rehabilitation Services through a cooperative purchasing agreement with the state of Minnesota. Minnesota contracts directly with hearing aid manufacturers to purchase hearing aids at greatly reduced prices. BRS has been making use of these contracts since October, 2010 and has saved the State of Maine a lot of money while providing more hearing aids to VR clients. **Maine's Communication Equipment Fund**, which is funded by monies from the Public Utilities Commission, will now allow a **limited number of hearing aids** to be distributed under this program. MCD administers the Communication Equipment program, which offers adaptive telecommunications equipment to Mainers who have difficulty using a standard phone due to their physical or intellectual disability. If hearing aids are not the solution for you, the program offers a variety of amplified and captioned telephones that may meet your needs.

For more information, contact the **Maine Center on Deafness** at info@mcdmaine.org, or call Erin Sprinkle or Sarah-Jane Wing: 1-800-639-3884 Voice/TTY. For an application contact MCD at above contact information. <http://mcdmaine.org/programs/telecommunications-equipment-program/>

The Maine Center on Deafness
helping Mainers navigate the world of hearing loss

24th Annual Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Late Deafened Conference “AGING”

June 29, 2012

Colby College, Diamond Building, Waterville, Maine

8:30 Arrival: registration, networking, display tables & snacks

9:00 **Welcome, Introduction of Conference Theme: Aging**

Meet the New Director, Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened

A Few Words from Amy Sneirson, Executive Director, Maine Human Rights Commission

The Intersection of Dementia, Deafness and Hearing Loss, Kathryn Pears

Safe Medication Disposal, Jayne Harper, Drug Overdose Prevention Educator

The Prevention Center, Maine General Medical Center

**Civil Rights for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened Older People – What Providers
Need to Know.**

12:30 Lunch in Cafeteria – Buffet with many choices!

1:30 Break-out sessions:

- **Interpreters:** Interpreting for Goold Assessments (English and ASL)
- **Signing Service Providers:** Preparing for our aging clients (English and ASL)
- **Elder Service Providers:** Meeting the needs of a Deafening Population
- **Deaf People:** What Do You Need to Age Well? (ASL)
- **People who Don't Hear as Well as They Used to:** Adjusting to your New Hearing Status (English and CART Captioning)

3:45 Evaluations, Certificate of Attendance, Adjourn

YES, you will understand EVERYTHING that's said at this event! There will be sign language interpreters, CART Captioning services (the words projected onto a screen) and Assistive Listening Devices.



Directions: Colby College, 4000 Mayflower Hill, Waterville

http://www.colby.edu/college_cs/visitor_center/directions.cfm

Campus map to Diamond Building: http://www.colby.edu/college_cs/visitor_center/campus-map.cfm

Credits and Costs: FREE – Donations Accepted

Please dress in layers – air conditioning in use.

Chair Massages available at \$1/minute, cash only

THANK YOU to our Sponsors: Maine Center on Deafness, Maine Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened, Maine Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Mobius Inc. **YOUR NAME HERE!** Contact MTroop@MCDMaine.org for sponsorship opportunities.

Information tables: You are welcome to bring brochures and information about your program, services, job openings, etc. to place on the general information table. If you would like a full table, please contact: MTroop@MCDMaine.org or phone: 1-800-639-3884, or VP: 1-866-347-0275.

Please bring your business card to drop in our basket for a prize; unwanted **hearing aids** to be delivered to the Warren Center for rehab and reuse.

24th Annual Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Late Deafened Conference “AGING” Registration

June 29, 2012, Colby College Diamond Building, Waterville, Maine

Send form to: Meryl's Conference 24, MCD, 68 Bishop St, Portland, ME 04103.

Fax: 207-797-9791 Email: info@mcdmaine.org

Name: _____

Agency or company, if any: _____

Email address: print clearly! _____

O Please add me to the MCD E-Vents Email listing of ASL and captioned events.

Other Contact information: _____



Afternoon Workshop session:

- **Interpreters:** \$55 enclosed (English and ASL)
- **Signing Service Providers**
- **Elder Service Providers**
- **Deaf People** (ASL – Sign Language only)
- **People who Don't Hear so Well** (English and CART captioning)

Special needs? _____

Display table? Yes No

Free to non-profits, \$100 for-profit Name: _____



Introducing the new Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened (DDHHLD) Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Placard!

After many years, the Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened has a new placard available for individuals with hearing loss! This placard is free and available through the DDHHLD. All you need to do is apply and provide proof of your hearing loss. This placard can be placed on your sun visor in your vehicle.

The DDHHLD would like to give credit to the Rochester, New York, Police Department and Deaf community member, Christopher Blair, who saw this new placard as an opportunity to improve communications between Deaf, hard-of-hearing individuals and law enforcement. This card will be available at law enforcement trainings so that law enforcement is familiar with it.



Chris Blair with new Placard

Contact: Nancy Melanson
Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened
150 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333
207-470-7668 Videophone
207-623-7998 TTY
207-623-7958 Voice
E-mail: Nancy.A.Melanson@Maine.gov
Web site: www.maine.gov/rehab/dod

**Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened (DDHHL D)
Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Placard Application**

Name _____ Date of Birth: _____ - _____ - _____
month day year

Mailing Address (so we can send your placard to you):

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone number (optional): _____ V/TTY/VP (circle one)

E-mail address (optional): _____

PROOF OF HEARING LOSS/DEAFNESS:

- _____ Enclosed copy of signed audiogram.
- _____ Enclosed copy of Diploma from a School for the Deaf.
- _____ I have already submitted proof of hearing loss/deafness for the following program(s):
 - _____ Telecommunications Equipment Program at MCD;
 - _____ Emergency Alert Notification System Program at MCD;
 - _____ 70% discount for my home TTY;
 - _____ Motor Vehicle Hearing Impaired Placard Program;
 - _____ Hearing Ear Dog certification from DDHHL D.

OR

I certify that the applicant has a hearing loss to the extent that customary auditory communication may be compromised.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
(physician, otolaryngologist, audiologist)

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail to: Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened, 150 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0150 Or FAX: 287-5292



MAINE COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF, HARD
OF HEARING AND LATE DEAFENED

INVITES YOU TO THE ANNUAL TEA

IN CELEBRATION OF DEAF CULTURE WEEK

ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2012

FROM 2:00 TO 4:00 IN THE AFTERNOON

AT THE STATE HOUSE
HALL OF FLAGS

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

ALICE CRANDALL JOHNSON
ALICE.C.JOHNSON@MAINE.GOV
(207) 623-7964 (V)

NANCY A. MELANSON
NANCY.A.MELANSON@MAINE.GOV
(888) 755-0023 (TTY)

TERRY L. MORRELL
TERRY.L.MORRELL@MAINE.GOV
470-7668 (VIDEOPHONE)

PLEASE RESPOND BY SEPTEMBER 10, 2012
ASL INTERPRETERS AND CART PROVIDED - PLEASE CONTACT ALICE OR NANCY
BY SEPTEMBER 1 IF YOU NEED OTHER COMMUNICATION ACCOMMODATIONS

**Deaf Culture Awards
Nomination Form**

I nominate:

For the Promoting of American Sign Language, Deaf Culture and Deaf People Award

This award is given to a person who worked to improve Maine's Deaf community through leadership by promoting American Sign Language, Deaf Culture or Deaf People.

Because: _____

I nominate:

For the Outstanding Citizenship Award

This award is given to a person who is a leader in the Deaf community.

Because: _____

I nominate:

For the Citizenship Youth Award

This award is given to a student who is a leader in school and the Deaf community.

Because: _____

I nominate:

For the Ginny Hewes Advocate for the Needs of the Deaf Community Award

This award is given to a person or organization that advocates for the needs of the Deaf, hard-of-hearing and late-deafened individuals in Maine.

Because: _____

I nominate:

For the Special Commendation Award

This award is given to an individual or agency whose activities in and with the Deaf community deserves recognition.

Because: _____

Please Return to: Alice Johnson

Nancy Melanson

Terry Morrell 207-470-7668 (VP)

FAX: 287-5292

E-mail: Alice.C.Johnson@maine.gov

E-mail: Nancy.A.Melanson@maine.gov

E-mail: Terry.L.Morrell@maine.gov

**Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened
150 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333**

By August 17, 2012

Name (optional)

If you attended the Maine School for the Deaf or Governor Baxter School for the Deaf (GBSD), counseling is available at no cost to you.

Signing mental health counselors are listed in the *Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened Resource Guide* at www.maine.gov/rehab/dod/resource_guide/clinical.shtml. They are trained to help deaf people who were abused. If you prefer non-signing counselors with a qualified interpreter, it can be arranged at no cost to you. Insurance or MaineCare will be billed first (if you attended the Maine School for the Deaf or GBSD, no money will be charged to you for co-pay or deductible).

For more information, please contact:

Department of Labor
Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened
490-7668 (VP); 623-7958 (V)
623-7957 (TTY); 1-888-755-0023 (Toll free TTY)
E-mail: Terry.L.Morrell@maine.gov

Maine Center on Deafness
866-971-9133 (VP); 797-7656 (V/TTY)
1-800-639-3884 (V/TTY); 866-347-0275 (VP)
E-mail: info@mcdmaine.org

**YOU CAN FEEL BETTER.
YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**

Maine Department of Labor
Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing
& Late Deafened
150 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0150

Return Service Requested

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 8
AUGUSTA,
MAINE

Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

Carolyn R. Lockwood, Director

Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened

The Division for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Late Deafened provides a program of services to Deaf, hard-of-hearing and late-deafened people in Maine, which includes information and referral, advocacy, and accessibility promotion.

Betsy Hopkins, Director, Vocational Rehabilitation

Tel: 623-6745 (V)

1-888-755-0023 (TTY)

E-mail: Betsy.Hopkins@maine.gov

Terry Morrell, Director

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