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4-27-2006

### Do You Really Hear Me Now?

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Bureau of Rehabilitation Services

Maine Division of Deafness

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#### Recommended Citation

Maine Department of Labor, Maine Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, and Maine Division of Deafness, "Do You Really Hear Me Now?" (2006). *Rehabilitation Services/Disability Services Documents*. 64. https://digitalmaine.com/rehab\_docs/64

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#### HELP!!!!!! I need Hearing Aids!!!!



"I said, it's the only hearing aid covered by your insurance."

Medicare, MaineCare, and most insurance companies do not cover the cost of hearing aids. A few possible resources are available in the Division of Deafness Resource Guide for Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

#### **Helpful Web Sites:**

Alpha One www.alphaonenow.com

Area Agencies on Aging (in Maine) www.maine.gov/dhhs/beas/resource/aaa.htm

Association of Late Deafened Adults Inc., www.alda.org/

Division of Deafness www.maine.gov/rehab/dod

Guide to Deafness/Hard of Hearing www.deafness.about.com

Hearing Loss (SHHH) www.hearingloss.org

Maine Center on Deafness (MCD) www.mainecenterondeafness.org

Bureau of Rehab Services Vocational Rehabilitation www.maine.gov/rehab/dvr/dvr\_vr.htm

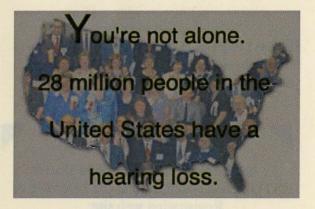
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Division of Deafness
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# DO YOU REALLY HEAR ME NOW?

Do you or someone you know have a hearing loss?

Do you sometimes feel very alone because of your hearing loss?



Has your hearing loss affected your job and finances?

Does misunderstanding conversations embarrass you?

Do you find listening to be exhausting?

Are you overly sad or anxious? This may be related to your hearing loss.

Is your hearing loss affecting your relationships?

There is help available!

APR 2 7 2000

#### **Hearing Loss? What to Do:**



If you suspect a hearing loss, see your family physician. Your physician can refer you to a hearing loss specialist if needed.

#### **Doctors**

To find an Ear, Nose and Throat Doctor (ENT) in good standing go to the Licensing & Registration web site:

www.docboard.org/me/df/mesearch.htm

or call

Suzanne LeDoux: 287-5501 (V).

#### Audiologists

To find an Audiologist in good standing go to the

Licensing & Registration web site: www.state.me.us/pfr/olr/olr\_disclaimer.htm or call Angela McAllister: 624-8630 (V).

#### Need a phone that works for you?





Maine Communications Equipment Program offers specialized telecommunications equipment (phones, pagers) to people with hearing loss in Maine for free or at reduced rates.

Maine Center on Deafness (MCD)
68 Bishop Street, Suite 3
Portland, ME 04103
E-mail: info@mcdmaine.org
Call 1-800-639-3884 (V/TTY), 797-7656
(V/TTY), or 797-9791 (FAX)

#### **Difficulty Hearing the TV?**



Most TVs made after 1993 have built in closed captioning ability. Check your TV manual for directions on how to set up closed captioning. Look for this symbol:



#### **Adjusting to Hearing Loss**

There are Counselors who understand how hearing loss impacts your life, beyond the physical aspects of having difficulty hearing. They can help you look at hearing loss in a way that is meaningful to you.

It's not just about losing the ability to hear, it's about losing **independence**, losing access to conversations around you, losing your **identity**, and sometimes losing **hope**.

It's also about redefining what you can do, how you can cope, interact, advocate for yourself, and gain strengths you may never have known you were capable of.

## You don't have to go it alone, you deserve counseling.

To find counselors familiar with hearing loss go to the clinical section of the *Resource Guide for Deaf and Hard of Hearing*.

The guide is available on the web at:

www.maine.gov/rehab/dod

or call

Division of Deafness 624-5963 (V) Or 1-888-755-0023 (TTY) and a guide will be mailed to you.

Or contact:

Community Counseling Center 874-1030 (V) 874-1043 (TTY) www.commcc.org