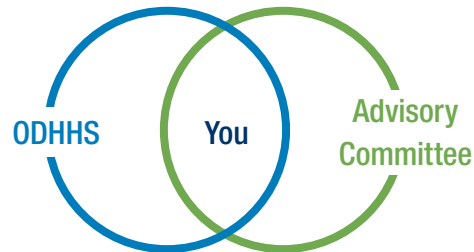


Our advisory committee needs you!

Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Advisory Committee

The committee advises the Oregon Department of Human Services on how to best make agency programs and services available and accessible to individuals who are Deaf and hard of hearing. The committee includes people who are:

- Deaf
- DeafBlind/Deaf-blind
- Hard of hearing
- Late Deafened
- Deaf or hard of hearing with additional disabilities
- Family members
- Professionals
- State and local government representatives



The advisory committee meets at least six times a year

Meetings are open to the public and accessible to all. American Sign Language interpreters, Communication Access Real-time Translation (CART) and an FM system are provided at every meeting. Other accommodations are available through our website (www.odhhs.com) with two business days' notice.

Interested in participating?
Go to www.odhhs.com and follow the committee link to learn more.



Contact ODHHS

-  www.odhhs.com
-  [Facebook.com/ODHHSP](https://www.facebook.com/ODHHSP)
-  ODHHS.INFO@dhsosha.state.or.us

Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (ODHHS)



You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer by contacting ODHHS through www.odhhs.com or by emailing ODHHS.INFO@dhsosha.state.or.us. We accept all relay calls.

A resource for all Oregonians to improve the quality of life for Deaf and hard of hearing people and their families



What ODHHS offers and who we serve

Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services staff offers advice, support, advocacy and referrals to anyone exploring how to best meet the needs of Deaf and hard of hearing people in Oregon.

Our staff includes Deaf and hard of hearing people who draw on their personal experience and expertise to:

- Connect Deaf and hard of hearing people, their friends and families with resources, tools and information
- Provide outreach and group training
- Work closely with stakeholders from around Oregon, especially our advisory committee, to provide the highest quality services.



Why ODHHS exists

Deaf and hard of hearing people face issues that are not well understood by others — often, not even by family members and friends. Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services advises, supports and makes referrals to help people deal with issues such as the following:

- Deaf, DeafBlind, Deaf-blind, hard of hearing people, and those who have additional disabilities face barriers in education, employment, health care, legal services, public events, civic activities and access to public services.
- Parents of Deaf and hard of hearing children try to decide what is best while often getting conflicting, incomplete and unclear guidance about their children's language and educational options.
- According to the National Deaf Center on Postsecondary Outcomes, Deaf and hard of hearing adults experience high rates of unemployment and underemployment*.

* See www.nationaldeafcenter.org/sites/default/files/Deaf%20Employment%20Report_final.pdf.

- Research by Frank Lin, MD, PhD, and others at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine found when people who are aging experience hearing loss, they are at significant risk for social isolation[†], poor health and dementia[‡].



[†] See <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0194599813518021>.

[‡] See www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/the-hidden-risks-of-hearing-loss.



ODHHS works closely with stakeholders from around Oregon, especially our advisory committee, to provide the highest quality services.

