Deaf, Inc.’s mission is to inspire people to achieve personal and professional goals through accessible programs and services. We build bridges by increasing communication access and awareness across communities.

Heidi Reed has retired as Commissioner from Massachusetts Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MCDHH) in January of 2019.

Deaf, Inc. appreciates her time, energy and dedication. Thank you for your work in providing accessible communication, education, and support to individuals who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Late Deafened and Deaf Blind.

Steven A. Florio has been appointed MCDHH Commissioner beginning on February 17, 2019.
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Constituents’ Annual Day
Wednesday, May 15, 2019
10 am – 12 pm
Great Hall, State House
Boston, MA

A gathering of Statewide Advisory Council members, community members, legislators, and state agency directors at the State House, Boston Program

Greetings from Legislative and State Agency Leaders
Presentations
Annual Awards

For more information and/or to request close vision/tactile interpreters, contact Ami Hangan. The deadline for communication access request is April 15, 2019) Ami.Hanigan@massmail.state.ma.us

Afternoon Legislative Visits:

Meet with your legislators to discuss community concerns and bills of interest. Schedule your visits in advance. Find legislators’ names and contact information malegislature.gov

To request communication access for Legislator visits – Contact ADA coordinator Carl Richardson at the State House by email: carl.richardson@state.ma.us or by phone at 857-400-5502. Requests are due by April 26, 2019.

This event is run & organized by MCDHH Statewide Advisory Council
FREE ASL TAX SERVICES

TAX DAYS 2019
Location: DEAF, Inc. Boston Office
215 Brighton Avenue
Allston, MA 02134

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<td>3/6/2019</td>
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Need support filing your 2018 Taxes? Come to DEAF, Inc.!

To make an appointment with a tax preparer, contact:
ASLTax@deafinconline.org, (617) 505–4823 VP or (617) 254-4041 TTY/V
**OLD MEDICARE CARD**  **NEW MEDICARE CARD**

Do you have your new Medicare card? Did not get it?

No worries! You can call Medicare at **1-800-633-4227**, or go online at www.MyMedicare.gov.

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**Text To 911 Now Available**

Starting January 2019, in Massachusetts, you can now text 911.

"Call if you can, text if you can’t"

Emergency call 911 — 1st Best VP, TTY, Voice
2nd Best Text

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**Social Security Announces 2.8 % Benefit Increase for 2019**

Due to the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), there will be a 2.8 % increase to Social Security and SSI in 2019.

Social Security will increase starting January 2019
SSI will increase starting December 31, 2018

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**Fuel Assistance**

Do you need help paying for heat? Contact your IL staff for help applying.
Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Late-Deafened Resources

DEAF, Inc. can help you get equipment for you and your home. Things like hearing aids, pocket-talkers, TV listening systems, visual fire alarms, doorbells, and alarms to wake up.

If you would like to learn more about which device is right for you, or know where to get this and other equipment, or if you need financial assistance, contact us.

For your FREE equipment contact your IL specialist OR If you are a community member contact: Noemi Paz Independent Living Program Administrative Assistant: npaz@deafinconline.org; (617) 206-3292 VP; (617) 254-4041 V

Deaf Seniors of America  www. Deafseniorsofamerica.org
National Association of the Deaf  www. NAD.org
Deaf Women United  www. DWU.org
MA State Assoc. of the Deaf  www. MSassdeaf.org

Hearing Loss Association of America (HLA)
National: www.hearingloss.org

Local Chapters:
Boston, MA  http://www.hearinglossboston.org
Meets at Watertown Free Public Library, 123 Main St. Watertown
Contact: Betsy Anderson: betucansea@gmail.com

North Of Boston Chapter  (3rd Wednesday of the Month at 11am)
Meets at Lucius Beebe Memorial Library (2nd Fl. Treasurer's Room), 345 Main St. Wakefield, MA
Contact: JoAnn Lacock  at jlpisces@aol.com  603-216-2381

Plymouth, MA  (BI-MONTHLY)  www.hearinglossplymouth.org
Meets at Plymouth Public Library, 132 South Street, Plymouth, MA
Contact: Sandy Spekman  at sspekman@gmail.com

Central Massachusetts Chapter  https://hearinglosscentralma.wordpress.com/
Meets at Northborough Public Library, 24 Main St, Northboro
Contact: info@hearinglosscentralma.org  for more information

Association of Late Deafened Adults (ALDA)
National:  www/alda.org
Contact:  info@alda.org

Boston Chapter  www.aldaboston.org
Contact:  Francine Stieglitz  at fstiegl@bu.edu

ALDA Seacoast NH
Contact:  Laura Sinclair  at ALDAseacoastNH@gmail.com

Cochlear Implant Groups
Bionic Ear Association

Med-El
HearPeers Community—online support
http://www.medel.com/us/show/index/id/557/titel/HearPeers

Minuteman Implant Club  www. NECISUPPORT.ORG
Contact: Terri Charles at terri_charles@verizon.net
Cold and Flu Prevention

**DEAF, Inc.’s Mission is to Inspire People to Achieve Personal and Professional Goals through Accessible Programs and Services. We build bridges by increasing communication access and awareness across communities.**

**Enjoy the Cape and Islands Newsletter!**

Want to get this newsletter in email? Want to help us save on postage costs & reduce paper waste? Tell us! info@deafinconline.org

Sign up online: www.deafinconline.org

Friend us on Facebook
www.facebook/deafincma

- Stay at home when you are sick
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze
- Cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hand
- Put used tissues in the waste basket