

## JOIN the Michigan Coalition for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People

Agency/Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Official Representative \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail checks payable to: **Michigan Coalition for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People**

2929 Covington Court Suite 200, Lansing, MI 48912-4939

### Membership

\$100

January 1 through  
December 31

E-Michigan Deaf & Hard of  
Hearing People

[www.deafhh.org](http://www.deafhh.org)

Web sponsors receive  
a logo and link on the  
most popular web site for deaf and  
hard of hearing people in Michigan.

Contact us for more information:  
[info@michdhh.org](mailto:info@michdhh.org)

For more information, to join, or  
to bring an issue of concern to the  
Coalition's attention, contact the  
Coalition Chairperson at:

**Michigan Coalition**  
for Deaf & Hard of Hearing People

c/o MADHH  
2929 Covington Court, Suite 200  
Lansing, Michigan 48912-4939  
517-487-0066 V/TTY  
517-487-2586 Fax  
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**MICHIGAN**  
**COALITION**  
FOR DEAF AND  
HARD OF HEARING  
PEOPLE

*A statewide coalition of  
agencies and organizations  
working together to improve  
access and services to  
Michigan's Deaf and Hard  
of Hearing people.*

## **How the Coalition Began**

In 1985, the Michigan Association for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MADHH, formerly MADHS) hosted a meeting for professionals and leaders working in the Deaf community. The meeting was organized to develop a unified voice representing the needs of Michigan's Deaf constituency. Together, this core group of professionals identified and prioritized issues facing people with hearing loss. With needs identified, MADHH then called a meeting of all agencies and organizations chartered to serve Michigan's Deaf citizens. Thirteen organizations and agencies joined together to form the Michigan Coalition for the Deaf.

In 1991, the Coalition changed its name to include the hard of hearing population in advocacy initiatives, becoming the Michigan Coalition for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People.

Today the Coalition is comprised of more than 40 agencies and organizations, committed to advocating for and with people with hearing loss throughout Michigan.

## **How the Coalition is Supported**

The work of the Coalition is carried out through the volunteer efforts and annual dues of members, and through administrative funding and support from Michigan Association for Deaf and Hard of Hearing. MADHH is a statewide collaborative agency that relies on financial support from service clubs, grants, local United Way agencies and donations.

### **PURPOSE**

To provide an effective statewide mechanism in which access and services for deaf and hard of hearing people can be enhanced through advocacy, program and resource development.

## **How the Coalition Serves**

The Coalition actively pursues systems change to better the lives of Michigan's deaf and hard of hearing citizens. We are proud of the successes achieved through our collaboration:

- Develop and maintain E-Michigan Deaf and Hard of Hearing People web site: [www.michdhh.org](http://www.michdhh.org)
- Newborn screening for hearing loss in all Michigan hospitals and follow-up
- Amendment of Michigan's Interpreter law
- Restoration of Medicaid funding for adult hearing aids during Michigan's budget crisis.
- Advocacy for improved access to substance abuse and mental health treatment for deaf and hard of hearing people
- Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network (CEPIN) Training for emergency responders and people with hearing loss
- Accessible telecommunication: Michigan Relay Center, CapTel, and emergency alerting systems
- Educational choice and access, and the right of parents and students to select the appropriate educational options

## **Who is the Coalition?**

Members of the Coalition are service providers in the fields of:

- Mental Health
- Special Education
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Social Services
- Telecommunications
- Emergency Response
- Education
- Audiology
- Early Intervention
- Interpreter and CART Services, and
- Consumer Organizations

Membership is open to any agency, organization, or business with interest in the concerns of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.

Current members are listed on E-Michigan Deaf and Hard of Hearing web site, and receive all Coalition notices, minutes, committee updates and issue papers. Members also benefit from the support and networking that collaboration achieves.

Quarterly meetings are at locations around Michigan and full communication access is provided. The Coalition utilizes committees to identify and implement projects.

### **MISSION**

The Coalition will provide a forum to promote networking, communication, information sharing, collaboration, and service delivery through the mutual efforts of diverse constituent members.