

APPROPRIATIONS FOR DOD-DB-HH

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GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

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DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITY OUR COMMUNITY – YOUR CONSTITUENTS

- In Michigan, according to Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing there are estimated 1.2 million deaf and hard of hearing residents.
- Approximately 10% of the population have some type of hearing loss. Hearing damage numbers increasing due to technology.
- Nationally 7th in population – 48th in services

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Name	Date	Authority	Department	Staff	Purpose
Division of Deaf and Deafened	1937	P.A. 72	Department of Labor and Industry	Deaf director	Jobs
Division on Deafness	1988	P.A. 434	Michigan Department of Labor – Commission on Handicapper Concerns	Director and 7 Staff including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpreter/Interpreter Coordinator • Client Specialist • Staff Interpreter • Hard of Hearing Specialist • Secretary 	“to protect and assist all hearing impaired persons, with special emphasis on Deaf persons” Established 13-member Governor-appointed Advisory Council.
Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing	2002	Executive order #2002-10	Family Independence Agency	Director and 4 Staff including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights Representative • Interpreter Coordinator • Secretary 	(unchanged)
Division on Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing	2014	Executive Order #2014-10	Michigan Department of Civil Rights	(unchanged)	Civil Rights

NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

- Deaf-Blind Services staff person
- Cultural Sensitivity Training for Employers and State Government
- Community Advocacy
- Employment Advocacy
- Senior Services
- Youth Services

TOP 5 STATE BUDGETS FOR DEAF/HOH

- Virginia - \$15,859,138 *99% from TRS surcharges
- North Carolina - \$13,000,000 *99% from TRS surcharges
- Minnesota - \$6,800,000 *24% from TRS surcharges
- Washington - \$5,624,971 *100% from TRS surcharges
- Massachusetts - \$5,500,000 *State funds

See 2009 Survey of the State Commissions, Divisions and Councils for more details

TOP 5 SERVICES PROVIDED

- Information and Referral
- Advocacy
- Deaf Awareness/Orientation/Training
- Technical Assistance
- Interpreter Referral

See 2009 Survey of the State Commissions, Divisions and Councils for more details

COMPARE WITH MINNESOTA PREMIERE SERVICES

- Budget of approximately \$6 million
- \$2 million of it is for grants for services
- Have total of 43 staff: Public Policy Coordinator, Education Outreach Director, Technology Access Specialist and Office Coordinator
- Regional offices serve as physical point of entry/contact
 - Regional managers, Mental Health Director, Program Development Supervisor, Telephone Equipment Administrator, Program Planner, Staff Interpreters, Administrative Assistants, Program Consultants, TED Specialists, Deaf-Blind Specialist, Office Liaison and Mental Health Specialists.
 - Involved in advocacy, consultation, training, information referral, client support, outreach, direct mental health services, Telecommunication Equipment Program Specialists, and technology lab for clients or consumers.

OTHER MIDWEST STATES

- Illinois – Staff: (8) Assistant Director, Personnel Manager, Legal Counsel, Program Coordinator, Project Coordinator, Interpreter Coordinator and Executive Secretary.
- Indiana – Staff: (24) Program Director, Program Consultants, Counselors, Secretaries
- Kentucky – Staff: (13) Executive Staff Assistant, Internal Policy Analyst, Interpreter Referral Specialist, Information Coordinators (2), Executive Secretary, Executive Interpreter, Interpreter II, Network Analyst, Document Processing Specialist, Administrative Specialist, Information Office Supervisor.

MICHIGAN DEAF VS. BLIND SERVICES

- Annual Budget
 - DODHH \$785,600 (FY2015)
 - MCB \$23,567,722 (FY2012)
- Population Comparison
 - Blind 199,400 (2012 National Federation for the Blind)
 - Hearing Loss 866,879 (2005 Census Report)
- Operating Dollar Per Person Comparison
 - Blind \$118.19
 - Hearing Loss \$0.91
 - Difference \$117.29

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

- DOD-DB-HH does not have capacity to support community
 - Move DOD-DB-HH entirely to LARA
 - LARA has greater capacity
 - LARA is more geared towards efficiency
 - Other minority commissions have also moved to LARA
 - Move ASL interpreter licensing to LARA
 - Taking too much staff time away from community needs
 - LARA responsible for licensing of other professionals
 - Increase budget for DOD-DB-HH to add staff