

# Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

## MISSION

The Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) represents the Governor in furtherance of the State's goal of promoting equal access for all Marylanders by providing expertise that enhances the general welfare of Maryland's deaf and hard of hearing residents.

## VISION

All Maryland citizens who are deaf or hard of hearing will have equal and full access to resources, services, and opportunities for participation in all aspects of community life.

## KEY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

**Goal 1. All deaf and hard of hearing citizens will have equal and full access to state programs, resources, and services to fully participate in community life.**

**Obj. 1.1** Coordinate with federal, State, and local governments regarding policy issues and program development.

Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
Number of governmental entities involved in coordination of services to the deaf and hard of hearing through contact and/or involvement with ODHH	80	111	115	131	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Obj. 1.2** Serve as an information clearinghouse on the delivery of services from State agencies to Maryland's deaf and hard of hearing population.

Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
Maryland Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program, MDH: Number identified with hearing loss	66	81	75	43	N/A	N/A	N/A
Springfield Hospital Center, MDH: Deaf unit annual admissions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Telecommunication Access of Maryland, DoIT: Telephone assessments provided	643	241	252	450	543	550	575
Maryland School for the Deaf, MSDE: Number of students enrolled	491	469	445	459	357	375	400
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, MSDE: Number of students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) with deaf/hard of hearing designation code (excluding Maryland School for the Deaf students)	613	593	583	575	158	165	175
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, MSDE: Number of families with an Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) with a hearing loss designation code	55	54	48	58	46	50	55
<sup>1</sup> Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, MSDE: Number of children served through the Hearing Aid Loan Bank	23	N/A	N/A	16	12	15	17

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Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
Maryland Department of Disabilities: Instances of information and referral related to deaf/hard of hearing services and resources	15	23	26	24	23	25	30
Maryland Commission on Civil Rights: Number of complaints filed by deaf/hard of hearing constituents	11	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Department of Human Services: Number of deaf/hard of hearing children and youth in care in the child welfare system	30	N/A	21	36	N/A	N/A	N/A
Division of Rehabilitation Services, MSDE: Number of deaf/hard of hearing individuals determined eligible for services	196	148	221	N/A	269	275	300
Division of Rehabilitation Services, MSDE: Number of deaf/hard of hearing individuals served	1,364	1,314	1,254	N/A	1,315	1,325	1,350
deaf/hard of hearing individuals who achieve an employment outcome	60	85	63	N/A	76	80	85
Maryland Deaf Culture Digital Library: Number of website visits	5,478	3,415	9,283	20,000	18,868	20,000	22,000

**Goal 2. Maryland citizens will be aware of the needs and issues affecting deaf and hard of hearing individuals.**

**Obj. 2.1** Maintain levels of information and referrals to private and public sectors each year.

Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
Instances of information and referral	400	231	351	311	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Obj. 2.2** Increase awareness of ODHH's activities and initiatives that benefit Maryland residents.

Performance Measures	2020 Act.	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Est.	2026 Est.
Number of email subscribers	1,697	1,344	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of Facebook page followers	5,424	5,797	6,179	6,207	247	300	400
Number of Instagram followers	1,050	1,147	1,172	1,237	1,399	1,500	2,000
Number of Twitter followers	1,297	1,439	1,523	1,237	1,576	2,000	2,200
Number of ODHH website visits	42,386	29,470	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of ODHH YouTube video views	36,619	35,077	8,211	5,578	51	100	150

**NOTES**

<sup>1</sup> Most recent actual year data is an estimate.