

Communication Tips: Hard of Hearing Person to a Hearing Person

Struggling to communicate can be frustrating for a person who is Hard of Hearing. Putting into practice these helpful hints can help prevent or reduce those feelings.

***For more information,
contact a DSDHH
Regional Center
(800) 851-6099 (v)
or if Deaf
(919) 890-0859 (vp)***



- Pick the best spot to communicate by avoiding areas that are poorly lit.
- Plan for difficult listening situations in advance to reduce possible problems.
- Tell others how to best communicate with you.
- Pay attention to the speaker.
- Look for visual clues to what is being said.
- Ask for written clues of key words, if needed.
- Provide feedback that you understand or fail to understand.
- Do not bluff.
- Arrange for frequent breaks if discussions or meetings are long.
- Let the speaker know how well he or she is doing.
- Try not to interrupt too often.
- Set realistic goals about what you can expect to understand.

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Department of Health and Human Services • Aldona Z. Wos, M.D., Secretary
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