Programs, activities and employment opportunities in the Illinois Department of Human Services are open and accessible to any individual or group without regard to age, sex, race, sexual orientation, disability, ethnic origin or religion. The department is an equal opportunity employer and practices affirmative action and reasonable accommodation programs.

DHS 4220 (N-02-15)
Mental Health Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Printed by the Authority of the State of Illinois. 3000 copies  P.O.#15-0823
Roles of the Division of Mental Health’s Statewide Coordinator for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

- Consult and advocate for mental health services for children and adults who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind or Late-Deafened throughout Illinois
- Advise and consult with Illinois Mental Health System regarding specific concerns or issues
- Educate communities and service providers regarding available mental health resources and services
- Provide training and information to the community as a whole, as well as to community service providers to facilitate their understanding of the challenges faced by those with hearing loss and mental health issues

Key Services Offered By the Division of Mental Health

- Support in the Community
- Group and Individual Counseling/Therapy
- Employment program called Individual Placement and Support (I.P.S.)
- Crisis Help
- Housing Referrals
- Peer Support

The Expectation is Recovery!

The vision is that all persons with mental illnesses recover and are able to participate fully in life in the community.

Mental Health and Hearing Loss

Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health (IDHS/DMH) requires their funded community agencies to provide reasonable accommodations to consumers who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, and Late-Deafened; this includes communication accessibility.

Reasonable accommodations can include an ASL and/or deaf interpreters; tactile signing; printed materials in large print; FM system or personal amplifier; Communication Access RealTime Translation (CART); etc.

Several community health centers are certified to provide mental health services to people with hearing loss.

Chicago Read Mental Health Center, one of the Department’s state psychiatric hospitals, is fully accessible to serving persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.