

Deaf Association



Interpreters

Interpreters aid communication between deaf and hearing people through the use of New Zealand Sign Language and English or Maori. The Deaf Association asks government agencies and other organisations to pay for the use of interpreter services. Contact the Deaf Association to book a Sign Language Interpreter. You will have to pay to use an interpreter for private parties and weddings.



Needs Interviews

Help is provided for deaf people who wish to make changes in their lives. Needs are selected at an interview. Needs may include income (wages/money), accommodation (where you will live), well being (health/happiness) and personal (own), educational (learning) or vocational (job) aims.



Service Co-ordination

After the Needs Interview the service co-ordinator and deaf person develop a service plan to meet identified needs. This may include help for the deaf person to access existing services, or the service co-ordinator may develop specific services and/or training programmes to meet particular needs.



Equipment

Equipment assessments are another part of the service provided by service co-ordinators who are registered assessors. Deaf people can apply for equipment if they meet the rules set by the Ministry of Health. You may apply for fax machines, alarm clocks, telephone devices for the deaf (TTY), baby alarms and flashing lights for the door.

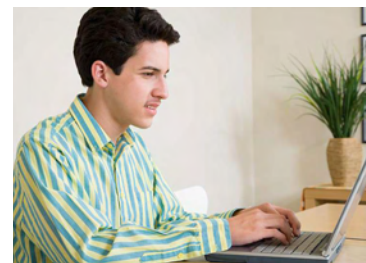
Information and Advice

Information that is easily available to the hearing community is often not accessible to deaf people. Local offices provide a range of specific information and advice on topics such as health and civil rights, and run information evenings for the Deaf community.



Vocational (Job) Training Programmes

These programmes are developed in answer to individual and/or community needs interviews. They may be on a one-to-one, group, local or regional basis. Programmes cover 'Personal Development' (improving your skills) and 'Employment Preparation' (getting ready for a job), as well as training in specific skills, such as literacy and computers. These programmes are open to all deaf people.



Support in Employment

This is to support Deaf people looking for work and to help them stay in their job. First the Deaf person has an interview with a Deaf Association Employment Consultant. A personal plan is made and a job search plan is designed to help get a job.



Adult Community Education

Adult Community Education programs and courses are developed to meet the Deaf community's learning needs.



<http://www.deaf.co.nz/index.php>