

PRESS RELEASE #1

The EXPO During the Hearing Loss Awareness Month Launched in May 2009

(Providence, R.I.) – The Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RICDHH) has proclaimed that it will observe the Hearing Loss Awareness and Better Hearing and Speech Month in May 2009. The Hearing Loss Awareness Month is to promote the health of hearing loss and to recognize the resources that support people with hearing loss to enhance their high quality of life through education, technology, and advocacy. Over 90,000 people living in Rhode Island have various levels of hearing status and the majority is made up of hard of hearing people.

Hearing Loss Awareness EXPO, which is part of the Hearing Loss Awareness Month, is collaboratively hosted by the RICDHH, Hearing Loss Association of Rhode Island (HLA-RI), Adaptive Telephone Equipment Loan (ATEL), and RI Hamilton Relay. The EXPO is offering most latest, educational and informative materials that benefit hard of hearing population.

The Hearing Loss Awareness EXPO will be held on May 14, 2009 at the Atrium at the Department of Administration building in Providence, RI from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. The Expo will have exhibitors to share information with the public that benefit hard of hearing people. The exhibitors have confirmed to participate are as follows:

- 1) Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- 2) Hearing Loss Association of Rhode Island.
- 3) Rhode Island Hamilton Relay
- 4) Adaptive Telephone Equipment Loan
- 5) Rhode Island Chapter of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- 6) Rhode Island School for the Deaf
- 7) Sprint Relay Service
- 8) Purple Communications
- 9) SorensonVRS
- 10) Rhode Island Disability Law Center
- 11) Tech ACCESS
- 12) Allied Court Reporters, Inc.
- 13) Office of Rehabilitation Services
- 14) The Gift of Hearing Foundation
- 15) The Cochlear Implant Group

- 16) Rhode Island Hearing Assessment Program
- 17) and a few more.

It is absolutely free. Please feel free to stop by and get information about hearing loss and please do remember that this event is not just for you but also, you may want to help your relative members or neighbors or co-workers who might benefit from this information. Please do come!

About RI CDHH

Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RI CDHH) is advocating, coordinating, and service providing entity committed to promoting an environment in which the Deaf and Hard of Hearing constituents in Rhode Island are afforded an equal opportunity in all aspects of their lives. The RI CDHH provides direct services in its operation of Sign Language Interpreter Referral Service, a lending library of books and videotapes totally related to the deafness, and as a clearinghouse of information and referral on all topics related to hearing loss. Contact RI CDHH Main Office - (401) 222-1205 (TTY & Videophone), (401) 222-1204 (Voice) or Email: CDHH@CDHH.RI.GOV.