

“One of our primary short term goals pertains to "first responders" in an emergency such as police departments, fire departments, EMT's (ambulance), the Emergency Management Agency, 911 centers, domestic violence services, substance abuse clinics and many others

When these services are needed, it is imperative that you have immediate communication access. However, many of these first responders are not prepared to provide you with communication access.

Our goal is to train and educate these first responders how best to communicate with deaf and hard of hearing people. We will include deaf and hard of hearing people in trainings and drills to ensure that they have total access to communication during a real emergency.

If a hurricane were to hit Rhode Island emergency alert and notification system will be in place for deaf and hard of hearing consumers. There will be captions on TV and messages sent out through pagers and other types of communication technology.

In order for this to be successful, many agencies and individuals will need to be coordinated into a cohesive network.”

(Translated in American Sign Language by Steven A. Florio)



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