

ODHH Monthly Bulletin

September 2012

A message from Director Lisa Kornberg

Though summer is coming to a close, September is an exciting and busy month here in Maryland and across the nation. The month of September is National Preparedness Month, a great time to make sure you and your family are ready for an emergency. Are you prepared? Then take the "Maryland Prepares" Social Media Challenge sponsored by the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

The last week in September is also Deaf Awareness Week, which gives us an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of Deaf people in Maryland and around the country. In recognition of Deaf Awareness Week, we will be hosting a Town Hall Meeting at the Hearing and Speech Agency on September 27th and participating in the National Aquarium's Deaf Awareness Day on September 29th. What will you do to celebrate?

Finally, each year ODHH hosts interns from area colleges and universities. This fall, we are pleased to have two students from the Towson University's Deaf Studies Department working in the office. Please join us in welcoming Neal and Jessica to the ODHH team. If you are interested in interning with ODHH, please [contact Julie Anne Schafer](#), our Deputy Director.

Enjoy!

-Lisa

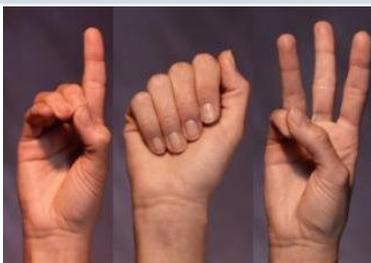
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Governor O'Malley Proclaims September 23-29 Deaf Awareness Week in Maryland



Governor Martin O'Malley has proclaimed September 23-29, 2012 as Deaf Awareness Week. The proclamation calls upon all Marylanders to observe the week and recognize the abilities and potential of our fellow citizens who are Deaf.

"In Maryland, we are united in our belief in the dignity of every individual," said Governor O'Malley. "It is in the interest of



Maryland Residents Can Now Register to Vote Online!

To [submit your registration electronically](#), you must provide either the last four digits of your US Social Security number or a valid Maryland-issued state ID number or driver's license number. If you provide a social security number, it will be used as your official voter registration signature. If you provide Maryland-issued ID, the signature on file with the MVA will become your official voter registration signature.

If you do not have the required ID or if you do not wish to submit your application online, you may complete [this form](#) and then print out your application at any point in the process. You will need to complete the information by hand, sign the application, and mail it to your local board of elections.

Quick Links

[ODHH Website](#)



the State to work together to ensure that those who are Deaf have equal and full access to resources, services, and opportunities for participation in all aspects of community life."

The purpose of Deaf Awareness Week, also known as International Week of the Deaf, is to celebrate the culture, heritage, and language unique to Deaf people of the world. The intent of the week is to show the diversity, accomplishments, and potential of the Deaf community. As a part of Deaf Awareness Week, Marylanders are encouraged to increase awareness, understanding, and support for individuals who are Deaf.

Be sure to check out our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter for more information about the week's events. If you are having an event for Deaf Awareness Week, please let us know so we can help spread the word!

Be Ready! September is National Preparedness Month



September 2012 marks the ninth annual National Preparedness Month, sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the US Department of Homeland Security. One goal of Homeland Security is to educate the public about how to prepare for emergencies, including natural disasters, mass casualties, biological and chemical threats, radiation emergencies, and terrorist attacks.

During September, emergency preparedness will focus on:

- Home and family preparedness, including pets, older Americans, and individuals with disabilities and special needs ([Ready America](#))
- Back-to-school ([Ready Kids](#))
- Business preparedness ([Ready Business](#))
- Preparación en Español ([Listo America](#))

Throughout September there will be activities across the country to promote emergency preparedness. More than 3,000 organizations - national, regional, and local public and private organizations - are supporting emergency preparedness efforts and encouraging all Americans to take action.

"Maryland Prepares" Social Media Challenge



The idea for this challenge came from Washington State's Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (@cresa) "30 Days, 30 Ways Challenge" and their creativity in making preparedness interactive.

Who Can Play?

We encourage everyone to participate in this challenge. Winners will be chosen from Maryland.

How Do I Play?

Every day in September a different challenge will be posted for you to view. You can participate on Facebook or Twitter.

- [Youtube Channel](#)
- [Facebook Page: Maryland Emergency Management Agency](#)
- [Twitter: @mdmema](#)
- [Gmail](#)

At the end of the month, the points and names of participants will be tallied into a spreadsheet. Make sure you use the same name for each challenge

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ODHH on the Move

[Maryland Advisory Council on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Quarterly Meeting](#)

September 11
9 AM- Noon
Dept. of Transportation
Headquarters
Hanover, MD

[HLA- Baltimore September Morning Meeting](#)

September 18
10:30 AM- Noon
Hearing and Speech
Agency
Baltimore, MD

[HASA Deaf Awareness Week Celebration](#)

September 23-29
[See the HASA website for a full list of events.](#)

[ODHH Town Hall Meeting](#)

September 27
6:30 PM- 8 PM
Hearing and Speech
Agency
Baltimore, MD

so your points can be tallied under the same name at the end of the month. If you are participating on twitter, please use the hashtag #MDPrepares with your answer.

The daily challenge will be posted every morning at 9:00 am Eastern Standard Time. Each challenge is worth one point unless stated otherwise. Some challenges will be worth more points than others so even if you miss a few, you can make up some points by participating in other daily challenges. Not all questions have a "correct" answer and will vary person to person; however, some questions have specific answers we will be looking for as responses. All questions will close for participation on September 30th at midnight.

Disclaimer: All inappropriate comments/posts will not be counted for the challenge and will be deleted immediately from the site.

What Will I Win?

The prize for the person(s) with the most points will be a tour of our State Emergency Operations Center.

Questions? Comments? Contact:

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Deaf Awareness Day at the National Aquarium

September 29
9 AM- Noon
National Aquarium
Baltimore, MD