



Brought to you by the Holy Family Health Ministry

September is Deaf Awareness Month

NATIONAL DEAF AWARENESS MONTH



DID YOU
KNOW..?

- Sign Language does not represent spoken language and has its own grammar
- Sign Language is not universal. Different Countries have different Sign Language
- Not all deaf people wear hearing aids or use Sign Language to communicate
- Deaf people can read, write, drive, work etc... as many other people
- A lack of hearing doesn't mean lack of intelligence

And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. [Matthew 9:35](#)





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How can you be more deaf aware?



Don't shout.

It's uncomfortable for hearing aid users and appears aggressive

Avoid environments with excess noise and choose somewhere with **good lighting**



Make sure you have the **person's attention** before you start speaking

Speak clearly, not too slow or too fast. Don't cover your mouth



Don't keep repeating

the same word, explain what you are trying to say differently



Maintain **eye contact**



- General tips -	
Make sure you have the deaf person's attention before you start speaking	Don't place yourself too far away or too close
Use short and simple sentences	Avoid using complex terms
Use normal facial expressions and gestures	Don't exaggerate your lip movements
Speak one at a time if in a group	Avoid dark places and eating + talking
Ask if you are communicating O.K.	Be patient and don't give up

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