

New Priorities for 2017-2019:

#1: Advocate for Legislative Bills. When bill being proposed, many community members are not contacting their legislators about specific bills that the Deaf and Hard of Hearing need to improve their lives in the state of Missouri.

Result: Workshop provided by Kim Bianco-Majeri in St. Louis on September 29, 2018.

#2: Missouri Businesses hire more Deaf and Hard of Hearing so that employment can be better for us. Many Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals are having difficulty finding jobs. There are only 47% of Deaf and Hard of Hearing employed in Missouri, compared to hearing people, there are 73% employed. (Founded by National Deaf Center on Postsecondary outcomes).

Result: Action has been done by NAD. There is information on NAD website showing how to approach hearing people to understand deaf and hard of hearing ability to work.

#3: Involve with VRI and possibly sue hospitals. MoAD to get involved with issues regarding VRI. Many hospitals do not understand Missouri's Certification System and understanding what VRI is needed for.

Result: Holly Ketchum provided this workshop at Deaf Empowerment Symposium on October 20, 2018.

#4: Multigenerational Conference with MCDHH. MoAD to work with MCDHH to hold a joint conference in 2019. (October)

Result: Missouri Interpreter's Conference (MCDHH) has agreed to collaborate with MoAD Conference with the Memo of Understanding (MOU) agreement signed.

#5: Provide ADA Workshop. MoAD to provide American with Disability Act (ADA) workshop to have Deaf and Hard of Hearing to understand the current and depth of ADA law and possible to proposal changes in current ADA law.

Result: Failed to provide this workshop.

#6: L.E.A.D. -K accepted as a standard in early education. Promote the benefit and needs for Lead-K in Missouri schools that offer early education programs.

Result: President Walker and Treasurer Jennifer Rivera-Buckman agreed to set this up and attended the LEAD-K Summit in California, and is in process of getting the LEAD-K bill submit to Legislative this fall of 2019.

#7: Legislative Education. Collaborating on expanded legislative descriptions about tax payers, sales taxes in levels, bills, contact legislators and websites, newspapers, internet and TV local news.

Result: This priority related to Priority #1 and has already provided workshop.