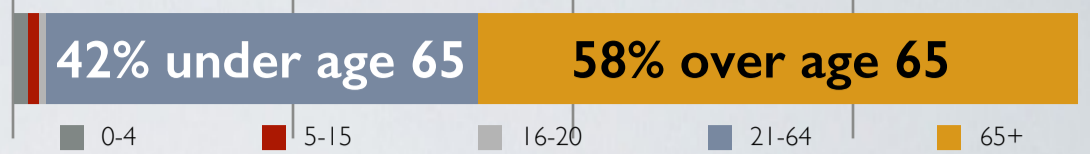


Oregon Office of Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing Services: Senate Bill 449

186,117 Oregonians with Hearing Loss: Age Range Distribution [1]



Evidence of Social, Educational & Employment Disparities [1]

Poverty

- **Twice** as many Deaf citizens living in poverty as the non-disabled population (26.2 % compared to 14.1%)

Highest Educational Attainment

- **Half** the rate of BA/BS degrees among the Deaf community (15.8% compared to 32.1%)

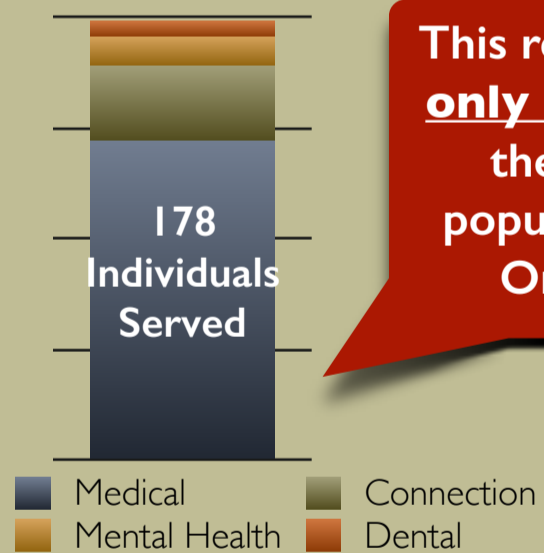
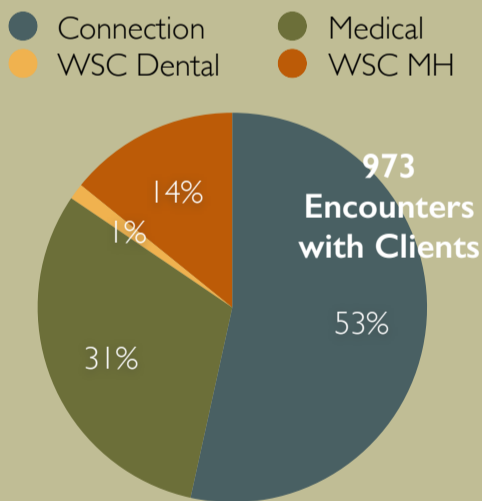
Employment Rate

- **20%** less employed than non-disabled population (53% compared to 74%)

Imagine if Services Were Available Statewide.....

A Case Study of Regional Services Currently Available

Northwest Human Services' Connection Program **currently** serves Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing residents in **only three counties** in Oregon and on a case-by-case basis, providing **counseling, case management, advocacy, crisis intervention**, and other services. **One** full-time staff member serves these needs. If there were **larger capacity** and more services offered, they **would be utilized**. [2]



This represents **only 0.09%** of the Deaf population in Oregon

Current State of the Deaf Community in Oregon

Annual Births & Locations [7]

- **100** infants/year with hearing loss
- over **50%** along the I-5 corridor

K-12 Educational Placement [6]

- **848** Students who receive Special Education services
- **86%** in Mainstreamed classes with interpreters

It's the Right Thing to DO

[3,4,5]

Commitment

Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing population will be included in Oregon's future/growth plans.

Equity

It's our responsibility to treat and support everyone with the same level of respect and fairness

Employment

Let's offer the same privilege of dignity and independence as a new age develops.

40/40/20 Goal

Provide the highest standard of education and professional training opportunities for our young adults to adopt SB 253

- Currently the Deaf population is 15/32 toward the 40/40/20 goal (compared to 29/15/87 of the general population).

- No good data on associates degree attainment (only those with "some college"- 39%)

Diversity

Truly embrace individuality/difference as our pioneer state

Transparency

Reinforce and empower open relationships through our stewardship activity towards one another.

• Community Needs Assessment Committee Membership

- Northwest Human Services' Connections Program
- Oregon Association of the Deaf
- Oregon's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
- Oregon Department of Aging and Disabilities
- Western Oregon University
- Living Independently for Empowerment (LIFE)

Now, is the Right Time

Invested Community Partners

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