Communication is part of who we are and how we live. Deafness affects how we communicate. Whether a person is born deaf or acquires a hearing loss in later life, it has a major impact on their lives and the lives of their families and friends.

DeafHear provides services to support Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to have independent and fulfilling lives, and advocates for the creation of an equal and accessible society.

**Family Support Service**
The Family Support Service provides counselling and support to parents of Deaf children, Deaf parents and people of all ages with a hearing loss and their families.

The Service is staffed by Professionally Qualified Social Workers with sign language and specialist knowledge in deafness.

**Deaftech Assistive Technology**
Deaftech is DeafHear’s specialist assistive technology service. Assistive technology is essential for many Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to live independently and safely. Vital equipment such as flashing baby alarms, flashing doorbells and adapted fire alarms for the home and the workplace enable people to overcome barriers in daily living. Communication equipment includes TV listening systems and personal listening devices for the home or the workplace.

Free assessment and advice are available and some safety equipment may be provided free through grant schemes.

View our website for a full listing of assistive technology available.

**Hearing and Communication Service**
The Hearing and Communication Service provides support to people with an acquired hearing loss. One in seven people have a hearing loss which impacts on their quality of life, and may result in social isolation, stress on relationships and even enforced retirement.

Support focuses on hearing aid management, assistive technology, lipreading skills, listening exercises and coping skills.

**Mental Health and Deafness Service**
Deaf people with a mental health problem often have difficulty in accessing mental health services. Few mental health professionals are skilled in sign language or have knowledge of the symptoms and treatment of mental illness in Deaf patients.

The Service is staffed by a Consultant Psychiatrist and a Clinical Nurse Specialist, fluent in sign language and with many years of experience in deafness and mental health. The Service works closely with local mental health services and the Family Support Service.
Hearing Care Service

DeafHear’s Hearing Care Service provides a caring and comprehensive hearing aid service. It is staffed by qualified audiologists and aims to set the highest standard for service in hearing assessments and dispensing of hearing aids.

A comprehensive after-care service is available, including hearing aid reviews, advice on hearing aid management and assistive technology, and personal and group support.

DeafHear Affiliate Organisations

DeafHear supports and works closely with two affiliate organisations, the Irish Tinnitus Association (ITA) and the Irish Hard of Hearing Association (IHHA). The ITA provides information and support to people with tinnitus, operates a weekly helpline and organises regular support meetings. The IHHA also provides information and support to people with acquired hearing loss, advocates for improved access and organises regular social events.

For further information contact DeafHear or visit www.deafhear.ie

Information and Advice Service

Information and advice is available on all aspects of deafness and hearing loss, and how this impacts on individuals and families. Information is available on diagnosis, audiology, communication, Deaf Culture, education, tinnitus and other specialist service providers, as well as general citizen’s information on rights and entitlements.

Community Services

DeafHear Community Services focus on inclusion and accessibility to everyday community life and experiences for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people. Activities range from support and advocacy in accessing education and employment, to group activities such as family days, summer camps and parent weekends.

For further information contact DeafHear or visit www.deafhear.ie

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For Everyone Affected by Deafness

Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing People

DeafHear.ie
Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing People

“Felt really listened to on the phone”

“Very helpful. I have been suffering with tinnitus all my life.”

“Had a hearing test today. It was carried out very sensitively.”