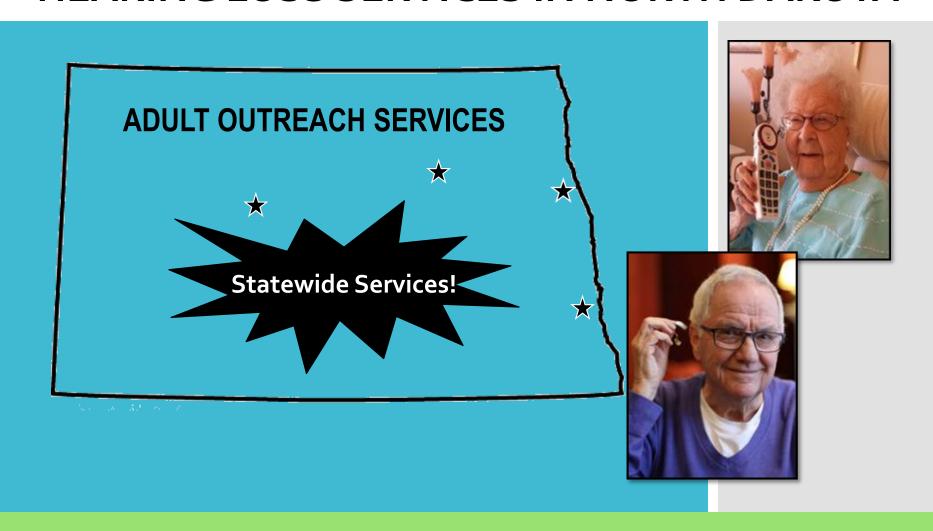
# **HEARING LOSS SERVICES IN NORTH DAKOTA**



**North Dakota** School for the Deaf - Resource Center

### What we do...



# **AOS** Adult Outreach Services

#### Information and Consultation

AOS provides current information and resources on hearing loss.

#### **Educational Presentations**

AOS provides training sessions to increase the public's awareness of hearing loss, the availability of assistive technology devices, and the importance of access for people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

\*hospitals \*clinics \*law enforcement \*senior centers \*lawyers \*etc.

#### **Assistive Technology**

AOS works in collaboration with various agencies and programs to evaluate needs, and access devices for the home or work environment.

# Hearing loss is costly.

The cost for the first year of hearing loss treatment in older adults is projected to increase more than 500% from \$8 billion in 2002 to an **estimated \$51** billion in **2030**.

SOURCE: Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, 2010

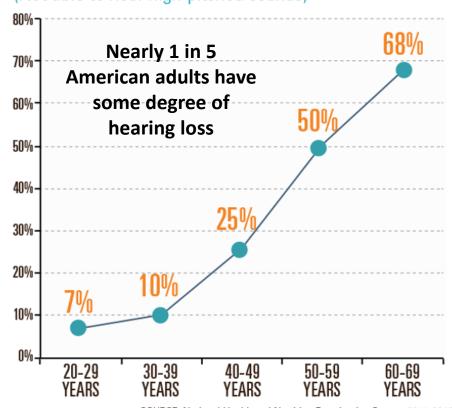
# Hearing loss from loud noise can be prevented.

**About 70% of people** exposed to loud noise never or seldom wear hearing protection.

SOURCE: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 2011-2012

# People with hearing loss.





SOURCE: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 2011-2012

Hearing loss is an **INVISIBLE** condition; we cannot **see** hearing loss, only its effects.

**Presbycusis**, or age-related hearing loss, is usually slow but steady. The loss may be mild or severe. It is *always* **permanent** 

# When does hearing loss occur?

# How hearing loss occurs.



12-gauge shotgun blast 160 decibels

In <u>adults</u>, the most **common causes** of hearing loss are **noise** and **aging**.

# **Audiogram**

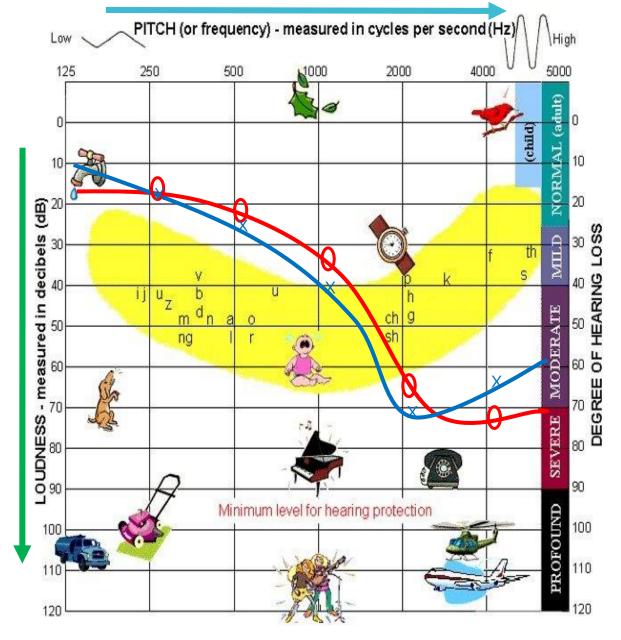
#### **Vertical Axis**

- Volume or Intensity [Decibels (dB)]
- Moving down the louder the sound

#### **Horizontal Axis**

- Frequency or Pitch [Hertz (Hz)]
- Increasing Pitch as you go left to right

X = left ear O = right ear



**Speech Banana**: term used to describe the sound of human speech on the audiogram. "Why can I hear but not understand?"

# **Hearing Aids**

Hearing Aids: They range in appearance, size, and power; from tiny ones that fit completely in the ear canal, to ones that are placed behind the ear, delivering sound into the ear canal via tubing and an ear mold.





http://entdr.com/hearing\_aids.html



Hearing aids will NOT correct hearing the way glasses correct vision. Don't expect "20/20" hearing!

OTC Hearing Aids: What do you need to

know?

# **Cochlear Implants**

<u>Cochlear Implant</u>: an electronic medical device that replaces the function of the damaged inner ear. Unlike hearing aids, which make sounds louder, cochlear implants do the work of damaged parts of the inner ear (cochlea) to provide sound signals to the brain, however *they do not replace normal hearing*.



#### Cochlear implants can help people who:

- have severe to profound hearing loss in both ears
- have profound hearing loss in one ear with normal hearing in the other ear
- 95

- receive little or no benefit from hearing aids
- score 65% or less on sentence recognition tests done by hearing professional in the ear to be implanted

# What can we do?

#### **Assistive Devices**

- Pocket Talker
- Comfort Duett
- FM Systems
- Amplified Phones/Cell Phones
- IPad & Apps
- Video Callers
- Etc...



www.listentech.com

## This is where the magic happens!













FM Systems

Pocket Talker Ipad/Apps/Smart Phones Caption Phone

Amplified Phone

Video Caller

# Programs & Services Available for Older Adults in ND



#### **Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Services**

Making and receiving a phone call should be an enjoyable experience for everyone, yet sometimes a disability can get in the way. The North Dakota TEDS helps by providing equipment to those who have difficulty using a traditional telephone.

#### **Senior Safety Program**

Eligible residents are provided with free assistive devices that will help make daily life easier, making it safer to live at home.

#### iCanConnect – North Dakota

This nationwide initiative ensures that people of low income who have combined vision and hearing loss can access the telecommunications technology necessary to connect with family, friends and the community.

http://ndassistive.org/

1-800-895-4728

#### **Visor Cards**

#### I AM DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

This card is for law enforcement officers and others to help with communication.

#### Quick Communication tips:

- · Get my attention first
- Maintain eye contact with me while speaking
- Speak clearly and a little more slowly
- A hearing aid or cochlear implant does not allow me to understand everything
- Shining a flashlight in my face will make it hard for me to understand you

#### BEST WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH ME











Lip-read

Text



Interpreter



No Lip-read

#### INFORMATION NEEDED









Registration

Insurance



**MUST REPORT GUN IN CAR!** 

#### **HELP NEEDED**









#### **COMMUNICATION SIGNS**

Please point to the picture that explains why I was stopped.

#### **VIOLATIONS/WHAT IS WRONG**





















#### WHAT HAPPENS NEXT









If I am arrested or need to come in for questioning, I may need:

- · A qualified sign language interpreter
- CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation)

In order for me to make a phone call, I may need some type of assistive technology. Please ask me what I need.



Created with collaboration between NDSD/RCDHH Adult Outreach Services and the North Dakota Peace Officers



# For more information:



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# **Questions**

