



**The Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium announces:**

## **Emergency Responders and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community: Taking the First Steps to Disaster Preparedness (AWR-186)**

**April 1, 2010, 8:00 - 5:00**

**Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services  
602 South Lawrence  
Montgomery, AL**

**Delivered by Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. (TDI)**

This course will provide participants with an understanding of the tools and knowledge needed to prepare a community response, as well as respond to and recover from emergencies ranging from weather-related emergencies to a terrorist attack, for deaf, hard of hearing, late-deafened, and deaf-blind individuals.

### **COURSE DETAILS**

This is an 8-hour course, beginning at 8:00 am and ending at 5:00 pm. The maximum number of students is 40. All registrants must be a U.S. Citizen. Photo identification is required upon registration. There is no registration fee for this class.

**Audience:** This course is designed to provide deaf and hard of hearing (including deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing, late-deafened and other individuals with hearing loss) **and** emergency responders with the basic skills they need to communicate with each other in the event of emergencies such as terrorist attacks and natural and biological disasters. The course will also instruct participants how to respond to a variety of emergency situations.

All key members of emergency response agencies involved in the planning of and response to a disaster would benefit from this course including: law enforcement, fire, EMS, public health, community advocates, special needs populations representatives, elected officials, homeland security officials and others who may be indirectly or directly affected.



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**Scope:** At the conclusion of this course, participants will gain the skills they need to prepare for and respond to an emergency situation involving individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or late-deafened. The course materials will train participants to identify and recruit those in their neighborhood whose daily activities place them in a unique position to identify potential barriers to effective communication as well as proven solutions to work around such obstacles.

This course is designed to promote emergency preparedness, community response, and recovery from emergencies involving individuals with hearing loss. The one-day course contains lectures, interactive activities and group discussions in most modules to ensure that participants have a better understanding of the needs of individuals with hearing losses, especially in times of emergencies.

**Registration Information:** **This course will be offered at no charge to attendees.** Assistive listening system with headsets and neck loop receivers with microphones will be available. A continental breakfast and working lunch will be provided. Seating is limited and will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

**To Register for this course, contact  
Steve Hamerdinger, Director**

Office of Deaf Services  
Alabama Department of Mental Health  
PO Box 301410  
100 North Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130  
334-239-3558

[Steve.hamerdinger@mh.alabama.gov](mailto:Steve.hamerdinger@mh.alabama.gov)

Registration form may be downloaded from <http://tinyurl.com/m2dtk4>

**If you would like more information about this course, contact:**

**Leah Baldwin, Project Administrator**

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