### How Do I Apply?

- Call our office for an application, or download the form at: drme.org/deaf-services/tep
- ★ Complete, sign and return the TEP application form, along with:
  - Proof of disability AND documentation of total annual income for <u>all</u> household members.
  - Additional information required for hearing aid option.
- DRM will review your application and if you are eligible, we will help select equipment that best meets your needs.
- If you qualify for the Lending
  Program, we will send the phone
  directly to your door! Training and
  support is available for all equipment.
- If you are approved for Cost-Share, the equipment will be sent after we receive payment.
- Demonstration phones are available for testing by appointment.

DRM does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, or sexual orientation in its programs or activities.

#### **CONTACT DRM**

160 Capitol Street, Suite 4 Augusta, ME 04330 800.452.1948 (V/TTY) 207.626.2774 (V/TTY) 207.621.1419 (FAX) advocate@drme.org

#### **DEAF SERVICES**

800.639.3884 (V/TTY) 207.797.7656 (V/TTY) 207.766.7111 (VP) 207.797.9791 (FAX) deafservices@drme.org

# DRMDeafServices

Disability Rights Maine is supported by grants from the Administration on Disabilities, the Center for Mental Health Services, the Rehabilitation Services Administration, the Social Security Administration, the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women, the State of Maine, the MCLSFC, the Maine Health Access Foundation, and private donations.

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## DISABILITY RIGHTS MAINE

## DO YOU HAVE TROUBLE USING THE TELEPHONE?



## APPLY FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PROGRAM!

WWW.DRME.ORG

## WHAT IS TEP?

DRM's Telecommunications Equipment Program (TEP) provides communication solutions to anyone who has a barrier that prevents them from using standard phone equipment. Through a simple application process, DRM staff will determine the best amplified, captioned, large button, picture dial, or voice-activated phone to meet your needs; a hearing aid option is also available for low-income clients, ages 65 and older.



## **ELIGIBILITY LEVELS**

- ★ Lending: For individuals with <u>limited</u> income
  - No cost to clients
  - Equipment can be borrowed for as long as it is needed
- ★ Cost-Share: For individuals with moderate income
  - Cost is based on a sliding-scale
  - Client pay a one-time fee that may be as low as \$50-\$75

## **CAPTIONED TELEPHONE**

- ★ For individuals with some degree of hearing loss.
- Provides written, word-for-word captions of everything the other person says on an adjustable screen.



 $\star$  Captions can be turned on or off.

- ★ Font size and color are adjustable.
- ★ Internet models available.

## **HEARING AIDS**

Low-income clients, ages 65 and older, may qualify to choose either an adaptive telephone **OR** a single telecoil-equipped hearing aid. Individuals who complete the TEP application and appear to qualify for the hearing aid option will receive a letter notifying them of their eligibility.



## CORDED AND CORDLESS AMPLIFIED PHONES

- Phones are available for individuals with mild, moderate, or severe hearing loss, as well as people with other disabilities.
- ★ Available options include:
  - Adjustable tone and volume
  - Large, back-lit buttons
  - Talk-back dialing
  - Photo dial
  - Caller ID
  - Amplified answering machines
  - Speakerphone
  - Hands-free
  - Assistive listening devices
  - Neckloop
  - Hearing aid & cochlear implant compatible

