



Ambassador Resources

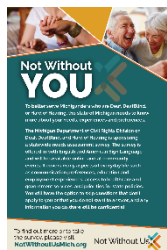
Thank you for volunteering to be an ambassador of the Not Without Us initiative: Michigan’s Census and Needs Assessment for the Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing Communities.

As an ambassador, here are some of the things you can do while the survey is in the field. These actions are described in more detail later in this document.

- Spread the word and encourage eligible Michigan residents to take the survey
- Identify and share events where Not Without Us could be promoted
- Identify community members that need assistance taking the survey with either direct help or outreach to the project team

After the survey is complete, we will provide you with resources to share the results of the survey and will ask for your help in promoting our series of community conversations about recommendations and next steps.

Spread the Word



Not Without YOU
 To better serve Michiganders who are Deaf, DeafBlind, or Hard of Hearing, the state of Michigan needs to know more about your needs, experiences, and preferences.

The Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Division on Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing is sponsoring a statewide needs assessment survey. The survey is offered in both English and American Sign Language and will be available online and at community events. It covers many aspects of everyday life such as communication, professional, education and employment experiences, access to healthcare and government services, and priorities for state policies. You will have the option to skip questions that don't apply to you or that you do not want to answer. And any information you do share will be confidential.

To find out more or to help the hearing, please visit NotWithoutUs.org

To help you spread the word, your ambassador kit has several items, including information cards, notepads, pens and pins.

Share the **information cards** with anyone who is eligible or who might be in contact with an eligible Michigander. Another idea would be to leave a stack of cards at a location frequented by people who are Deaf, DeafBlind or Hard of Hearing. The cards provide information about the initiative, why it is being conducted

and how to access the survey, as well as encourages people to share information with others. There is also a plain-text version of the information cards accessible for people with vision loss. To receive a plain-text version, please email the [project administration team](mailto:project_administration_team@notwithoutusmich.org) at info@notwithoutusmich.org.



Share **notepads and pens** with people who are interested in referring others and encourage them to take the survey. Each sheet has the website address and people can write down their referral code to pass on to friends and family to earn Not Without Us gear. Be sure to wear your **pin** and share pins with others who have completed the survey and are committed to helping spread the word with you.



Use your **social media** accounts to promote the survey. Share links to the initiative’s website, share posts made by the Michigan Department of Civil Rights Division on Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing, or DODDBHH, and others. If you are part of an organization that distributes a newsletter, drop in the article included in this document. You can also let people know you took the survey by using the available **Facebook profile picture frame**. Make sure to let people know that you shared your experience in service of creating a more

Your photo here



equitable and accessible Michigan and they should too. Use the sample tweets provided and remember to include the hashtag #NotWithoutUsMich in your posts about the project so that others can see how far reaching this effort really is.

Identify Events

If you are attending events in the community—meetings, fairs, social gatherings or any other occasions where people who are Deaf, DeafBlind or Hard of Hearing are attending—share information about Not Without Us. Let the project team know about upcoming events by emailing the [project administration team](mailto:info@NotWithoutUsMich.org) at info@NotWithoutUsMich.org. We will post event information on the website, and the project team and Michigan Department of Civil Rights may provide support such as:

- Additional information cards and giveaways
- Banner display
- Staffing support
- Technology support

When sharing information about upcoming events, please be sure to include the event name, location, date and time; hosting organization; target participants; expected number of attendees; and your support needs.

Support Community Members Taking the Survey

While the online survey format allows widespread access throughout the state, it may not meet the individual needs of every eligible participant. Ambassadors can help community members to access computers, find the [Not Without Us website](http://NotWithoutUsMich.org) at NotWithoutUsMich.org, read questions and navigate data entry. You can also help people choose which version of the survey is best for them—the one with American Sign Language translations or the plain-text version.

Other things to keep in mind as you assist others:

- Confidentiality is essential—do not share response information or even that someone took the survey without explicit permission.
- Encourage respondents to do as much independently as possible; scale your support as necessary.
- If providing assistance in a public place, such as a library or agency office, try to find a quiet spot that provides privacy for the respondent.
- Allow respondents to skip any questions they are not comfortable answering.
- Help respondents understand the questions, but do not influence their responses—there are no right answers.

Other Resources

Survey

We have included a hard copy of the survey in this packet. It may be useful in answering questions survey respondents have and as a reference tool.

Sample Tweets

Here are some sample tweets that **individuals** can use:

#NotWithoutUsMich I am #Deaf—and I count! You can too at NotWithoutUsMich.org. It's your turn! Be sure to use my referral code: [insert]

#NotWithoutUsMich I am #DeafBlind—and I count! You can too at NotWithoutUsMich.org. It's your turn! Be sure to use my referral code: [insert]

#NotWithoutUsMich I am Hard of Hearing—and I count! You can too at NotWithoutUsMich.org. It's your turn! Be sure to use my referral code: [insert]

My needs matter; that's why I participated in the #NotWithoutUsMich survey. Check it out at NotWithoutUsMich.org and use my referral code: [insert]

If tweeting on behalf of a **partnering organization**, use these tweets:

Proudly partnering with @MICivilRights to help identify the needs of the Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing communities with the NotWithoutUsMich.org survey. #NotWithoutUsMich

Let's help make Michigan more inclusive by encouraging our friends and family who are Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing to take the survey at NotWithoutUsMich.org.
#NotWithoutUsMich

Drop-in Newsletter Article

If you are part of an organization with a newsletter, you can include this article prepared by the DODDBHH. Additional graphics are available to use to accommodate your layout.



Help Make History

For the first time since 1989, The Michigan Department of Civil Rights, or MDCR, Division on Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing has launched a historic and comprehensive needs assessment for the people they serve.

It's an online survey, available on the [Not Without Us website](https://www.notwithoutus.org), and it is open until mid-November. The survey is available for anyone 13 years of age and up who is Deaf, DeafBlind or Hard of Hearing, or anyone who is a caregiver for those who are under age 13.

“As we work to make Michigan the most accessible state in the country, we also need to know where the barriers and opportunities are for individuals who are Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing,” said Annie Urasky, director of the DODDBHH. “By sharing the survey with your friends, family and social networks, you will help us assist impacted communities by providing us with a clear snapshot of their needs. With the snapshot, we can make the case with decision makers throughout Michigan for how best to meet those needs.”

The survey was designed with the input of a steering committee made up of persons from the Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing communities. In addition to holding community events to promote the survey, the DODDBHH and MDCR have been using social media to push #NotWithoutUsMich and the [Not Without Us website](http://www.notwithoutusmich.org) to increase community engagement. For more information on the project, contact info@NotWithoutUsMich.org.

Sample Facebook Posts

Accessing services shouldn't be a burden or a frustration. That's why we're pleased to join with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights Division on Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing to seek your input on what the obstacles and opportunities are for the communities they serve. Please share this historic survey, accessible at NotWithoutUsMich.org, with your friends, clients, neighbors and family members who are members of the Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing communities.



OR

If you are a member of the Deaf, DeafBlind or Hard of Hearing communities, now is the time to help inform lawmakers and decision makers what you need to be able to communicate effectively and live your best life! Take the Not Without Us survey today. There's a bonus too—when you're done with the survey, you can request your own personal referral code. When your friends take the survey and enter your code, you become eligible for prizes! **[If you have your own referral code, add the**

following line.] And don't forget—when you take the survey, enter my referral code [insert referral code] and I'll get a chance at some prizes too! Go to NotWithoutUsMich.org to take the survey!

Contact Us

If there are other ways in which we can support you in your ambassador role, please let us know by sending an email to the [project administration team](mailto:project_administration_team@info@NotWithoutUsMich.org) at info@NotWithoutUsMich.org using the subject line "Ambassador Support." If you have an urgent need, you can contact [Jill Steiner](mailto:jsteiner@publicsectorconsultants.com) at jsteiner@publicsectorconsultants.com or 517-281-1920 to text or talk.