<table>
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<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Communicating &amp; Connecting – Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Activity</th>
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| **Created by** | Lisa Handelman, The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington  
Susan Cohen, Washington Society of Jewish Deaf |
| **Intended Audience** | Middle School ages through adults. Good for anyone who is unfamiliar or unaware about how to communicate with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. |
| **Materials Needed** | - A method to show a youtube video - *Communicating with Deaf and Hard of Hearing People* by Kati Roman - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e34gyLUElBA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e34gyLUElBA)  
- Large blank sheet of paper or flip chart and magic markers (or post-it notes and pens)  
- Copies of fingerspelling charts |
| **Program Description** | 1. Start with a “silent brainstorming” activity. Write the question – “How do you communicate with your friends, family and colleagues?” on a large blank sheet of paper. Ask participants to write their answer on the blank sheet (or alternatively, this question can be written on a blackboard, and participants can write their answers on post-it notes.  
2. Watch Kati Roman's youtube video – *Communicating with Deaf and Hard of Hearing People* (9 minutes)  
3. Compare what Kati shares to the list generated by the silent brainstorming activity.  
4. Write down 5 (or more) suggestions that Kati had for communicating with deaf and hard of hearing individuals including:  
   - face the person  
   - make sure the other person can see your lips and body language  
   - use a normal speed (not too slow and not too fast)  
   - make sure you are understood  
   - don't touch someone else unless you know them well  
5. Re-watch the part of the video where Kati talks about introducing yourself to someone who is deaf or hard of hearing. Use the fingerspelling chart (see below) to practice introducing yourself to others in the group (if members of your group already know how to sign, they can help the others in the group learn how to spell their names). |