

AUDIOLOGY AND SPEECH PATHOLOGY SERVICE AND BLIND REHABILITATION SERVICE

When Speaking to Someone with Vision and Hearing Loss

Attention

- Get the person's attention before trying to communicate.
- Identify yourself clearly.

Set up the Environment!

- Ensure that you are in the best place to communicate, such as a well-lit area.
- Avoid noisy places when possible.

Project Communication

- Speak clearly, slow down your pace as needed, and face the person directly when communicating.
- Repeat or rephrase when needed.
- Check understanding.

Be Flexible and Accommodating

- Ask for the best way to communicate with the person.
- Confirm if the person needs guided assistance and ask how they want to be guided.
- If writing information, ask if print needs to be larger, bolder, or in a different color.

Show Respect

- Ask the person before providing assistance.
- Speak directly to the individual, rather than to a caregiver.
- Adapt the situation to their needs.