

(a) In Part II of this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) "Hearing impaired individual" means an individual with a hearing impairment so severe that, with or without amplification, the processing of linguistic information through hearing is impaired.

(c) "Program" means the program that the Secretary establishes to provide comprehensive outpatient mental hygiene care and treatment for hearing impaired individuals with a mental disorder and the families of those individuals.

10-909.

(a) The Secretary shall establish and equip a program to provide comprehensive outpatient mental hygiene care and treatment for hearing impaired individuals with a mental disorder and the families of those individuals.

(b) The program shall be located in a facility in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, because of the number of hearing impaired individuals who live in that area.

10-910.

(a) There is an advisory committee for the program.

(b) (1) The advisory committee consists of 11 members appointed by the Secretary.

(2) Of the 11 members:

(i) 3 shall be members of the Maryland Association of the Deaf;

(ii) 2 shall be mental health practitioners who are hearing impaired individuals;

(iii) 2 shall be mental health practitioners who are not hearing impaired individuals;

(iv) 2 shall be individuals in the field of deaf education;

(v) 1 shall be a parent of a hearing impaired individual; and

(vi) 1 shall be from the Maryland Association for Hearing Impaired Children.

(3) The Secretary shall appoint the advisory committee from recommendations made by:

(i) The Maryland Association of the Deaf;