

SADA

SOUTH AFRICAN DISABILITY ALLIANCE

DEFINITIONS

Following lengthy deliberations SADA adopted the following definitions:

Deaf (upper case D)

An adjective referring to people who identify themselves as members of a cultural and linguistic minority group and who use sign language (South African Sign Language) as a primary means of communication. All over the world Deaf people view themselves as a cultural and linguistic minority. The term 'Deaf' has thus become the descriptor for a distinct group with its own cultural identity and language (Ladd, 2003). The definition follows the convention of distinguishing "a signed-language using community of people who do not hear (Deaf people) from non-signing people who do not hear (deaf people)" (Humphries, 2013:1).

Deaf (lower case D)

Deaf with a lower case "d" refers to persons with total hearing loss not using SASL as a primary medium of communication, who use various means of communication and assistive hearing technologies. These include speech, speech/lip reading, cochlear implants, Bone Anchored Hearing Aid (BAHA) and applicable assistive listening devices etc. or a combination thereof. This group primarily aligns with impairment, disability and the hearing world.

Hard of hearing

An adjective referring to a person who is audilogically deaf and who uses a spoken language or South African Sign Language as a means of communication and learning.

Hearing Impaired

Hearing Impaired refers to persons with varying degrees of hearing loss not using SASL as a primary medium of communication, who use various means of communication and assistive hearing technologies. These include speech, speech/lip reading, hearing aid systems, cochlear implants, Bone Anchored Hearing Aid (BAHA) and applicable assistive listening devices etc. or a combination thereof. This group primarily aligns with impairment, disability and the hearing world.

Deafblind

Deafblindness is a combination of hearing and vision loss in any variation of the combination in a one human body. This result in difficulty for the person to get information and communication as well as mobility challenges.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping, fluid strokes that form a cursive-like shape.

SADA Chairperson