

# Free Hearing Aids for Low-Income Seniors

by Ariane Millette, office clerk and editor at  
Association des personnes avec une déficience de l'audition (APDA)

APDA (Association des personnes avec une déficience de l'audition) is a community-based organization whose mission is to promote social inclusion of people living with hearing impairment by providing help and support services, rights advocacy, and awareness-raising activities.

APDA doesn't cover costs for hearing aids, but offers recycled hearing aids through their *D'une oreille à l'autre\** service. These aids are cleaned and repaired in a certified recycling centre and verified by audioprosthetists/acousticians (hearing health professionals). They are then given to those who are not fully insured by public or private insurance - for instance, the Quebec Health Insurance Plan (RAMQ) only covers one hearing aid for retired or unemployed individuals even if they have hearing loss in both ears. *D'une oreille à l'autre* helps decrease isolation and improve quality of life for these people.

Of course, there is no warranty on these hearing aids and there are some eligibility criteria, such as proof of low-income status and a recent (less than two years) audiogram.

If you wish to donate hearing aids, you may drop them off at a deposit location such as CHIP. You can also search for the location nearest you at [www.apda.ca/appareil-auditif](http://www.apda.ca/appareil-auditif), or mail your devices directly to APDA.

APDA thanks those who have already donated, as well as those who may be able to in the future. Your gestures, as simple as donating hearing aids, have a tremendous impact on the lives of those in need. The lack of needed assistive devices is a barrier to communication and can accelerate cognitive decline, but your gift of hearing allows people in need to remain active and independent.

***CHIP is proud to be an official APDA deposit location. Non-molded hearing aids can be dropped off at our office during business hours.***

***\* "D'une oreille à l'autre" means "From one ear to another"***

## IMPORTANT NOTE:

Our office in Quebec City - which is not as bilingual as Montreal - offers services in French only. Admission forms are available in English, but if you are unable to communicate in French, you will need an interpreter to communicate with us [Editor's note: CHIP can help with this]. Our service manager needs direct contact to verify your eligibility, clarify certain information, plan adjustments, and schedule meetings with our volunteer team of audioprosthetists and audiologists.



***D'une oreille  
à l'autre!***

**apda**

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