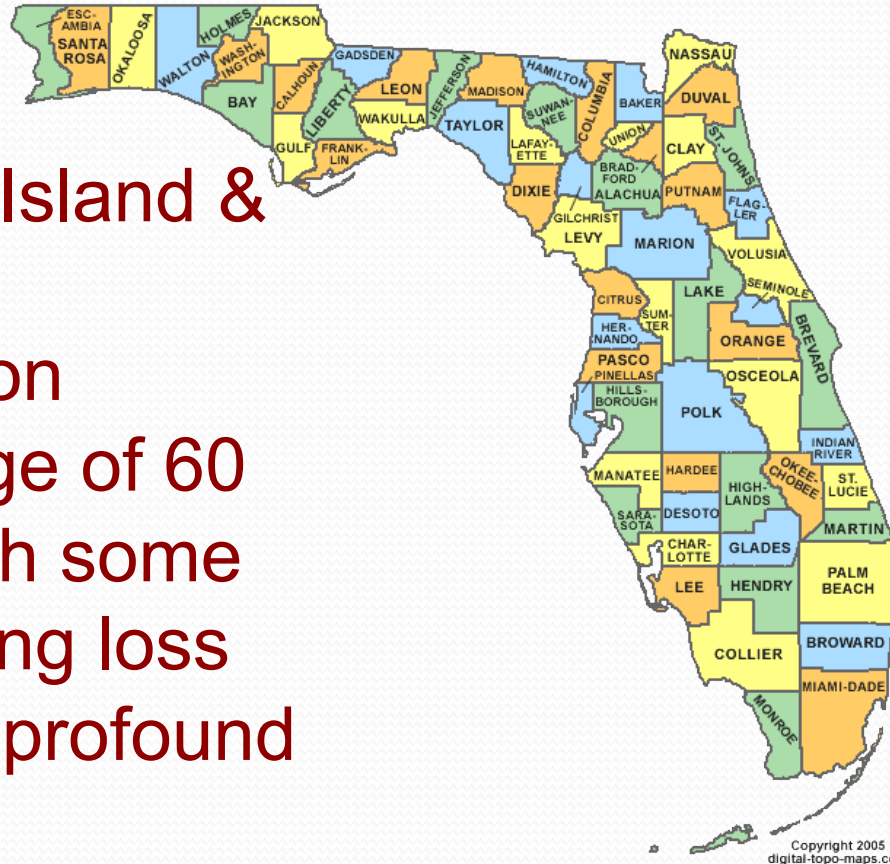


Palm Beach County, FL



- 1,971 sq. miles
- Larger than Rhode Island & Delaware.
- 1.3+ Million population
- 363,618 over the age of 60
- 155,540 seniors with some degree of hearing loss
- 16,000 people with profound hearing loss

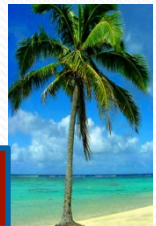
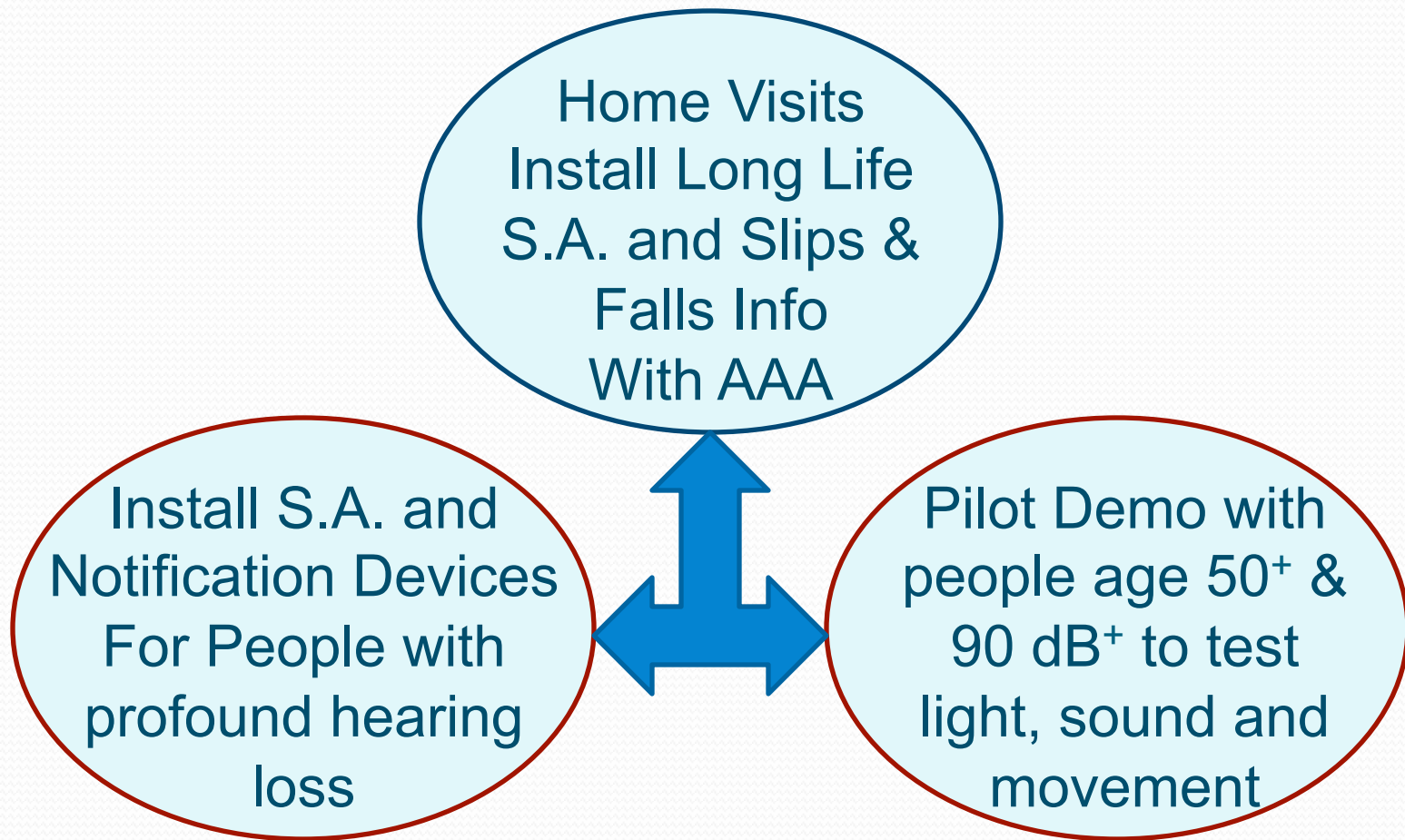


Partners in Community Risk Reduction

- Area Agency on Aging
- Deaf Service Center
- FL and the PBC Association of the Deaf
- Delray Medical Center
- Florida Atlantic University
- Hearing Association of America (Boca/Delray)
- Palm Beach County Fire Rescue



PBC Community Risk Reduction



Do we
need
Smoke
Alarms?
YES

Formative Evaluation The Research (Run Reports)

Smoke Detector Performance

10/01/2010 to 09/30/2011

Detectors	# of Incidents	% of Total
No detectors present	144	38.1%
Performance of Detection Equipment Undetermined	65	17.2%
Detector(s) in room, operated	58	15.3%
Detector(s) not in room, operated	41	10.8%
Detector not in room, did not operate	26	6.9%
Detector in room, did not operate	19	5.0%
Performance of detector equip not classified	19	5.0%
Detector in room, fire to small to operate	6	1.6%
Total	378	100.0%



Are Slips and
Falls a
problem?
YES

Formative Evaluation The Research

- How many? 9000+ annually- Top rescue call
- Who is affected? Seniors
- Where do they live? 55+ communities



Can we
develop a
program for
both?
YES

Process Evaluation The Plan

- *Who can partner with us?*
- Area Agency on Aging Volunteers do home visits
- PBCFR Volunteer Battalion installs alarms
- *What do we need?*
- A combo program to install alarms and survey the home with suggestions for slip and fall safety



Smoke alarm
and slips &
falls program

Impact Evaluation Did it work?

- *Have they told their neighbor about the program?*
- You received additional requests for a return visit to the neighborhood.
- *Have they changed their behavior?*
- Follow up visit or survey to see if the throw rugs are gone or if they practiced a home fire drill



Outcome Evaluation

Did it work over the long run?

- Three years later, in the Cresthaven complex, one of our smoke alarms awakened a family in their condo at 10:00 pm and everyone got out safely- the family and their pets. The other 7 attached units also were evacuated safely and there was no loss of life. These units were built in the 50's and there was no separation in the attics.



People with Profound Hearing Loss

The Partners:

- Area Agency on Aging (Fiscal Agent/ Home Visits)
- Deaf Service Center (Measurement-Audiology)
- FL and the PBC Association of the Deaf (Promoters)
- Delray Medical Center (Sleep Suite/Pilot Demo)
- Florida Atlantic University (Research & Report)
- Hearing Association of America (Promoters)
- Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (P.I. Principal Investigator)





Working with Partners



- Community buy-in
- Access to networks
- Share the workload
- Expands the skill set
- Lots of ideas
- More brains have more great ideas

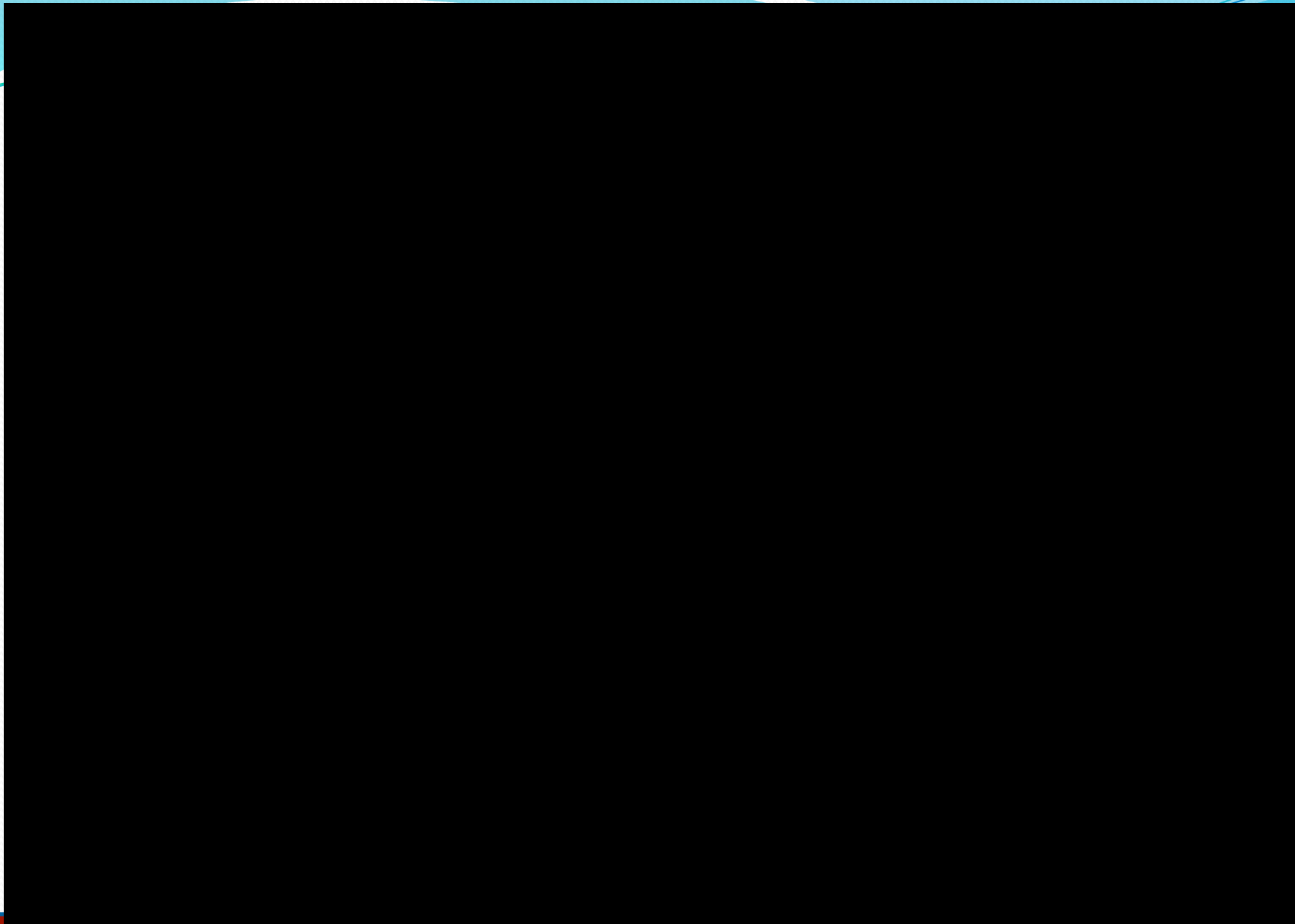
- All have a hierarchy
- Takes a lot more time
- MOUs for everyone
- Not always on board
- Your sense of urgency may not be shared
- Opportunities missed



People with Profound Hearing Loss Installation Program Elements

- How do we get the word out to the Deaf community?
- FL and the PBC Association of the Deaf (FAD)
- Hearing Association of America (Boca/Delray)
- Alarm Application & Qualification
- What if they use American Sign Language?
- How do we communicate? VIDEO!
- Training your installers (pairs)
- Scheduling (45 minute install)





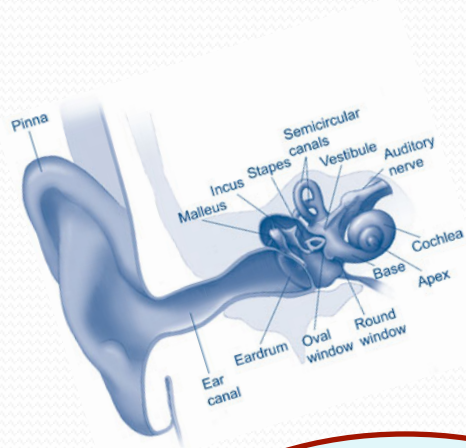
People with Profound Hearing Loss The Question

What method(s) work best to awaken people who have profound hearing loss, in the event of a fire in their home?

We need to do the research.



What works the best to awaken?

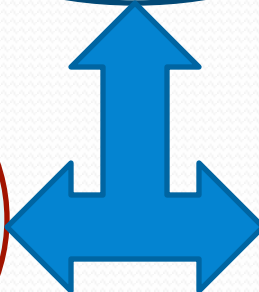


Is it light?



Is it sound?
T3
Or **520 HZ**
Or **Voice**

Is It Movement?



People with Profound Hearing Loss

What do we know? What's missing?

“During the development of the 2010 edition of NFPA 72, the technical committees incorporated recent research on waking effectiveness for persons with hearing loss ...A great deal of discussion...centered on the fact that **the new requirements do not address those who are severely hearing impaired or profoundly deaf. The committees would like to have scientific data on methods for awakening, alerting and informing persons with profound or total hearing loss”**. **Robert P. Schifiliti, P.E., Chair**

Reference: Email to Kathleen Almand

MODELS IN FIRE PREVENTION



People with Profound Hearing Loss Pilot Demonstration

- 50 people with profound hearing loss 90 dB +
- Deaf Service Center verifies with audiologist report
- Age 50 years or older
- Sleep over at Delray Medical Center Sleep Center
- Tested with various devices while in REM sleep
- Western Institute Review Board (WIRB) Certificate of Approval for this study
- Florida Atlantic University verifies research writes up the report



Stay Tuned for the Results of this Pilot

All of our videos with the Florida Association of the Deaf can be found on our YouTube site:

Pilot Program:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEEhaWyc-aM

Smoke Alarms for the Deaf and hard of Hearing

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxYBAFdxJvg>

QUESTIONS?

