

## **Announcing Our New Executive Director**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of DEAF Inc.'s Board of Directors, I am writing to share exciting news. Upon advertising that we were accepting applications for a new executive director, we received an amazing response and felt privileged to have had such a rich pool of applicants. After a four-month interview process from a nationwide pool of applicants, we are delighted to make this announcement.

The new executive director of Deaf Inc. is Ernest Garrett III, who will be officially joining us on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We are confident that Ernest's experience, knowledge, and integrity are a great match for the work, staff, and friends and supporters of DEAF Inc. and together our mission to empower, raise awareness, and bridge a sustainable foundation of communication and equal access to the Deaf, hard of hearing and the hearing communities.

Ernest is a visionary leader who brings to DEAF Inc. extensive experience in deaf advocacy, deaf education, and interpreting services. He has received numerous commendations for his community involvement in Missouri. Ernest has already developed a varied network with his experience through several jobs locally in St. Louis, across the state of Missouri as well as nationally, which he will strengthen and utilize in moving forward with the mission of Deaf Inc. His extensive experience can be found outlined in his biography – [Click here](#) for Mr. Ernest Garrett III's bio.

Ernest is honored to have been selected and is eager to get started at DEAF Inc., learning more about our various programs and community initiatives, meeting the many people who help make our work so essential and staying attentive to the needs of the Deaf, hard of hearing and hearing communities, to continue to add to the services offered through Deaf Inc. as needed. As we enter the fall season, he will have an excellent opportunity to see the continuation of our mission, accomplished through a meaningful unity of community outreach, training, education, advocacy, media, visual arts, and interpreting.

I hope you will join with DEAF Inc.'s staff and Board of Directors in welcoming Ernest to our organization. We look forward to introducing him to each one of you over the coming months as we celebrate DEAF Inc.'s upcoming 10th year of growing together in 2018.

Thank you.