

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.385

Hearing Aid Distribution Program (HADP)

Program is found in the following core budget(s): MCDHH

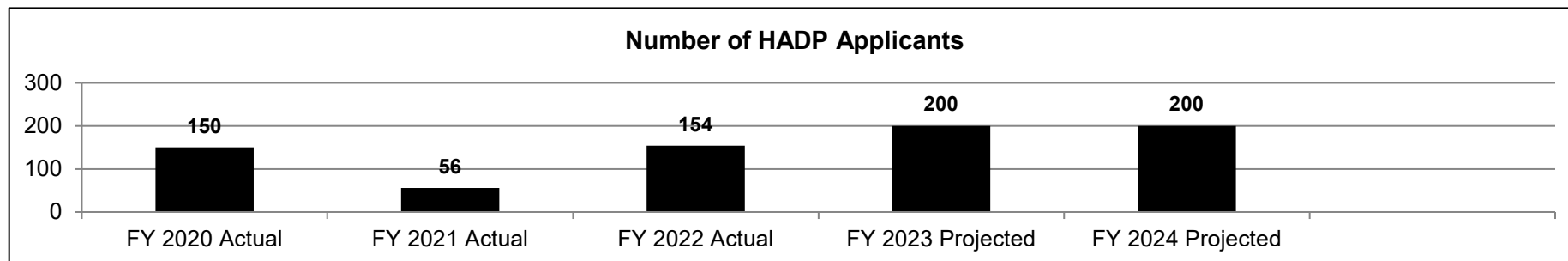
1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Providing hearing aids to low-income, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Missourians.

1b. What does this program do?

Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MCDHH) coordinates awards for hearing aids to low-income Deaf and Hard of Hearing Missourians in order to help them improve communication and overall quality of life.

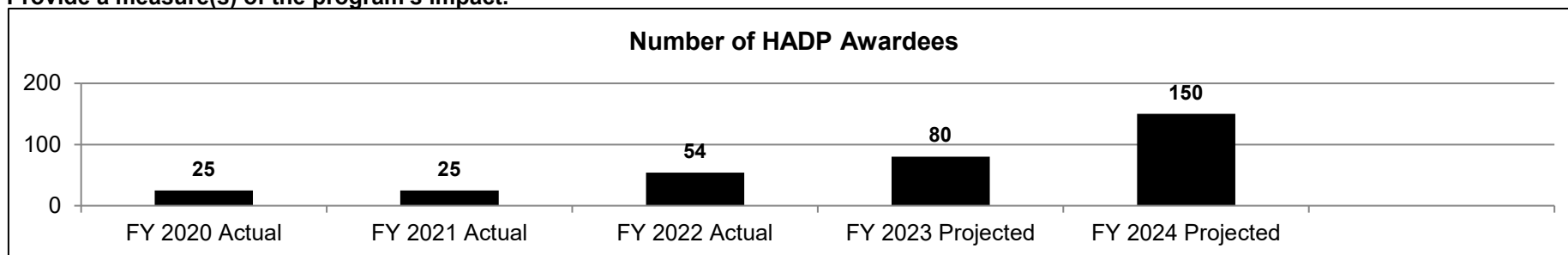
2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.



2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

In March 2022, a follow-up survey was sent to all HADP awardees who have had their hearing aids for six months or longer. About 45% of past awardees responded. This survey asked about their satisfactions with the HADP process, their hearing aid provider, and how the hearing aids have helped them in various listening situations. Over 90% of the respondents reported that their hearing aids have made their quality of life either "Better" or "Much Better." All of the respondents expressed satisfaction with MCDHH and the process for receiving hearing aids via the HADP program.

2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.385

Hearing Aid Distribution Program (HADP)

Program is found in the following core budget(s): MCDHH

2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

The following are testimonials from individuals who have received hearing aids through the HADP:

“... I have a better quality of life. I enjoy watching T.V. and listening to music on the radio and now I can do that again...”

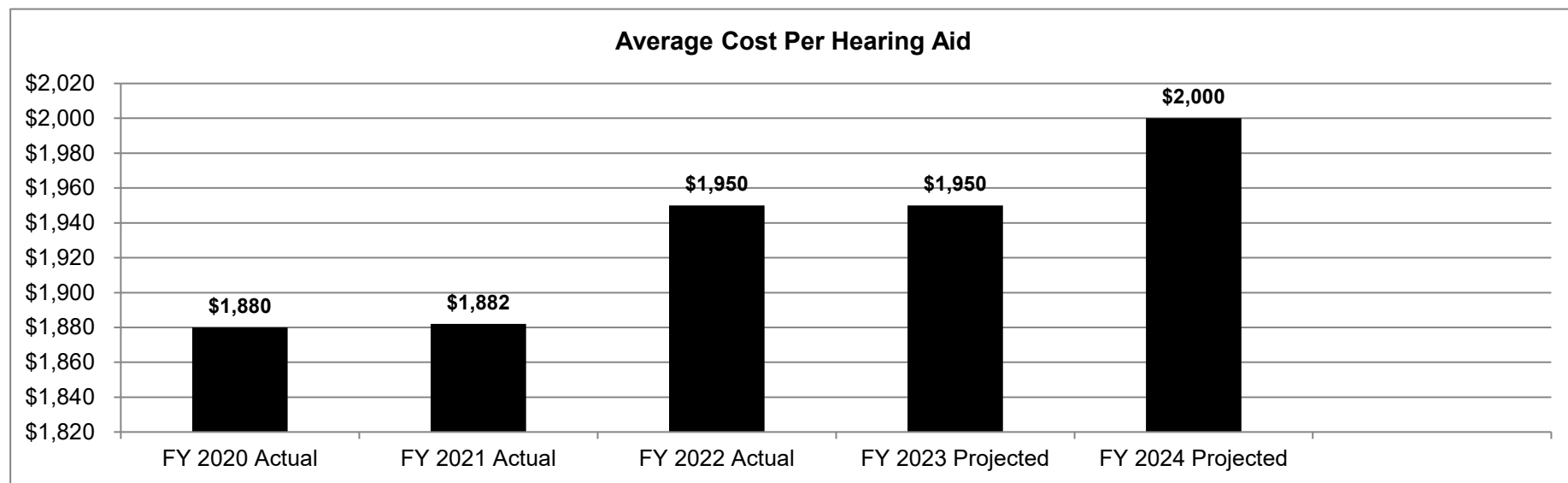
“... improved my ability to interact with people....”

“... Since I have gotten my hearing aids, the ringing in my ears has decreased and I can now get a full night's sleep and not wake up with a headache..”

“...I can hear someone when they are talking to me, without asking them to repeat themselves...”

“.. Hearing aids have enabled me to communicate with others, in person and on the phone. Before I had to read lips and if someone had a mask on it was impossible for me to communicate with them...”

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

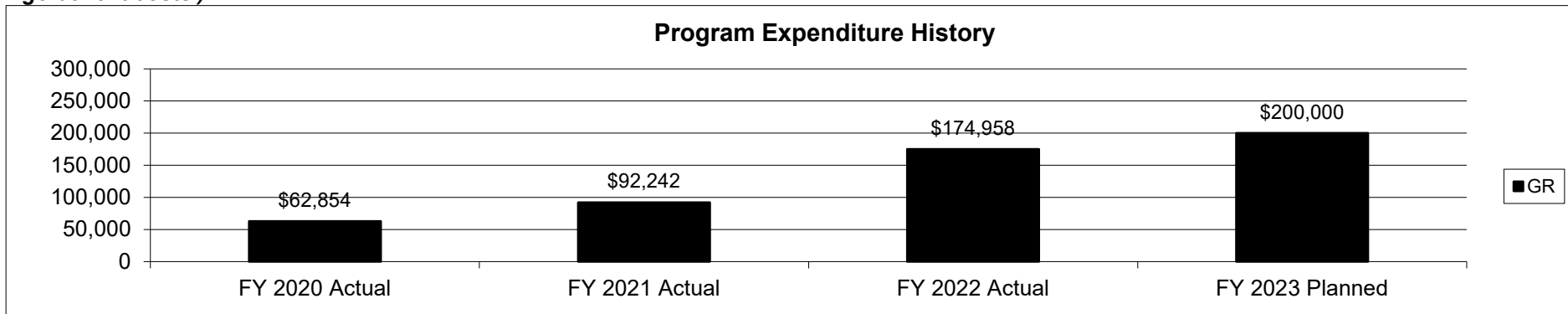
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.385

Hearing Aid Distribution Program (HADP)

Program is found in the following core budget(s): MCDHH

3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?

There are currently no other funds for this program. MCDHH are in the process of applying for grants and setting up a system to accept donations.

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

209.245 RSMo as stated below:

Financial assistance for obtaining hearing aids, program establish - fund created - powers of commission.

1. Subject to appropriations, the Missouri commission for the deaf and hard of hearing shall establish a statewide hearing aid distribution program to provide financial assistance to allow individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and whose household income is at or below the federal poverty level to obtain hearing aids. All assessment for need and distribution of hearing aids shall be performed by audiologists or hearing instrument specialists licensed under [chapters 345](#) and [346](#) or physicians licensed under [chapter 334](#).

2. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Statewide Hearing Aid Distribution Fund", which shall consist of moneys collected under this section. The state treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections [30.170](#) and [30.180](#), the state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of this section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section [33.080](#) to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund. Funding for the statewide hearing aid distribution program shall not be allocated from the assistive technology trust fund established under section [161.930](#) or the deaf relay service and equipment distribution program fund under section [209.258](#). The Missouri commission for the deaf and hard of hearing may accept gifts, donations, grants, and bequests from individuals, private organizations, foundations, or other sources for the purpose of establishment and operation of the statewide hearing aid distribution program.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.385

Hearing Aid Distribution Program (HADP)

Program is found in the following core budget(s): MCDHH

209.245 RSMo as stated below (continued):

3. The Missouri commission for the deaf and hard of hearing may promulgate rules to implement and administer the statewide hearing aid distribution program under this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section [536.010](#), that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of [chapter 536](#) and, if applicable, section [536.028](#). This section and [chapter 536](#) are not severable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to [chapter 536](#) to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2019, shall be invalid and void.

4. The Missouri commission for the deaf and hard of hearing may enter into contracts as necessary to carry out the statewide hearing aid distribution program including, but not limited to, contracts with disability organizations.

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

No

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

No