



ILLINOIS E.A.R.S



E.A.R.S = EVENTS AND RESOURCES STATEWIDE

"What works for your child is what makes the choice right."™

MOM'S NIGHT INN

The event every mom and female caregiver looks forward to is here! Mom's Night Inn is around the corner. Check out the flier which includes save the date information.

PAGE 2

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

It's time to save the date for the annual statewide conferences for parents. You will find more information on the flier on page 5.

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LOOKING FOR NOMINATIONS

Did you know that we recognize parents who go above and beyond in helping make a difference and who support other families outside of their own?

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Page 5-7 | SuperHEARo 5k



Page 8 | Chicago Wolves Fundraiser

Get paid for your input!

We need Illinois parents of children who are deaf/hard of hearing to help review parent materials

Review meetings will be held in the evening and some work will be done on your own beforehand.

Only 5 participants needed, 3 hours a month, 3 consecutive month commitment.

Scan the QR code. It will take you to the google form with more information and to submit your potential nomination.

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Illinois Hands & Voices
Mom's Night Inn 2022

"Better Together"



Save the Date

Mom's Night Inn 2022
IN PERSON OVERNIGHT RETREAT

Sheraton Lisle~Naperville

Saturday April 23rd

to

Sunday, April 24th

Keynote Speaker
Dinner and Breakfast
Bonding time
Sunday morning panel

details and registration
Coming Soon!



*Parent Achievement
Award*

2022 NOMINATIONS

Do you know an Illinois parent who has gone
above and beyond serving other families with
children who are deaf/hard of hearing?

Take a moment to nominate them!

Nominations open through 3/11. Award given on 4/24 in Lisle, IL



Scan the QR code with your
camera app to be taken to the
nomination form



Nomination link: <https://forms.gle/weWt9NuLNijNAjmp7t>

7:00 - 8:00 PM CST
2/16, 3/16 and 4/20

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Please join us on an informal Zoom meeting to get to know other families with children who have a hearing loss from across the state of Illinois.

PLEASE REGISTER AT THIS LINK:
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/XN4W2P1MEBXCVPK6](https://forms.gle/XN4W2P1MEBXCVPK6) OR
 USE THE CAMERA OF YOUR SMART PHONE TO SCAN THE QR CODE TO TAKE YOU DIRECTLY TO THE REGISTRATION LINK.
 A ZOOM LINK WILL BE SENT TO YOU 24 HOURS BEFORE THE EVENT.



This past fall one of our Parent Guides, Ramona Martin, promoted to a Lead Parent Guide within our Guide By Your Side program. The Leveled Recognition Program (LRP) levels are Guide, Lead and Senior. The guides can promote to the next level by participating in certain activities such as being a member on local and national committees, mentoring guides and presenting at conferences just to name a few. Each level in our IL LRP program provides a new pay rate in addition to recognition for their outstanding achievement. Congratulations Ramona on your promotion!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

BY RAMONA MARTIN

We held a zoom meeting on September 15, 2021 for parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. We had 13 families register and 8 attended the virtual event. The purpose of our Getting to Know You zooms are to connect families with other families who may be able to share their personal knowledge of resources and/or information related to our kids. The event is open to any family in Illinois.

During our September meeting, a variety of topics were discussed. We talked about hearing aids and the financial aspect of how to pay for hearing aids. Insight was shared from families about asking for a discount of patient pay if you pay it off in full. We also discussed how to do sound checks on the hearing aids at home. Parents shared their thoughts and habits of how often to check the sound in their infants hearing aids. We also discussed how to care for hearing aids with infants as well as older children, when do children need to start learning to clean and care for their own hearing aids. Parents shared ASL resources with other parents. There was also a great connection made between families who had adopted children with hearing loss and other special medical considerations.

Please continue to watch your email and the Facebook regional groups for upcoming Getting to Know You zoom meetings. These meetings will be taking place monthly during 2022, so please feel free to register and join any and all that you are able. Upcoming dates for 2022 are: February 16, March 16 and April 20 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Please email Ramona Martin at rmartin.gbys@gmail.com with any questions or comments about this event.

WE WANT YOU!

Have you wondered how you can help other families with children who are deaf/hard of hearing? Maybe you want to help plan events for families to gather? Serving as an Illinois Hands & Voices Board member is a wonderful way to connect with other like minded individuals while helping others. The board is looking for professionals, parents and deaf adults. Find more information at ilhandsandvoices.org.



HANDS &
VOICES™
ILLINOIS

Join our Junior Board!

NEW!

What is it?

The junior board of IL Hands & Voices will grow to be a group of enthusiastic individuals ages 13 through 18 working together to promote our mission. Members of the Junior Board will draw upon their expertise, personal and professional networks, and creativity to provide additional organizational, advocacy and financial support to fulfill the organization's mission.

This is the first Junior Board for IL Hands & Voices. The Junior Board's self-determined mission will be to energize IL Hands & Voices through advocacy, community engagement, and fundraising.



GIVE SUPPORT TO KIDS WHO ARE DEAF/HARD OF HEARING IN ILLINOIS



GIVE BACK BY VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS.



GAIN EXPERIENCE IN NON-PROFIT WHILE EARNING SERVICE HOURS



COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP AN ALL NEW JUNIOR BOARD FROM THE GROUND UP

Who should apply?

We are looking for members who are deaf or hard of hearing, a sibling of someone who is deaf/hard of hearing or individuals with an interest in audiology, interpreting or deaf education. No previous experience in non-profit work is required. If you are passionate about growing your own skills, empowering Illinois children and communities who are deaf/hard of hearing and working collaboratively to support our organization's mission, we want to hear from you!

Board Member Expectations

- Actively contribute skills and experiences to various Junior Board efforts.
- Attend monthly meetings (1 hour, via online platform) and social events.
- Develop events and opportunities that further serve our youth and families.
- Design volunteer and engagement opportunities for teens in our community.
- Serve as an ambassador for IL Hands & Voices, its families and its mission.
- Commit to a one-year term to ensure smooth transitions and productive campaigns.
- Accomplish individually-set goals of attending events, fundraising, recruitment, etc.



Interested?

Email Lydia at

Lydia.Hernandez@ilhandsandvoices.com

ILLINOIS HANDS & VOICES
501C3 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

"What works for your child is what makes the choice right."
<https://www.ilhandsandvoices.org/>



Thanks for being our SuperHEARo

Our annual fundraiser, the SuperHEARo Dash 5K, was on Saturday August 28th at Phillips Park in Aurora. The 5K course ran through the beautiful Phillips Park area, alongside the zoo, several playgrounds, and a peaceful lake. The event also included a kids dash, family fun activities and over 15 vendors. Sponsors for this year's 5K included: the Online Itinerant, Lions Club, Med-el, Child's Voice, Cochlear, Club Pilates, National Association of Letter Carriers, Captel, Diglo, Shaker Recruitment, Sorenson, Gallaudet University, Advanced Bionics and Northwestern. We had a beautiful day surrounded by over 100 participants raising over \$15,000 in funds to support scholarships and our IL Guide By Your Side program! Thank you to all who donated, sponsored, and attended whether in person or virtual. YOU helped us make this event a smashing success!



Illinois Hands & Voices, Guide By Your Side does not support or endorse any specific organization, communication or amplification choice. The information in this newsletter is to simply share with families and professionals the resources and events available to them.

The Vision of the Lions of Illinois Foundation is to create a permanent vehicle for the delivery of programs and services to the visually and hearing impaired. At the core mission of the Lions of Illinois Foundation, it is our duty to provide quality programs for the detection, treatment, and rehabilitation of those with hearing needs. Currently programs and services in place to reach that goal include hearing aid banks and hearing screening. In addition to hearing and vision assistance, the Lions Club of Illinois also hosts Camp Lions for children with hearing and/or vision loss ages 7-17. Visit their website: lionsofillinoisfoundation.org/camp-lions/general-information/



Naperville Noon Lions Foundation

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Northwestern

CENTER FOR AUDIOLOGY, SPEECH,
LANGUAGE, AND LEARNING



Convenient northshore location
Free covered parking
State-of-the-art facilities

CONTACT

NUCASLL.northwestern.edu

Phone: 847-491-3165

NUCASLL@northwestern.edu

PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH-BASED PEDIATRIC CARE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES.

Speech-Language Pathology Services

- Free speech-language screenings
- Speech-language evaluation and treatment
- Social-communication intervention
- Aural rehabilitation evaluation and treatment

Audiology Services

- Audiological evaluations and amplification
- Central auditory processing disorder (CAPD) evaluations
- Newborn hearing screening follow-up

Specialty Programs

- Multidisciplinary learning evaluations
- Medical diagnostic evaluations for 0-3 year olds
- Voice Clinic
- Summer group programs



Guiding children on their
hearing loss journey
for 25 years!

CHILD'S VOICE
You'll be hearing from us!



Scan the code with your phone &
learn about our early years!
childsvoice.org



THANK YOU SPONSORS



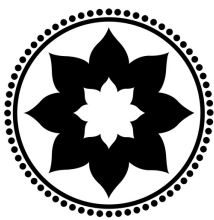
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diglo.



SHAKER

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LANGUAGE IN AN
IMMERSIVE SIGNING
ENVIRONMENT.

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THE SIGNING ROOM

[www.theonlineitinerant.com
/The-Signing-Room](http://www.theonlineitinerant.com/The-Signing-Room)

AN ALL-YOU-CAN SIGN

program for “beyond
beginners” ready to make
conversation!

Memberships start at
\$97 for 6 weeks of
Full immersion,
support, and 1:1
private tutoring with a
deaf adult.





SAVE THE DATE

Virtual

Conference for Parents of Children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

and the professionals who work with their children

2022 Illinois School for the Deaf Outreach Statewide Parent Conferences

Cost to attend: **FREE**

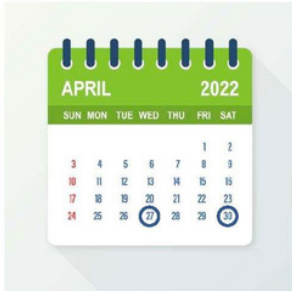
Two-Part Conference Details (via Zoom Platform):

Wednesday – April 27
6:00pm – 9:00pm

AND

Saturday – April 30
9:00am – 12:00pm

Registration will open in early 2022.
Mark your calendars today so you won't miss out.



Questions or requests – Contact: andrea.marwah@illinois.gov

Additional Conference Information:

Financial assistance may be available to reimburse families for childcare expenses while attending the conference. The following organizations may be able to help:

- The ARC of Illinois Consumer Stipend Project provides funding for families of children with developmental disabilities. Application deadline is 30 days before the event. For more information: www.thearc-ill.org or 815-464-1832.
- UIC Specialized Care for Children may have funds available. Contact your DSCC representative. For more information: <http://dscctuic.edu/>.
- STAR NET offers assistance to eligible families. Eligibility, application guidelines and amounts available vary by region. Application deadline is 15 days before the event. For more information about STAR NET visit their website <https://www.starnet.org/> or contact your regional STAR NET depending on where you live:
 - South of I-70: Sheri Kraus at phone 618-825-3969 or email skraus@scrcro50.org
 - South of I-80: Anni Reinking at phone 217-602-0124 or email ac-reinking@wiu.edu
 - North of I-80: Roseann Slaght at phone 618-825-3969 or email r-slaght@wiu.edu
 - City of Chicago: Chicago office at phone 773-553-5596 or email starnet@cns.edu

Professional Development:

- **FREE** EI Credit
- **FREE** IL State Board of Education Professional Development Credit

Conference Contributors:

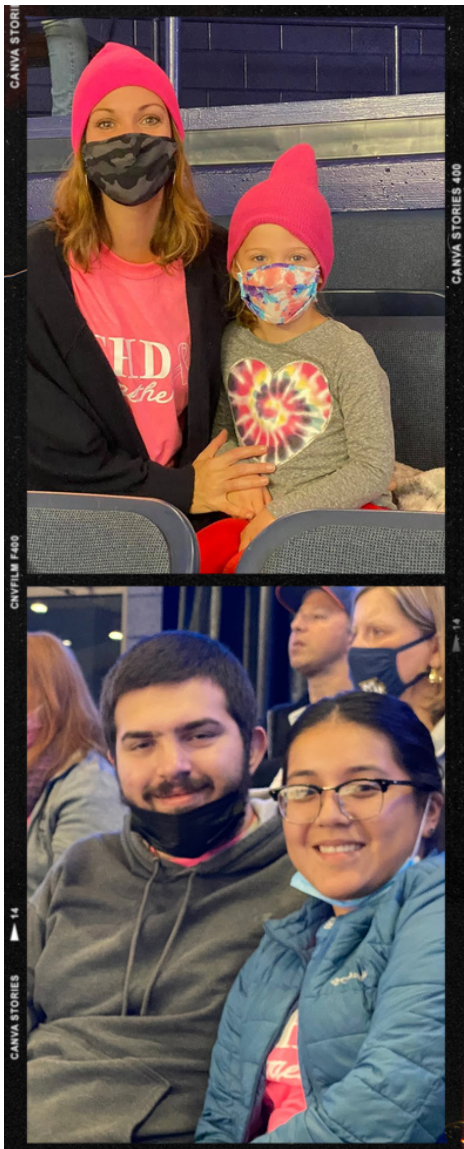
- Illinois Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side
- Illinois School for the Deaf Outreach
- Illinois STAR NET Region IV – Southern IL
- Illinois Service Resource Center (ISRC)

Conference Planning Committee:

- IL Hands & Voices
- IL School for the Deaf Outreach
- IL Service Resource Center (ISRC)
- IL STAR NET Region IV
- IL Guide By Your Side
- Parents of Children who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Registration Coming Soon

Questions or requests – Contact: andrea.marwah@illinois.gov



Everyone Wins!

A NIGHT WITH THE WOLVES

On October 23rd, IL Hands & Voices Board Members, Parent Guides, families with children who are deaf/hard of hearing and friends joined together to enjoy a Chicago Wolves game! There were opportunities for the kids to enjoy special activities like shoot the puck and fun photo displays to catch those precious memories. Every ticket sold to our guests not only gained them entry to the game, but a portion of sales from every ticket was donated back to IL Hands & Voices from the Chicago Wolves. They even gave each of our guests a fun Chicago Wolves knit hat! In the end, everyone won - even the Wolves!

St. Louis Children's Hospital Mobile Hearing and Speech Clinic



THE ST. LOUIS CHILDREN'S MOBILE HEARING AND SPEECH CLINIC

Staffed by Audiologists and Speech Pathologists from St. Louis Children's Hospital, our Mobile Clinic provides most of the same services as our traditional clinics:

- Hearing testing for children from birth to 21 years of age
- Follow-up for failed hearing screenings
- Support when hearing or speech concerns are present
- Support for hearing aid, cochlear implant, and bone conduction systems
- Speech and communication support for children with hearing loss

CONTACT US TO SCHEDULE

Your doctor will need to send us an order prior to the appointment. Questions are welcome.

Phone: 314.454.6171

Fax: 314-454.4097

Email: audioappt@bjc.org

We hope to see you soon!



St. Louis Children's Hospital complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex.

Atención: hay servicios de asistencia de idiomas disponibles a su disposición sin costo. Llame al 314-747-5682 (TTY: 1-800-735-2966).

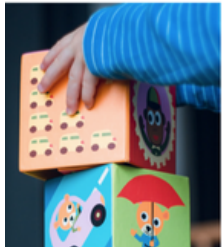
注意: 免费提供语言协助服务, 如有需要敬请致电 314-747-5682 (TTY: 1-800-735-2966).

CS_702100_6/21

This newsletter is supported in part by grant funding through the IL Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Program.



HANDS & VOICES DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES



FAMILY LEADERSHIP IN LANGUAGE & LEARNING (FL3)

IS MY CHILD BEHIND?

As a parent or caregiver of a Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) child, there is probably a lot that you want to know about your child's development!

Developmental checklists can provide information for you, as a parent or caregiver, however there are some things you'll want to understand in order to use these checklists appropriately.

The Hands & Voices Family Leadership In Language & Learning (FL3) Program has developed a resource book titled "Developmental Milestones. Sometimes knowing what is appropriate and what to do when you have concerns is a hurdle many families face.

Scan the QR code here to be taken to this resource book on the FL3 page.



Please Join Us For an ISRC Family Literacy Event



March 29, 2022 6:00-7:30 PM

All registered families will receive a copy of the book:

Rock on Kindness! Pass It On!

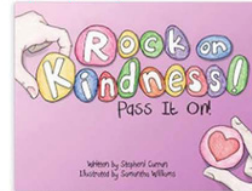
By Stepheni Curran

Sign Language Interpreter and Spanish Translator [available upon advanced request.](#)

Zoom link will be sent via email upon registration
Families will receive the book and materials for the event via mail

TO REGISTER - SEND AN EMAIL TO isrc@isrc.us

The evening will include a reading of the book in spoken voice and American Sign Language and a rock painting activity. All materials will be provided.



Illinois Service Resource Center

Serving the behavioral needs of students who are deaf, hard of hearing, and visually impaired
A Service and Resource Center of the Illinois State Board of Education



ASL INTERPRETED PERFORMANCES

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 8 P.M.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 8 P.M.

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 8 P.M.

\$30 TICKETS

USE PROMO CODE **ASLPARAMOUNT** ON ABOVE PERFORMANCES ONLY stop by the theater, call 630.896.6666 or visit paramountaurora.com

FOR INFORMATION ON ASL SUBSCRIPTIONS, CONTACT MARIE AT MARIEW@PARAMOUNTARTS.COM OR 630.723.2489

PARAMOUNT THEATRE 23 EAST GALENA BOULEVARD, AURORA tickets 630.896.6666 or PARAMOUNTAURORA.COM

ITDHH 2022

Early Intervention Pre-Conference



Thursday, March 3, 2022

Wyndham Springfield City Centre
700 East Adams Street, Springfield, IL

**FREE CONFERENCE &
FREE EI CREDIT**

In person conference
with optional virtual
sessions. ALL on the
same day.

THIS YEARS TOPICS:

- Self Advocacy
 - Global Assessments
 - Tips, Tricks and Documents
 - *Brush up your ASL Skills
 - *Cued Speech Try it
- *Sessions may only be in person, TBD*

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



FOR IN PERSON OR VIRTUAL

<http://forms.office.com/g/626vh4VKYW>

QUESTIONS?? Andrea.Marwah@illinois.gov

Regarding Covid-19—We will follow the current CDC Guidelines including social distancing, masking, etc. to ensure the safety of all of our in person attendees. We will have all sessions presented on zoom live for those who prefer to not attend in person. If for some reason the in person component is cancelled or our registration numbers for in person are low, we will move the entire conference online. That decision will be made within 10 days of the conference.

STAY UP TO DATE WITH WHAT ISD OUTREACH OFFERS



search: "Illinois School for the Deaf"

1-3-6

The Illinois Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Program works with parents and providers to ensure all babies get screened for hearing loss no later than 1 month of age; all infants who do not pass their hearing screen receive a diagnostic evaluation no later than 3 months of age; and all infants with a hearing loss enroll in early intervention services no later than 6 months of age. In addition to these goals recently the JCIH (Joint Committee on Infant Hearing) has added that Parent Support be provided by 6 months of age. It is because of this that the IL Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side program now receives referrals of all babies that have a confirmed hearing loss so that parent-to-parent support can be provided. Visit the IL EHDI website at IllinoisSoundBeginnings.org



SHARING AN EXPERIENCE...

When we discovered that our 2 year old had bilateral hearing loss our family embarked on a journey to gather as much information & resources as possible. During that search, we found the Institute for Parents of Preschool Children Who are Deaf & Hard of Hearing. We spent a week on the campus of the Illinois School for the Deaf. Each day was packed with learning from professionals who serve children who are deaf/hard of hearing. One of the best trainings we had was on the Individualized Education Program better known as the IEP. The tools we gained helped us properly advocate for our daughter. We also met other parents who we still call friends today. I think that every parent should attend!! See the flier below for more information.
Shared by Alicia Aaron



DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A HEARING LOSS?



"It's changed my world...(the Institute) opened my eyes to the diversity of hearing loss."

Do you have questions about communication options, language development, amplification, social-emotional development and school programs?

All of your questions can be answered in one place!

INSTITUTE FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

JUNE 12-17, 2022



What is the Institute?

The Institute is a one-week program (Sunday-Friday) for parents of children (through age 7) who have a significant hearing loss. Parents and caregivers will learn about hearing loss and their child's individual strengths and needs. Participants will also meet other parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Mission Statement

The Institute provides information and support to families so they can make informed decisions on behalf of their child who is deaf or hard of hearing. The Institute was summarized by one parent as "an incredibly useful week to... prepare my child for a life of learning."

"Very well worth our time. Like others, I wasn't sure what to expect, but I can tell you it exceeded my expectations. All parents of deaf or hard-of-hearing children should attend."

Who Sponsors the Institute?

The Institute receives support from:

- Department of Human Services (DHS) – Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)
- Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD)
- University of Illinois Chicago's Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC)
- Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)
- Department of Public Health (DPH)
- Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago



"This was a wonderful and absolutely overwhelming experience. I have learned so much about deafness while here at ISD..."

How Do I Get More Information About the Institute?

Contact Division of Specialized Care for Children at (800) 322-3722 or dscclinstitute@uic.edu.

Visit our website: dsccl.uic.edu



State of Illinois
J. B. Pritzker, Governor
Illinois Department of Human Services
Grace B. Hou, Secretary

More About the Institute

What do children do? Each morning the children go to classrooms overseen by experienced teachers of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Children receive hearing, vision, psychological, speech, language and educational evaluations. Children will also have the chance to play with other children who have a hearing loss.

What do parents do? Parents attend daily lectures by experts in the field to learn about raising a child with hearing loss. They also meet in small groups to discuss specific concerns and connect with other caregivers. Parents meet with professional staff to review the evaluations for their child. They also have the opportunity to learn about various communication modes used with deaf or hard-of-hearing individuals.

Lecture topics include:

- Child Development
- Language Development
- Types of Hearing Loss
- Parent Rights
- Communication Choices
- School Programming
- Hearing Aids, Cochlear Implants
- Deaf Culture

Where is the Institute? The Institute is held at the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville, Illinois. Jacksonville is 30 miles west of Springfield on Interstate 72.

What about siblings? Brothers and sisters, through age 12, can come to the Institute. They participate in activities for their age group at the Nursery School on the ISD campus. Siblings also stay with their families in the dorms and go to recreational activities.

What does it cost? There is no cost for families who come to the Institute. Meals and housing are provided at no charge on the campus of the Illinois School for the Deaf. This week is free!

Who works at the Institute? Professionals from all over Illinois come to the Institute. They come from hospitals, schools, colleges, private centers, ISD, DSCC and DPH.

DSCC, DPH and DHS/DRS do not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, their programs and activities in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Directors are responsible for compliance. DSCC (217) 558-2359 and DHS/ISD (217) 479-4300 (voice/TTY) or <http://illinoisdeaf.org>.



21ST ANNUAL EARLY HEARING DETECTION & INTERVENTION CONFERENCE
MARCH 13 - 15, 2022 • CINCINNATI, OH

The 2022 Annual EHDI Conference will take place in person and virtually.

From the EHDI Website: *In its 21st year, the EHDI Conference has built a strong reputation for bringing together a wide variety of attendees including those who: work in state Early Hearing Detection and Intervention programs; assist in EHDI efforts on the federal level; provide screening, diagnostic and early intervention support at the state/ local level to young children with hearing loss and their families; champion Medical Home activities within each state; are parents of children with hearing loss; or are deaf or hard-of-hearing adults who are helping to expand opportunities for young children with hearing loss. EHDI Conference participants will range from state and local programs to the federal level and from academics to families.*

IL Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side will be presenting over 10 sessions at the 2022 Conference.

Session Offerings:



EHDI Conference Site:



Caring for the caregiver

BY SARAH EVANS

In October of 2020 we took placement of a two year old foster child. In the next few months she received several diagnoses including autism, severe hearing loss, and global developmental delays. To say we were overwhelmed was an understatement. Adapting to this new life of caregiving, doctors appointments, and all the changes this caused for our family was challenging. But we knew this precious girl needed us.

Our developmental pediatrician recommended we apply for respite services in order to provide some relief for our family from this new caregiving role we were adapting to. I reached out to the Illinois Respite Coalition (IRC) and received an immediate response. The application process for me was easy. They asked if we knew anyone who would provide respite for our daughter. We have a beloved babysitter who said she would be open to providing respite. She was required to go through a training program and a background check which IRC paid her to complete. The IRC will provide up to 180 hours per year of respite. What a blessing to our family.

To find out if your family will qualify for respite services contact (630) 207-8479
Or email ilrespitcoalition@gmail.com.



Get paid for your input!



We need Illinois parents of children who are deaf/hard of hearing to help review parent materials



Review meetings will be held in the evening and some work will be done on your own beforehand.

Only 5 participants needed, 3 hours a month, 3 consecutive month commitment.



Scan the QR code. It will take you to the google form with more information and to submit your name as a potential participant.

Early Childhood Today 2022 Preparing Lifelong Learners

Wednesday, March 9, 2022
8:30 to 3:00pm

STAR NET Region VI and Lewis University Department of Education will hold the 15th annual Early Childhood Today virtual conference on Zoom. This conference is for parents, caregivers and professionals who shape the lives of children ages birth to 5 years old.

Registration will open January 10, 2022

STAR NET provides training, consultation, and resources to the early childhood community.

The STAR NET system assists the State Board of Education in meeting local needs by providing services to professionals and parents of young children with special needs throughout Illinois.

Raffle Prizes
All day long!



Wednesday, March 9, 2022

8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

(Sign in 8-8:30 a.m.)

Zoom – Virtual Conference

Participants choose from 1 of 2 sessions offered 8:30 to 11:00 am and choose 1 of 2 sessions 12:30 to 3:00 pm. Credit of 2.5 hours for each session attended for a total of 5 hours.

Cost: FREE – There is no charge for this conference.

Registration: Registration will open January 10th and is required to attend. A registration link will be posted on the STAR NET Region VI website. Individual registrations will be sent an email verification and link one week prior to the event. Conference details will be posted on the STAR NET Region VI on January 10, 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact STAR NET Region VI email: starnet@swcccase.org

Registration must be received by Friday, February 25, 2022.



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Co-Sponsored by STAR NET Region VI and Lewis University, in collaboration with SSAEYC, Early Intervention Training Program, Good Shepherd Center, Child and Family Connections# 12, Sandbox Preschool and Child Care

NOW OFFERING

AAC EVALUATIONS



Easterseals Joliet Region has begun offering AAC Evaluations! AAC is short for augmentative and alternative communication which is a method of communication that involves all forms of communication (other than oral speech) that are used to express thoughts, needs, wants, and ideas.



WHO?

Any person who is unable to reliably use verbal speech to communicate.

WHAT?

Any no-tech (pointing, signing), low-tech (picture book, core board), or high-tech (voice output device) communication is considered AAC.

WHY?

Communication is a fundamental human right. AAC is a powerful, meaningful tool.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Katie Shank
(815)927-5460
kshank@joliet.easterseals.com

Contact us today to find out if your child can benefit from AAC!



Q&A

DROP-IN SESSIONS

Advocating for your DHH Child/Students

First Monday of the Month
7:00pm—8:00pm

February 7th
March 7th
April 4th
May 2nd

Hands & Voices ASTra™ Advocates will answer your special education questions.

Advocates from these states will be present:



Register today:



<https://fs4.formsite.com/rh1RZR/ufvtb5lhhg/index.html>

**FIND US
HERE...**



Follow us on Social Media:



@illinoishandsandvoices



@ilhandsandvoices

Illinois Guide By Your Side (GBYS)

Carrie Balian, Program Coordinator

Phone: (224) 343-1873

Email: ilhvgbys@gmail.com

Web: www.ilhandsandvoices.org/guide-by-your-side

Illinois Hands & Voices (H&V)

Andrea Marwah, Executive Director

Phone: (630) 697-3544

Email: executivedirector@ilhandsandvoices.com

Web: www.ilhandsandvoices.org