

***A Rallying Cry:
We Need All Your
HANDS &
VOICES***



In your family, do you talk or sign? Or cue? Whatever you do, we need you. If you are directly, indirectly, or potentially involved with children who are deaf, deaf blind, or hard of hearing and their families, we need you. We need to be united by our hands and our voices. We are parents, professionals, adult mentors, consumers, and others who are in so many ways connected to a cause and to each other through the community of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. We are Hands & Voices.

Our philosophy of unbiased support makes Hands & Voices unique among Deaf/HH organizations. There are many wonderful organizations that provide support and information about methods and modes of communication, but at Hands & Voices, we rally around the need to improve educational outcomes for our kids, and to enhance their quality of life.

Our organization is parent-driven, but highly collaborative with professionals who are represented on our advisory board, and make up approximately one third of our membership. We work at both the local and national levels. Our state chapters provide local and regional support consistent with the Hands & Voices non-biased philosophy and mission. In addition to family support, we strive to be meaningfully involved at the systems development level.



**Washington State
Hands & Voices**

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Hands & Voices



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*Hands & Voices is a non profit 501(c)(3)
organization*



**HANDS &
VOICES**



***What Works for your
Child is What Makes
the Choice Right™***

*Non-biased support for families of
children who are deaf, deaf blind
and hard of hearing*

www.wahandsandvoices.org

Our Mission

Washington State Hands and Voices is a parent-driven organization dedicated to supporting and unifying families with children who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf blind. We provide families with a non-biased perspective of communication choices and with resources they need to improve communication access and educational outcomes for their children. Our activities are focused on networking with parents and professionals to empower deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf blind children throughout the entire state to reach their highest potential.



What People say about Hands & Voices:

"Hands & Voices supported my personal decision about my son and how he would learn to communicate with the world as a deaf person. Hands & Voices did not judge, but supported my choice."

Shirley Swope,
parent and advocate, Colorado

"Hands & Voices is what our state has been waiting for. I had several requests for specific information which sent me scrambling for some appropriate resources and information. Hands & Voices was where I found it."

Lorna Irwin,
parent and consultant, Idaho

"For too long we have debated what communication mode is best, rather than work to provide the variety of options necessary to meet the diverse needs of deaf/hh children. The broad vision of Hands & Voices comes at exactly the right time."

Lawrence Siegel, Esq.

Hands & Voices

Areas of Focus Include:

- Parent - to - Parent Support
- Guide by your Side Program
- Deaf Ed Reform - Educational Excellence
- "Medical Home" Initiative
- Full & Effective Communication Access
- Hearing Aid Coverage by Insurance Companies
- Universal Newborn Hearing Systems
- Parent/Professional Collaboration
- Deaf, Deaf blind, Hard of Hearing Adult Mentoring
- Parent Education and Support
- Deaf Child's Bill of Rights
- Natural Environments, Least Restrictive Environment
- Communication Choice Making
- Meaningful Parent Involvement
- Educational Advocacy and Training

In Collaboration with Hands & Voices National Resources Include:

- www.handsandvoices.com
- The Resource Guide for Parents
- Quarterly publication, "The Communicator"
- Lending Library
- IEP Facilitation/Advocacy Support
- Public Speakers Bureau
- State Chapters Affiliate Support
- "We are Hands & Voices" video
- Statewide workshops
- Legislative advocacy
- Parent perspective representation on statewide/national issues
- Regional Parent Coordinators
- Spanish Speaking parent coordinator
- Unilateral Hearing Loss parent Coordinator
- Teacher/professional pre-service and in-service training
- Deaf /HH Adult Role Models



Tell us Who You Are

We invite you to become a member of Hands & Voices. Your membership benefits include: the quarterly Hands & Voices newspaper, *THE COMMUNICATOR*; reduced fees to attend workshops; advocacy assistance priority, website.

Annual Membership Dues

Sign up for:	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Parent of deaf, hh, deaf blind child*	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Deaf or hard of hearing adult	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional	\$40.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Organization / agency	\$50.00

Additional Donation _____
 Subtotal: _____
 *Scholarships available for parents check here: _____
 Total: _____

 Name _____

 Address _____

 Phone _____

 E-mail _____

Method of Payment

- Check
 Scholarship - Parent
 Cash

I can help with:

 I need information on:

*Mail this form to:
 Washington State Hands & Voices,
 PO Box 4022
 Bellevue, WA 98009*