

OUR MISSION:

We are an organization dedicated to non-biased support to families who have children who are deaf or hard of hearing. We will provide activities and information statewide to parents and professionals that may include outreach events, educational seminars, advocacy, parent-to-parent networking, and newsletters. We believe that families will make the best choices for their child if they have access to good information and support. Our organization represents people who use varying approaches to communication and assistive technology—from American Sign Language to cochlear implants.



Michigan Hands and Voices Motto

“What works for your Child is what makes the choice right “

Top reasons you know you’re the parent of a deaf or hard of hearing child:

- 1) You don’t have to be quiet after your child has gone to sleep.
- 2) You can locate the ring of feedback from a hearing aid faster than google maps can locate your house.
- 3) When you can scold your child in the grocery store without anyone ever knowing.
- 4) When you know where Gallaudet University is located.
- 5) When you know Alexander Graham Bell did more than just invent the telephone.
- 6) When you wish you could personally enroll into “Intervention”.
- 7) When you struggle with read aloud books.
- 8) You have dismantled large pieces of furniture looking for a lost processor.
- 9) When you know I.D.E.A. has nothing to do with a random thought.
- 10) When you’ve duct taped your child’s hearing aid batteries in place, hoping that they will last while at school.
- 11) When your child “plugs his ears” by covering his eyes.
- 12) When you discover, while trying to translate into sign, that common nursery rhymes make absolutely no sense at all.
- 13) When you know the terms “cookie bite” and “speech banana” have nothing to do with food.

Top 10 commonly asked questions to parents of deaf or hard of hearing children:

- 1) Your house must be so quiet?
- 2) Does your child know Braille?
- 3) How long did it take your child to “do” sign language?
- 4) Can your baby lip-read?
- 5) My sister in laws, great aunt’s cousin is deaf.
- 6) Are you sure she can’t hear?
- 7) Are you going to have another baby?
- 8) Oh, that’s so sad, or I’m so sorry.
- 9) I’m sure they can find a way to *fix* it?
- 10) We taught our kid sign language too. She can say “please” and “cookie.”



Developed by the Oakland County, MI regional group of MI H&V.

Michigan H&V List-Serve for Members



Do you want to meet local families and learn about upcoming events? Join the Michigan Hands & Voices Yahoo List-Serve. It is a wonderful way to get connected directly to other Michigan H&V members. You can send and receive emails that provide you with a wonderful opportunity to give or receive direct and quick support. Sign up today, it’s quick, free and easy! Just go to - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/handsandvoices-mi>

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