

See our Camp
and Hearing
Aid inserts!

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TSHA's Office Hours

Monday
8:00 am - 7:00 pm
Tuesday- Thursday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Closed Friday,
Saturday & Sunday

Volume 19
Issue 2

Spotlight on a Hard-of-Hearing Community Member... **Kaye Hughes**

“You don’t look deaf”

By Diana Higgins, based on an interview with Kaye Hughes

Kaye dreamed of being an FBI agent as a child, but got married and had a child instead. She still thinks she and her friend Joan should be private detectives because “who would suspect two old ladies?” She’s given up on that because, “My hand shakes too much to hold a gun!” She’s NOT giving up on her dreams because of her hearing loss – and never has.



Kaye Hughes (left) chats with volunteer Claudia.

says she is sick of hearing that. “How am I supposed to look?” she asks.

“Sometimes I feel like I need a big sign on my chest saying I’m deaf.” While Kaye speaks just fine and lipreads phenomenally, her hearing tests say she’s deaf.

Kaye grew up hearing normally, as far as she knew. Now, she suspects her hearing loss may have started in childhood.

“You don’t look deaf.” Kaye Hughes

Continued on page 2

Highlighting Different Aspects of Our Community

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month, and Older Americans Month, so we are giving a special focus in this May-June newsletter to services and information that may fit those categories. Each issue for the next year will highlight a different aspect of the community we serve.

Below is the tentative schedule of themes. If you know of a good person to interview, or of information that would fit any of these themes, please contact dhiggins@tsha.cc or call 918-832-8742. We’d be grateful for your help.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| <i>May-June 2013</i> | <i>Hard-of-hearing and individuals with hearing loss later in life</i> |
| <i>July-August 2013</i> | <i>Families & children</i> |
| <i>Sept.-Oct. 2013</i> | <i>Culturally / signing deaf individuals</i> |
| <i>Nov.-Dec. 2013</i> | <i>Professionals</i> |
| <i>Jan.-Feb. 2014</i> | <i>Souper Sunday / Deaf “plus”</i> |
| <i>March-April 2014</i> | <i>No newsletter due to Souper Sunday</i> |
| <i>May-June 2014</i> | <i>Deaf individuals with different languages & cultures</i> |

It wasn't until she was in her 30s that she was tested, after her husband David made her go to the doctor because she was answering questions wrong.

Though she got one hearing aid in her 30s, and two in her 40s, she's had plenty more experience at answering questions wrong. In fact, answering a question wrong is why she got a second aid. A co-worker came in one day and shared that her mother had died. Kaye, misunderstanding, said, "That's nice." The embarrassment from that incident sent her for the second hearing aid.

One thing Kaye has never felt embarrassed about, however, is wearing hearing aids. "If I had to wear them on the top of my head to hear, I would," she's famous for saying. "I want to hear! I want to know what people are saying. I don't want to be left out of things."

Kaye is determined not to let other people with hearing loss get left out either. She has been active in TSHA's Tulsa Hearing Helpers group for about 15 years. THH is a monthly support group for those who have lost hearing later in life, as well as their friends and family. She's also helped TSHA with booths, hearing screenings, silent auction items and presentations.

She is *determined* to see people do what they can to stay connected to life. She sees so many hard-of-hearing people become isolated, often due to vanity. Another of Kaye's famous quotes is, "Would you rather have people think you're deaf, or you're dumb?" She feels it's best to tell people you have a hearing loss, so they can understand if you answer something wrong. She also feels people should do whatever they can to stay connected to others.

Kaye wishes the first thing people would do to stay connected is come to the free Tulsa Hearing Helpers meetings. So much information is shared there – by the other participants, like Kaye, as well as by the presenters. She states, "Many

people that attend THH for the first time say, 'I wish I'd come here *before* I bought my aids.'"

What else would Kaye suggest to stay connected? "Get a hearing aid if you need it. Don't put it off. The sooner you get one, the easier it will be to adjust. Sure, some people do treat you differently when you have a hearing loss and a hearing aid. People tend not to look at me. But that's better than having them think I'm rude. People say hello, and if I'm not looking, I don't know it. They think I'm rude when I don't reply – I've had that happen thousands of times."

Kaye has repeated her message to those with hearing loss thousands of times too – and will repeat it thousands more: Get informed, and stay connected to life.

"I don't remember how I found TSHA – but the information you get here you'll get no place else," Kaye states. "It's been very informative for me, on *everything* to do with hearing loss. At Tulsa Hearing Helpers, you'll learn from the other people there, and they'll learn from you. Come – you may be able to help someone else."



Could these be secret agent shoes? Kaye and Claudia show their love of life extends all the way to their toes!

Kaye may not have had a career as an FBI agent, but with her new "bionic ear" (cochlear implant) and her phenomenal lipreading skills, who knows? Perhaps a future in spying is still in the cards for her! Even if she never makes it as a secret agent, one thing is for sure – she's been a successful agent for change in many people's lives.

(Editor's Note: Learn more about THH on page 3.)

TSHA's staff is already hard at work getting ready for Souper Sunday 2014. Can you guess what the theme is? Check out our facebook page soon for the answer.

www.facebook.com/TSHAInc



"Deaf Plus+"

June 13 - Betty Anne Fulk, from TSHA's Board, will share her personal journey with us.

If you thought living with hearing loss was difficult, what do you think it would be like to add another challenge...or two...? Betty has had to adjust her life many times over, as new challenges presented themselves. She now uses a powered wheelchair/scooter to get around, and has limited use of one side of her body.

And yet, her spirit is undaunted! She is a positive person who has worked to improve access for others. Come learn—be uplifted and motivated to make a difference!

When: The second Thursday of each month, **from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

Where: TSHA's conference room, 8740 E. 11th St.

Accommodations: We usually have captions. Assistive listening devices and interpreters are available upon request, and our room is now looped, for those with t-coils.

What is Tulsa Hearing Helpers? It is a monthly gathering for people who have lost hearing later in life. All ages and amounts of hearing loss are welcome, along with friends and family members.

Upcoming meetings

July 11—Audiologist Carol Lambert will be back for her annual visit, to discuss all things audiological!

Awesome Volunteer Opportunities for 2013

This is a list of booths, events, presentations, etc. that TSHA will sponsor or has the opportunity to participate in. Some of these we simply won't be able to do without volunteer help.

Can you help? They're fun experiences!

June 12	Hicks Park summer camp presentation, ages 6 – 12, 31 st & Mingo
June 18	Apollo's summer camp @ 101 st & Memorial
June 22	Tulsa Day of Health Fair @ Promenade
July 15 – 19	TSHA's Summer Camp @ TSHA, 9 – 3
July 22	Deaf Deaf World @ Red Cross, 11 – 12:30
August 10	Back to School Bash @ TTC in BA (4600 S. Olive), 9 – 12
September 7	Burmese Health Fair, 9 – 3
December 7	TSHA's Children's Holiday Party

Contact Diana at dhiggins@tsha.cc or 918-832-8742 for more information.

Summer Sign Classes Start June 4 & thereafter!

Contact us NOW - you might still be able to get in.

kwilson@tsha.cc,
918-832-8742, or
tsha.cc/2013_SummerSignClass.pdf

Interpreting: Mission Possible!

The Oklahoma Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf's annual conference is taking place, and is bringing in some AMAZING speakers! Find out more at the link below:

June 7 – 9 in Midwest City, OK

<http://okrid.org/conference.html>

TSHA is strongly supportive of this annual conference. Some staff members have served on the committee, volunteered to interpret, or will work a booth. Five of our eight staff members will be in attendance, making sure we stay up to date on developments in the interpreting field, and keep our own skills sharp. We look forward to learning new things!!

TSHA's Kids' Summer Day Camp

"Around the World in 5 Days"

Kids - Plan now to be part of the fun and learning with your peers! *Volunteers* – put this week on your schedule. You won't want to miss it!

July 15 – 19 – This hands-on, week-long camp is from 9 – 3, for kids ages 7-13 yrs. (14-15 yrs. can be counselors-in-training) Deaf/HoH/siblings/CODAs welcome (*though we will keep our hearing enrollment proportional to our deaf/HoH*). We will have plenty of interactive activities and field trips related to CULTURES! We'll have deaf guest speakers from other countries. Of course, we'll swim, have a parent party, etc. as we always do. Request a camp brochure NOW, or fill out the form below.

Kids' Camp cost: \$60 for the week (\$70 for hearing kids). Scholarships may be available. Contact Diana Higgins at dhiggins@tsha.cc or (918) 832-8742 for more information, or see http://tsha.cc/2013_CampApp.pdf.



Enrollment Deadline: July 10, 2013

(however, space is limited, so don't wait!)

A place in the program can be held for your child only after tuition is received.

Child's name: _____

M/F _____ Birthday (mm/dd/yy): _____

Parent/Guardian's name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Day/Cell phone: _____ Other phone: _____

Email: _____

Describe camper's hearing or speech loss, and the preferred method of communication:

Explain any allergies or special needs:

In case of emergency, contact (other than parent/guardian listed above):

Name: _____ Day/Cell phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Summer Camps 2013!!

Parents! - Summer is here. Wondering what to do with the kids? TSHA has compiled a comprehensive list of all the Oklahoma camps we know of specifically geared to your deaf / hard-of-hearing / CODA / sibling kids:

Loving Hands Ranch Sulphur, OK

CODA (Children of Deaf Adults) Ages 6 - HS Graduation, June 4 to June 8

Deaf Teens Ages 12 - HS Graduation, June 21 to June 25

Deaf Children Ages 6 - 11, June 26 to June 30

Special Needs Deaf (*for all ages*) July 2 to July 6

Cost is \$130 a week, and \$65 for each additional sibling. For more information on these *overnight camps*, with traditional "camp" activities, contact Roy Woodall at (866) 630-0611 (video phone) or (580) 618-4116 (voice). You may also e-mail Roy at lovinghandsranch@yahoo.com. Or visit their website at www.lovinghandsranch.com/camp, for registration and volunteer forms. Volunteers needed.

Oklahoma School for the Deaf - Sulphur, OK

High school camp: June 16-21, age limits 12-17.

Elementary camp: June 23-26, age limits 6-11

The theme for camps this year is "**2gether We Can!!**" The 2013 camp will be filled with exciting and challenging activities. Everyone will work with a partner, but to improve social skills, those partners will change twice each day. We believe it will be a fun time for all. **PARENTS! Applications will be accepted from Feb. 4 - April. 30.** Late applications may not be accepted due to limited numbers. This no-cost, *overnight program* combines both education and recreation. For more information for this year or next year, contact Brent Behrens at 580-622-4949, cell: 580-618-5009 or email at behrens@osd.k12.ok.us. Website: <http://www.osd.k12.ok.us/>

University of Tulsa Deaf Stem Camp

TU is hosting a Free Camp June 17 to June 21 on campus and is open to Deaf, hard of hearing, CODA's; Level 1: 4th - 6th; Level 2: 7th - 9th (fall 2013).

Are you a student entering 4th through 9th grade in Fall 2013? Are you interested in technologies like GPS's, making maps, taking pictures, using PowerPoint? Then this academy is for you.

The camp is a DAY camp (8:30 - 4:00 daily). Parents must bring their children to and from the camp. For more information, email baker@utulsa.edu or visit <http://orgs.utulsa.edu/deafstem/>

TSHA's Summer Day Camp (see p. 4)

OK Deaf Christian Camp

Family-friendly camp for ages 9 and up will be held July 14-19 at Quartz Mountain in Lone Wolf. Check out the website for more information: www.deafchristiancamp.org

Summer Literacy Series in Oklahoma City

Friday, June 14 - August 2: Fabulous Hear and See Me Read (every Friday except July 5)

Individual Summer Therapy for Children (receive a free book at every visit)

Monday, July 29: End of Summer Literacy Workshop for parents and professionals. ASHA, LSLS CEU's and Teacher Certificates available.

Contact Integris Cochlear Implant Clinic for more information at 405-947-6030

Oklahoma Tornado Response in the Deaf Community

We at TSHA, like all Oklahomans, have watched the tornado destruction in our state and felt it as if it were happening to our own family. Our hearts have been with each and every person affected.

When we heard that **the homes of five members of our extended “family”** - deaf individuals and interpreters in Moore - **had been destroyed**, we had to take action. We joined with SLRS in Oklahoma City (a fellow interpreter referral agency) to help those families. We also received support from sign language student groups, and from the Arkansas RID chapter.

TSHA set up a collection box here at our agency, and gathered supplies and monetary donations through May 30, when those donations were sent on to SLRS to distribute directly to the five households. **You can contact us to see if additional help is still needed at rryan@tsha.cc or (918) 832-8742.**

In addition, **TSHA and SLRS have been in touch with FEMA** since shortly after the tornadoes struck. We stand ready, with the support of our Oklahoma interpreting community, to provide communication assistance if and when it is needed.

TSHA has always been mindful of the need to ensure that the deaf community has full access in times of disaster, as well as before (preparedness) and after (recovery). This is the reason we have been a core member of the Language & Culture Bank under Tulsa Partners for many years - **to be sure that when disaster-related needs are being discussed in our area, the deaf community is not forgotten.**

Again, our prayers, our support, and our hearts are with all those whose lives have been affected by the tornadoes.

Do you need a weather alert radio? If you are a resident of Oklahoma and have a hearing loss you can apply for special equipment. Check out the OSD's website for more information and an application.

http://www.osd.k12.ok.us/Publications/edp_app.pdf



OAD Tornado Relief Fund

The Oklahoma Association of the Deaf board is setting up a Tornado Relief fund for the Deaf Community who lost their homes from the tornadoes on May 19-20, 2013. For those who wish to send money, make sure that the checks are payable to OAD, with a memo specifically for the tornado relief fund.

Send to:

Christina Harvey, Treasurer
800 E. Natchez St.
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74011

Thanks in advance for your support.

For information on planning ahead for severe weather and developing a tornado safety kit check out the National Weather Service in Norman website:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/?n=safety-severe-safetyplan>

Gaps in Emergency Preparedness for People with Hearing Loss Raise Alarm

Source: HOH-LD News 04/14/2013 - As written in Hearing Loss Association of San Antonio May newsletter

Along with the devastation Hurricane Sandy wreaked on the East Coast last fall came renewed attention to the issue of how people who are deaf or hard of hearing receive information during a natural disaster or other emergency. On the other hand, Sandy brought front and center the vital role that sign language interpreters can play in disseminating accurate and timely emergency information. When New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg took to the TV airwaves to provide information on the massive storm bearing down the city, he had an interpreter signing at his side. In fact, one such interpreter quickly turned into a YouTube hit thanks to her pronounced facial expressions and hand and body movements. On the other hand, there were compelling stories of those left out of the loop, such as a deaf woman on hard-hit Staten Island who was unable to hear police when they came through her neighborhood with megaphones to announce evacuation plans.

Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/bv2wmyk>

Keep up your signing skills this summer!

Check out these monthly get-togethers.

Silent Dinners at Woodland Hills Mall at 6 pm:
June 20
July 23
August 19

Deaf Coffee Chat at Starbucks in Utica Square the second Friday of every month from 7 pm - 10 pm.

Deaf Coffee Chat at Panera Bread in Broken Arrow (2201 W. Detroit St.) the fourth Friday of every month from 7 pm - 10 pm.



What's Happening at TSHA?

- We are pleased to announce that Terri Thompson will be doing an internship with TSHA this summer. She will be working with our Independent Living Department. Welcome, Terri!
- We are also excited to share that Pam Dose will be assisting us in the area of fundraising, beginning this summer. It will be nice to see some new faces at TSHA.
- Our accounting director, Yamileth Canales, will be heading to Panama this summer for a great visit with family. Oh – and she might head to the beach for a day... or two...or three.
- Community Relations Manager Diana Higgins recently participated in the annual Toastmasters International Speech Contest. She won her club level, then area, and division. She came in 3rd at the District (state) contest.

What's Up at OSD?

The Oklahoma School for the Deaf has a beautiful presentation online.

Click here:

<http://www.osd.k12.ok.us/Publications/Strategic%20Plan.pdf>

Learn more about the past, present and future of this thriving school.

Did You Know.....

Men are more likely to experience hearing loss than women.

Source:

<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/statistics/Pages/quick.aspx>

Source: HOH-LD News 04/14/2013- As written in Hearing Loss Association of San Antonio May newsletter

It's easy enough to restore 20/20 eyesight with glasses or contacts. But even state of the art digital hearing aids can't perfectly restore hearing for people whose inner ears have been damaged by noise exposure, medications or just the wear and tear of aging. Part of the problem is that this kind of sensorineural hearing loss - the result of permanent damage to the inner ear - does more than just make sounds quieter. It can jumble the sounds, too, in ways that garble speech. To give people with normal hearing an inkling of how wild these distortions can be, hearing and speech researcher Arthur Boothroyd created several audio clips for Shots. Each Demo uses the same spoken sentence, but is distorted in a different way. Check out the full story at <http://tinyurl.com/cbkcbkp>. (Editor's Note: TSHA also has a sample of how distorted sound can be with a hearing loss. We use this for presentations and workshops. Let us know if you would like to hear it, or have it presented to a group.)

5 Minute Hearing Test

Rate each one as almost always, half the time, occasionally, or never.

1. I have a problem hearing over the telephone.
2. I have trouble following the conversation when two or more people are talking at the same time.
3. People complain that I turn the tv volume too high.
4. I have to strain to understand conversations.
5. I miss hearing some common sounds like the phone or doorbell ringing.
6. I have trouble hearing conversations in a noisy background such as a party.
7. I get confused about where sounds come from.
8. I misunderstand some words in a sentence and need to ask people to repeat themselves.
9. I especially have trouble understanding the speech of women and children.
10. I have worked in noisy environments (assembly lines, jackhammers, jet engines, etc).
11. Many people I talk to seem to mumble (or don't speak clearly).
12. People get annoyed because I misunderstand what they say.
13. I misunderstand what others are saying and make inappropriate responses.
14. I avoid social activities because I cannot hear well and fear I'll reply improperly.
15. **To be answered by a family member or friend:** Do you think this person has a hearing loss?



SCORING:

To calculate your score, give yourself 3 points for every time you chose "Almost always", 2 for every "Half the time", 1 for every "Occasionally", and 0 for "Never". If you have a blood relative who has a hearing loss, add another 3 points. Then total your points.

The American Academy of Otolaryngology -- Head and Neck Surgery recommends the following:

- 0 to 5 - Your hearing is fine. No action is required.
- 6 to 9 - Suggest you see an ear-nose-and-throat (ENT) specialist.
- 10 and above - Strongly recommend you see an ear physician and/or audiologist.

(Editor's Note: You can also contact TSHA for information on where you can get a quick, free initial hearing screening. If you **know** you have a hearing loss, you may want to go directly to an audiologist for a full, in-depth hearing evaluation. We can send you a list of audiologists, or you can find it on our website.)

Did You Know.....

There is a strong relationship between age and reported hearing loss: 18 percent of American adults 45-64 years old, 30 percent of adults 65-74 years old, and 47 percent of adults 75 years old or older have a hearing loss. Source: <http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/statistics/Pages/quick.aspx>

Special Insert - Share this with any who could benefit.

This is one of our most frequently requested handouts. Call TSHA for more information.

Oklahoma Adult Hearing Aid & Audiology Resources

For financial assistance in obtaining hearing aids here are some potential sources. Many of the listed programs are income based and each possesses different eligibility requirements.

Personal Insurance

While most insurance policies do not cover hearing aids, some can provide support. Check with your policy to see what is available.

Veteran's Administration Outpatient Clinic

9322 E. 41st St., Tulsa, OK 74145
918-628-2504

The link below provides answers for how veterans can get a hearing aid from the VA.

<http://www.ncrar.research.va.gov/ForVets/documents/CanIgetaHearingaidfromVA.pdf>

Claremore Indian Hospital

Indian Health Services applies to all tribes.
101 S. Moore Ave., Claremore, OK 74017
918-342-6200

Vocational Rehabilitation for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Only eligible if looking for employment or employed along with having a disability.

Office located at TSHA's Building, Suite F
918-836-5556
TTY/VP 918-836-7105

OKDRS Senior Citizens Hearing Aid Project

Can provide one new hearing aid to Oklahomans age 60 and over who are found eligible. Other assistive devices can also be applied for using the same form. See TSHA for applications or contact:

Oklahoma School for the Deaf
1100 E. Oklahoma St., Sulphur, OK 73086
866-309-1717

SHARP (Sertoma Hearing Aid Recycling Program)

SHARP may provide one reconditioned hearing aid to eligible individuals of all ages who do not fit under other programs. Applications available at TSHA or on the webpage:

<http://www.tsha.cc/hearingaids.htm>
SHARP c/o TSHA 918-832-8742 V/TTY

ABLE Tech Alternative Financing Program

Low interest loans for the purchase of needed assistive technology, including hearing aids for all ages. Information available at TSHA or the following:

1-888-885-5588

<http://okabletech.okstate.edu> – visit the “Financing Activities” link.

**Additional information about audiology and hearing health care professionals:*

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

List of national, state and local resources

<http://www.asha.org/public/coverage/audfundingresources.htm>

American Academy of Audiology

Provides information about audiology and audiologists.

<http://www.audiology.org/resources/consumer/Pages/default.aspx>

Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

This is the regulating body for Oklahoma and a site where you can confirm the qualifications of your professional as well as voice any concerns.

<http://www.obespa.state.ok.us/>

1-866-840-2774

OBESPA

P.O. Box 53592, Oklahoma City, OK 73152

List compiled by:

TSHA Inc.

8740 E. 11th St., Tulsa, OK 74112

918-832-8742 V/TTY

www.tsha.cc

Updated: 04/09

Contributions & Memberships

Contributions:

Cheryl Hicks
 Temple Foundation
 Public Service Company of Oklahoma
 Billy B. Strong
 The Newfield Foundation
 The Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation
 Aaron Bean

Memberships:

Carmen Hildreth
 David Brown
 Tsianina W. Kinney
 Aaron Bean
 Matthew Catlett
 Leslie Brier
 Robin Sanders
 Carl Moore
 Jeanne Pease

In Kind Contributions:

Laura Jones
 Donna Smith

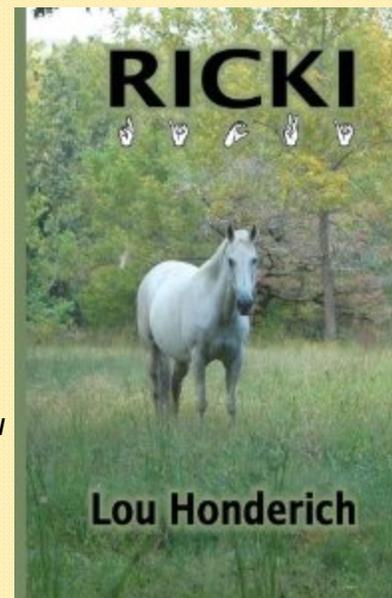
TSHA Volunteer Now Published Author!

Lou Honderich drove from Arkansas to Tulsa for several years to spend a week each July volunteering with TSHA's Summer Camp (*see p. 4 for information on this year's camp*). She has continued to support our kids' programs ever since. She has a special heart for children with hearing loss, since she herself lives with hearing loss. We are excited to announce that she has just had a book published!

If you're looking for a good summer read for your deaf / hoh child, you may want to check it out. Here's a press release:

RICKI, the story of a deaf ten-year-old, is now available at www.amazon.com and www.barnes&noble.com or at the TSHA lobby gift shop. It was written by Lou Honderich, a native Tulsan now living in Arkansas. Her severe hearing loss as an adult led her to sign language and the deaf community. A lifelong horsewoman and former teacher, Lou brings her knowledge of horses and interest in children with hearing loss to her novel. Although the book is targeted for children ages 8-12, it has found an audience among readers of all ages.

Copies sold at TSHA will benefit TSHA's summer camp.



Did You Know.....

Sound is measured in units called decibels. On the decibel scale, an increase of 10 means that a sound is 10 times more intense, or powerful. To your ears, it sounds twice as loud. The humming of a refrigerator is 45 decibels, normal conversation is approximately 60 decibels, and the noise from heavy city traffic can reach 85 decibels. Sources of noise that can cause NIHL (noise-induced hearing loss) include motorcycles, firecrackers, and small firearms, all emitting sounds from 120 to 150 decibels. Long or repeated exposure to sounds at or above 85 decibels can cause hearing loss. The louder the sound, the shorter the time period before NIHL can occur. Sounds of less than 75 decibels, even after long exposure, are unlikely to cause hearing loss.

Source <http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing/pages/noise.aspx>

TSHA Membership Application

Please PRINT clearly

Support TSHA through your annual membership and/or a donation.
Mail completed application to:

TSHA, Inc. / Membership Application, 8740 E. 11th Street, Suite A Tulsa, OK 74112-7957

Name: _____ Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ o TTY o V Work : _____ o TTY o V

VP: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____ *Newsletters are **emailed** unless otherwise specified.*

Membership Category

(Please **choose one** and enclose payment)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | \$25 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter | \$50 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate | \$100 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor | \$250 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$500 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Champion | \$1,000 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

Keep me updated on events/information on the following:

- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hard of Hearing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cochlear Implants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professionals in the field of Hearing Loss |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sign Language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Communication |

May was Better Hearing & Speech Month. When was the last time you had YOUR hearing checked? Contact us for referrals.

Did You Know.....

“Communication disorders decrease quality of life, across all ethnic and socioeconomic lines, and impose a significant social and economic burden upon individuals, their families, and the communities in which they live,” said NIDCD Director James F. Battey, Jr., M.D., Ph.D. “Millions of Americans experience a communication disorder at some point in their life, and they can be particularly challenging for young children and older adults.”

Source:

<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/news/releases/13/Pages/050113.aspx>



LIVE UNITED



Tulsa Area United Way
Partner Agency

Stay informed!

Follow us at:

<http://tsha.cc/blog/>

<http://twitter.com/tshainc>

<http://www.facebook.com/TSHAInc>



Hearing-loss and Access

8740 E. 11th Street Ste. A

Tulsa, OK 74112-7957

Phone: 918-832-8742 v/tty

Fax: 918-834-4329

Interpreter Services: 1-888-311-3523

Website: www.tsha.cc

MAY- JUNE 2013

TSHA's Assistive Technology Center

TSHA is a partner with Oklahoma ABLE Tech and with the Department of Rehabilitation Services' Equipment Distribution Program, in order to better serve deaf and hard of hearing individuals in northeastern Oklahoma.

The ABLE Tech loan program allows Oklahoma residents with hearing loss, their family members, and the professionals who support them to borrow assistive devices before purchasing. Using a device for up to six weeks gives individuals the opportunity to experience life with the device. This assists a person in making an informed decision whether or not an expensive device is a good fit.

The DRS Equipment Distribution Program provides specialized equipment in three categories especially tailored to meet the needs of consumers with deafness or hearing loss at no or reduced cost to qualified individuals.

Our Assistive Technology Center (ATC) has a variety of equipment available for individuals to try in person or to borrow for a period of six weeks. Some of the assistive devices we have ready to test include amplified phones, text phones, alert systems, personal amplification systems, clocks made especially for individuals with hearing loss, and many more devices.

Guidelines for Borrowing Equipment

Borrowing equipment from TSHA's Assistive Technology Center is easy.

- Devices may be borrowed by anyone.
- Loans may last up to six-weeks (42 Days).
- **Damage Deposit is \$50.** \$40 will be refunded to individuals upon return of equipment in working order and with all accessories.

Contact Diana to schedule your appointment at 918-832-8742 or dhiggins@tsha.cc.

