

# Hands & Voices

Annual Report  
2013-2014



# INSPIRE

## Leadership

PARENT DRIVEN

UNBIASED SUPPORT

*“Creative thinking inspires ideas. Ideas inspire change.”*

- Barbara Januszkiewicz



HANDS &  
VOICES™



ADVOCACY  
SUPPORT &  
TRAINING



GUIDE BY  
YOUR SIDE™

[www.handsandvoices.org](http://www.handsandvoices.org)

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## H&V Mission & Vision

### MISSION STATEMENT

Hands & Voices is a parent driven organization that supports families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing without a bias around communication modes or methodology.

### VISION STATEMENT

We envision a world where children who are deaf and hard of hearing have every opportunity to achieve their full potential.



“Thank you so much for sending  
The GBYS guide our way.. She was  
a breath of fresh air. We absolutely  
feel like we connected so good with  
her. She gave of tons of great info  
and hope!! Thanks again so much !!”

- Amy

“Thank you so much! All the  
information you shared with me  
was very helpful. That’s the most  
information I’ve gotten out of anyone!  
Being a young mom is hard, and  
having a deaf child makes it even  
harder! ...you make things easier on  
families...thank you for helping a fellow  
mother we need to stick together!”

– Young mom from rural Texas

# The H&V Year at a Glance

- H&V **Chapter Count**: Authorized: 43 Provisional: 4.
- **Tech Support** to chapters and their leaders; Chapter Health Assessment implemented to determine capacity and sustainability of organization.
- H&V **Guide By Your Side** Programs: 20; The GBYS Health Assessment and Annual Program Goals showed great growth and support to families.
- 11th Annual Hands & Voices **Leadership Conference** was held in Sept. 2014 in Savannah, GA .
- Established **Spanish Speaking** Support Forum and increased materials on website.
- **Expanded Staff time** to meet the needs of programs, chapters, and projects at the headquarter level.
- H&V **Representation** on national/international boards and committees.
- H&V **D/HH Infusion Project** ensures meaningful involvement of adults who are D/HH; innovative pilot for virtual D/HH Role Model opportunities for families.
- The **Hands & Voices Communicator** distributed over 5,500 4 times a year.
- H&V **Regional Coordinators** served 11 geographical regions of North America and Canada for H&V chapter interaction.
- H&V expanded **Deafed.net** website with 34,000 registered users, new content areas (e.g., DCDD “Topical Post) and new interactive wiki discussions concerning “frequently encountered challenges & solutions” in the education of children who are d/hh.
- The **O.U.R. Project** – Observing, Understanding, and responding to Child Abuse and Neglect for our children who are deaf/hard of hearing; created new safety checklists, developed and posted new YouTube videos, established consensus among CEC divisions to add safety statements to ed. documents, and will soon offer maltreatment prevention Webinars for CEC & ASHA.
- Hands & Voices **ASTra Program** fully developed and implementation began.
- Disseminated **Loss & Found video** to over 85 sites via the Genetic Alliance/Baby’s First Test partnership.
- Partnering with **Research/National Projects**: The CU Boulder NECAP Project; The NICHQ Learning Collaboratives; CDC Projects from the Parent to Parent Committee; NCHAM Parent Advisory; AAP EHDl Committee; Deaf Education Summit; Genetic Alliance.
- Dissemination of **online, accessible webinar** basic courses for board and chapter development.
- Hands & Voices on **Twitter**: 3224 followers, and increase of 20% from last year.
- Hands & Voices **Facebook** page has over 2792 ‘likes.’
- Established **H&V Blog** at <http://handsandvoices.org/deafhardofhearingchildren/>.
- H&V **E-News** published cutting edge news six times a year.
- H&V **Products** Educational Advocacy Guidebook, Book of Choice in English and Spanish sales continued.
- **www.handsandvoices.org** has over 12,000 unique visitors a month; new Spanish resources on website.



“The H&V ASTra Training has given me confidence, resilience,...it was empowering, fascinating, refreshing, in depth, practical, informative, useful, interesting...I feel educated and energized in my advocacy efforts.” – Workshop Participant

# Financial Support



July 2013 – June 2014

Hands & Voices Income: \$336,739

Expenses: \$311,610

Hands & Voices is grateful for the financial support it received in this fiscal year from the following:

- Caption Colorado
- Colorado Hearing Foundation
- Deafed.net project
- Genetic Alliance
- Hear the World Foundation
- National Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM)
- Oberkotter Foundation
- University of CO Boulder NECAP Grant

And of course, Individual Donors like you!

We are very proud of the impact we have as an organization with limited funding, and endeavor to use every dollar for the fulfillment of our mission to support families who have children who are deaf/hard of hearing.

“I love reconnecting with all the other people from all over and sharing experiences, both happy and struggles. It is a powerful feeling of belonging to be in a room with so many other parents that get it..”

– 2014 H&V Conference Participant

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“What works for your child is what makes the choice right.”