



For immediate release:  
November 11, 2011

## **Hands & Voices Will See a Transition in Leadership**

The nation's largest parent-led organization supporting families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing is saying goodbye to its co-founder, Leeanne Seaver. Seaver has resigned as executive director of Hands & Voices so she can "pursue the next adventure" in her life. In a letter to the board of directors, Leeanne wrote "...and now it's time for me to move on to new things. It's time for Hands & Voices to have a new executive director, so I resign from this role with the feeling not unlike the one I had when I dropped Dane off at college. It's undeniably time, but what a bittersweet inevitability and difficult separation it is for me."

Leeanne and her husband Tom have three children; their oldest, Dane, is profoundly deaf. She has been involved in family support from the time of his identification at 18 months of age. Along with Cheryl Johnson and Janet DesGeorges, Leeanne co-founded Hands & Voices based on the philosophy that whatever makes the communication choice work for the child and his/her family is what makes the choice right. Hands & Voices mission continues to be one of unbiased support to families regardless of how they are communicating with their child with hearing loss.

Seaver will continue to serve on the Hands & Voices board of directors, and will continue as a featured speaker, and will work on special projects for H&V. Her column, "In a Perfect World" will remain a regular feature of *The Hands & Voices Communicator*. For more information on her, see:

[http://www.handsandvoices.org/services/sp\\_bureau/bios.htm](http://www.handsandvoices.org/services/sp_bureau/bios.htm)

Cheryl Johnson, President of the Board of Directors, and Janet DesGeorges, newly appointed Executive Director, will oversee the transition process of this non-profit organization that has over 40 chapters (including new "start-up" groups and fully approved H&V chapters). For more information on Hands & Voices, please visit [www.handsandvoices.org](http://www.handsandvoices.org)