



MINNESOTA
HANDS &
VOICES™

Supporting families
with children who are
deaf & hard of hearing

FOCUS

Hands & Voices — Observe, Understand & Respond Children's Safety Project



We don't like to think about it, but our kids who are deaf or hard of hearing (dhh) are at a higher risk for bullying, abuse and neglect. (H&V HQ O.U.R. Project website.)

Hands & Voices Head Quarters' (H&V HQ) website offers many resources, articles, and services on many different topics that are relevant to families with children who are dhh. One topic of great importance is the O.U.R. Children's Safety Project.

The acronym O.U.R. stands for Observe,

Understand & Respond. The goal is to prevent or greatly reduce the overall incidences and duration of bullying, abuse, and neglect for children with disabilities. O.U.R. Project teaches parents and professionals how to observe, understand and respond to signs and observable patterns of behavior often demonstrated by children who may be at risk.

Seventy-seven percent of respondents who are dhh indicated experiencing some form of child maltreatment, compared with 49 percent among respondents who have typical hearing. (H&V HQ O.U.R. Project website.)

Statistically children who are dhh are two to three times more likely to experience bullying, abuse and neglect. Due in part to language barriers in reporting, a child who is dhh may not understand, be understood, or be misrepresented. Communication level can impact a child's ability to clarify

their experience and answer questions.

PACER is another organization working to keep children with disabilities safe through their National Bullying Prevention Center. Find PACER's resources for families at <https://www.pacer.org>

H&V HQ O.U.R. Children's Safety Project resources for families can be found at <http://www.handsandvoices.org/resources/OUR/index.htm>

★ Saturday April 13 ★

Knowledge is O.U.R. Best Defense!
2:15 to 3:15 pm & 3:45 to 4:45 pm
Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center
2100 Arrowwood Ln., Alexandria, MN

Leslie Carnegie-Hilde, MNH&V Parent Guide, is presenting, *Knowledge is O.U.R. Best Defense!*, at the Charting the C's 2019 Student Family Conference. Registration for the conference online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GLL2G6M>

All Families can Nominate an Exceptional Individual for a High Five Award

The High Five Award is an opportunity for parents to publicly thank those who do more than expected on behalf of children who are dhh. Parents are invited to nominate another parent, teacher, interpreter, medical provider, community advocate, role model, or anyone who inspires your family!

Now through July 1st, MNH&V is accepting one nomination per family from parents.

Email your nomination, subject line "High Five Award", to mnhv@lifetrack-mn.org

Winners will be announced at the MNH&V Metro Family Picnic on Thursday, August 1st. Recognition for winners will also take place at the picnic or, for greater Minnesota recipients, in a community convenient for them and the nominating family.





Masonic Motorcycle Club International #24

Thank you to the Minnesota Masonic Motorcycle Club International Chapter #24 (MMCI#24) for their generous donation to Minnesota Hands & Voices (MNH&V). MMCI#24, organized in 2000, has donated to MNH&V in the past and donates exclusively to organizations that are locally funded. Their donations have gone towards MNH&V's events that support the social emotional needs of our families and especially their children who are deaf or hard of hearing.



Cake with an exact likeness of the MMCI#24 logo, made by one of the members to share at the potluck dinner.

MNH&V was invited to present at a MMCI#24 meeting which included a potluck dinner. Mary Stadelman, Metro Parent Guide, shared MNH&V's mission during their meeting, a motion was made and passed to donate to MNH&V. MMCI#24 we thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Side note: Mary was awarded the leftover cake to take home to her family who made sure every bite of the delicious chocolate creme-filled bite was appreciated.



One happy Metro area teddy bear recipient.

Thanks for your contribution!

We rely on your generous support to build better lives for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Make a tax-deductible donation today.

DONATE

MNH&V EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

MNH&V DHH Guides

MNH&V is looking to fill 4 DHH Guide positions to support families throughout Minnesota, specifically in the Northern, Southern, and Metro areas. The MNH&V DHH Guide positions offer 10 hours a week, which occasionally include evening and weekend hours, and a family friendly work environment. Also, we are in need of an additional DHH Guide to be on-call.

MNH&V DHH Guides must be an individual who grew up deaf or hard of hearing (dhh) and are now active and involved adults willing to share their personal stories with others. Sharing their personal experiences, challenges, and joys as an adult who is dhh offers an invaluable perspective for parents who are raising a child who is dhh.

DHH Guides receive specific training and are responsible to make connections with families. DHH Guides work closely with the MNH&V team to collaborate on family events, represent MNH&V in the community, and participate in family support activities.

To find out more or to apply and send a resume, please visit Lifetrack at <https://recruiting.paylocity.com/Recruiting/Jobs/List/1442>

MNH&V Welcomes Maya DesMarais, DHH Guide



Maya DesMarais, DHH Guide

“To this day, my mom and grandma are my two biggest supporters,” said Maya. “I know I can go to them about anything.”

Maya DesMarais’ mother found out about Maya’s hearing difference when she was three years old. Maya credits her academic successes to her mother and grandmother’s advocating on her behalf and their family’s decision to use Cued

Speech. As a Minnesota native, Maya also recognizes her family’s involvement with the MNH&V community was a valuable experience growing up.

“I have been a part of this program (MNH&V) since I was 3 years old. I have met people that are the same as me and I have made lifelong connections,” Maya said.

As a DHH Guide, Maya is looking forward to making connections with new MNH&V families and sharing her experiences having grown up in this community as an individual who is dhh. Maya identifies herself as hard of hearing, she is a cochlear implant user, she uses Cued Speech, and she is also fluent in American Sign Language.

“My only advice to the parents of a child who is dhh, is make sure they feel included in the family, especially family gatherings,” Maya adds. “That is when we feel the most lonely.”

MNH&V families can contact Maya by text at 612-201-2864 or email her at MayaD@Lifetrack-mn.org.

Gymnastic Classes Using American Sign Language

Gleason’s Gymnastic School in Eagan, MN, offers gymnastic classes in American Sign Language (ASL). A coach at the Eagan location has studied ASL and they have developed a series of signs relating to the world of gymnastics. Along with the use of finger-spelling they can offer adapted classes for students who are dhh.

Gleason’s Gymnastic School already offers adapted classes year round to support their Special Olympic team.

Gleason’s Gymnastic School is located at 2015 Silver Bell Road, Suite 180, Eagan, MN. For more information call 651-454-6203 or email Teri@gleasons.com

Cue Access

Making the Spoken Seen

Cue Access offers clear and accurate cued language transliteration in the public setting for those who use Cued Speech. Cue Access’ staff are nationally certified cued language transliterators serving the Twin Cities metro area, greater Minnesota, and surrounding states.

Cue Access staff have worked many years in the educational setting providing cued language services. They are committed to providing a high level of support for the cue community, beyond the classroom. MNH&V contacts Cue Access to provide cued language transliterating for events.

For information go to www.cueaccess.com or email info@cueaccess.com

MNH&V Events

ALL MNH&V Family Events are open to ALL Minnesota families who have a child who is dhh.

Saturday, March 23

The Finesse of Advocacy

10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Fergus Falls Area Family YMCA

1164 Friberg Ave., Fergus Falls, MN

★ Saturday April 13 ★

Knowledge is OUR Best Defense!

Charting the C’s Conference

2:15 to 3:15 pm & 3:45 to 4:45 pm

Arrowwood Resort

2100 Arrowwood Ln., Alexandria, MN

• Register for the conference to attend at www.surveymonkey.com/r/GLL2G6M

Saturday April 13

More Than Meets the Eye: Developing ASL in Early Childhood (Part 2)

10:00 am to Noon

Lifetrack

709 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN

Saturday May 4

Play by Play: Fundamentals of Sports Communication for DHH Athletes

10:00 am to Noon

Lifetrack

709 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN

★★ Thursday, August 1 ★★

MNH&V Annual Family Picnic - Metro

5:00 to 8:30 pm

Como Park Midway Pavilion

1199 Midway Parkway, St. Paul, MN

Visit our website for event updates at www.mnhandsandvoices.org/news-events or send us your email address to sign up to receive the MNH&V Weekly **SOURCE** email offering the latest news and events at www.mnhandsandvoices.org

★ Look for these stars to find article topics relating to specific MNH&V Family Events.

Two New Accessibility Apps for Android Smartphones Now Available on Google

Live Transcribe

Live Transcribe was developed by Google in partnership with Gallaudet University. Using the phone's microphone, Live Transcribe can turn speech into real-time captioning in over 70 languages and dialects. Powered by Google's speech recognition technology, the captions adjust to the speaker. Also, optional two-way conversations via keyboard for individuals who are nonverbal and external microphones can improve transcription accuracy.

Live Transcribe is compatible with Android 5.0 (Lollipop) and later.
https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.audio.hearing.visualization.accessibility.scribe&hl=en_US

Sound Amplifier

Sound Amplifier can make audio more clear and easier to hear. Pair your Android smartphone with wired headphones, then use Sound Amplifier to filter, augment and amplify the sounds in the environment. Use simple sliders and toggles to customize sound settings, apply noise reduction, and minimize background noise.

Sound Amplifier is compatible with Android 9 Pie or later phones and comes pre-installed on Pixel 3.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.accessibility.soundamplifier>

Benefit Concert for Northern Voices Featuring The Crown Jewels, A Tribute to Queen

Friday, March 22, 2019

Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door

The Parkway Theater, 4814 Chicago Ave, Minneapolis, MN

Rock the Voices concert is for people of all ages and open to the public. All proceeds go to help children with cochlear implants and hearing aids learn to listen, speak and advocate with their own voice.

Northern Voices is a local nonprofit organization, founded in 1999, that relies on donor and community support. For more information, please visit www.northernvoices.org.

We've Got the Beat, Using Rhythm to Regulate the Family System Event



January 26, 2019, Alexis Greeves, a Professional Clinical Counselor, Registered Play Therapist, and Supervisor with Hope and Healing Family Counseling, LLC, lead parents and children in a drum circle with the drums created by the children during the event. The educational goal for the parents of this rhythmic event was to learn ways to stay calm and help their children regulate during highly anxious moments. Alexis is an Adjunct Professor at Gallaudet University's Counseling Department and Bethel University's Counseling Psychology Department, teaching play therapy. Alexis has been working in the field of deafness since 1995 and graduated from Gallaudet University with an MA in 1999.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

MNH&V Annual Family Picnic Metro

Minnesota Hands & Voices (MNH&V) is looking for volunteers for this year's Annual Metro Family Picnic on Thursday, August 1, from 5:00 - 8:30 pm. We are looking for volunteers to help in several areas during the picnic, such as welcoming families through registration and helping children with activities and crafts. American Sign Language Interpreters and Cued English Transliterators will be available at the picnic to provide access, but we welcome any parent or student volunteers who have communication skills, too. Volunteers are also needed to arrive early to help set-up and/or stay late to help clean-up. Please let us know what your "super powers" are and what you might want to do to make this event more special for MNH&V families.

"Many hands make light work."

— John Heywood

Over the years we have been fortunate to have an active MNH&V community of volunteers who have made the Annual Metro Family Picnic a success. Please consider joining us this year. Volunteer registration is easy, but takes time to process properly so as soon as you can commit please contact Anne Barlow, MNH&V Events Coordinator, at 651.265.2400 or email at AnneB@lifetrack-mn.org

Deaf Awareness Day

**Saturday, April 27, 2019
10:00 am to 5:00 pm**

Deaf Awareness Day is free and open to the public. Organized by the Minnesota Association of Deaf Citizens to give individuals and families an opportunity to learn more about the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

"There is a huge deaf community in Twin Cities," said Mark Zangara, event coordinator. "Everyone should experience what this rich culture has to offer. This event is a fun way to learn about American Sign Language and deaf culture."

Concessions will be sold all day. Find games, prizes, information, and exhibitors selling crafts. Representatives from different organizations and schools will be on site to provide information. Attendees can learn basic sign language.

Stillwater Area High School
5701 Stillwater Blvd N
Oak Park Heights, MN
Email questions to dad@minndeaf.org

CueSign: Where Lifelong Language Learning Lives

CueSign is an all-inclusive community of people who are bilingual using both American Sign Language (ASL) and Cued English (CE). They believe it is essential to have complete representation of language to develop the linguistic foundation necessary for life-long learning. The organization promotes full, visual access to language for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing (dhh) through both ASL and English (via CE, spoken, or printed).

CueSign, Inc.

- Provides support to educational programs by providing legal and educational feedback.
- Works with organizations at state levels by providing tools and resources needed to ensure children who are dhh receive

MSAD's Little Theater presents The Snow White Variety Show

This fast-paced comedy is where the seven dwarves tell the story of Snow White. As each new dwarf takes a turn telling part of Snow White's story in his or her own unique voice, the players' re-enactment shifts to match the personality of that particular dwarf. Filled with romance, comedy, suspense, mystery, and more! The performance culminates in a mad-dash ending that sets the record straight on Snow White's happily-ever-after.

Show Times: April 11, 12, and 13
Thursday-6:00 pm (ASL Only)
Friday-6:00 pm
Saturday-1:00 pm

Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf
615 Olof Hanson Drive, Faribault, MN

Cost of Admission, Adults \$5, Students \$3, Children 3 and under free

For special accommodations please contact laura.skyquest@msa.state.mn.us

complete access to literacy.

- Supports families by providing resources and options to meet the developmental, educational, and social and emotional needs of their child who is dhh.

Chi-CueSign Camp

July 10-14, 2019, is for families and professionals located at the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville, IL. This camp is a unique and exciting collaboration between CueSign, Inc. and Camp Chi-Cue-Go and a way to learn ASL and CE for the whole family and professionals who work with students who are dhh.

For more information about CueSign and Chi-CueSign Camp go to <https://www.cuesign.org>

FREE Lifetime Access Pass to National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands

A free lifetime Access Pass, providing admittance to more than 2,000 recreation sites managed by five Federal agencies, is available to all U.S. citizens or permanent residents of all ages who have a medically determined permanent disability.

What does having an Access Pass mean for families? It means huge savings on your next family road trip to a National Park! The Access Pass offers free admission per-vehicle for the pass owner and all

passengers, and free admission per-person for the pass owner and 3 accompanying adults where there is a per-person fee charged. At many sites the Access Pass provides the pass owner a discount on expanded amenity fees such as camping, swimming, and guided tours.

Get an Access Pass in person at a Federal Recreation site or sent by mail when you apply online. For more information visit <https://store.usgs.gov/access-pass>

MRID Camp ASL 2019

May 17-May 19

This camp is for interpreters, consumers, and interested persons associated with Minnesota Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (MRID). Located at Camp Friendship, 10509 108th St NW, Annandale, MN.

Community/Students (no CEUs) is \$162.00. Interpreters and other Professionals (CEUs or hours) is \$202.00

For more information and registration go to <https://www.mrid.org/event-3190697>

MNH&V Event, Empowering Teen Writers to Become Published Authors



February 16, 2019, Rachel Anderson, a publisher, lead a novel writing workshop for teens covering a variety of topics, including where story ideas come from, how to get started on a manuscript, editing, the importance of proofreading, and the various methods available for publishing. Sigma's Bookshelf owned by Rachel and her son, Justin, 17, have published 12 teen authored books. Parents had an opportunity to visit with a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor.



Photos from KFAI Radio interview with Rachel and Justin, co-owners of Sigma's Bookshelf, and Anne Barlow, MNH&V Events Coordinator, to promote MNH&V's Family Event, Empowering Teen Writers to Become Published Authors.

2019 Summer Camps

Camps located in MN & WI are highlighted in red.

This list is not comprehensive and new camps could have been added after printing. For more camp listings by state go to www.gallaudet.edu/clerc-center/info-to-go/national-resources-and-directories/summer-camps.html

PLEASE NOTE: Listed are camps for children who are dhh and their families. However, any camp that is open to the public and charges a fee is responsible to provide language access under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Parents should give camps advance notice that their child who is dhh will be attending and their accommodations needs.

MRID Camp ASL

May 17-19, 2019
Annandale, MN
CAMPASL@mrid.org

Spring Camp Cheerio

May 17-19, family
Glade Valley, NC
springcampcheerio.org

Haven Acres DHH Program

June 3 -Aug 30, weekly, all ages
Hampton, MN
www.havenacresmn.org

AHIHA Hockey Camp

June 8-15, DHH players all ages
Bensenville, IL
usadeafhockey.org

Oklahoma School for the Deaf Summer Camp

June 9-14, gr 7-12
June 9-12, gr K-6
Sulphur OK
osd.k12.ok.us/dhac/

CNI Cochlear Kids Camp

June 13-16, ages 3-18
Aug 1-4, ages 3-18
Estes Park, CO
thecni.org/cochlear-kids-camp/

Got Skills? Sports Camps

June 15-22, gr 7-9
Academic Bowl, Debate, Soccer, Volleyball, Football, Basketball

Discover Your Future

June 23-30, gr 10-12

Immerse into ASL!

June 23-30, gr 10-12

Bison Brainiacs

June 23-30, gr 9-12

Catch Them Young

July 14-21,
High School Students of Color
Gallaudet University, WA
gallaudet.edu

ASL & Deaf Culture Immersion Week

June 16-22, ages 18+

KODA Children Camp

June 23-29, ages 8-10

KODA Youth Camp

June 30-July 12, ages 11-13

KODA Teen Camp

July 14-26, ages 14-16

Deaf Film Camp

July 28-Aug 9, ages 13-16

Deaf STEM Camp

Aug 11-23, ages 8-14

Bible Institute Camp

Aug 25-31, ages 18+

ASL Family Week

Aug 25-31, family ages 3 & up
Old Forge, NY
www.campmark7.org

Deaf Children's Camp

June 16-21, ages 4-17
Milford, IN
indeafcamps.org/camp/

Listening & Spoken Language Camp

June 16-21, ages 8-18
Nashville, IN
hearindiana.org/

Camp Isola Bella

June 23-July 6, ages 8-12
July 14-27, ages 13-17
Taconic, CT
www.asd-1817.org/media

Clarke's Summer Camp

July 7-19, ages 9-17
Easthampton, MA
clarkeschools.org

Camp Talooali Session 1 & 2

July 1-5, July 8-12,
weekend July 5-6, ages 6-15

Camp Talooali Day Camp

7:30 am - 5:30 pm
July 1-5, July 8-12, ages 6-15
Stayton, OR
talooali.org

Chi-CueSign Camp

July 10-14, family
Jacksonville, IL
www.cuesign.org

MN DHH Family & Friends Camp

June 16-20, family
Onamia, MN
www.camponomia.org/

Camp Courage North

July 15-20, ages 7-17
Lake George, MN
Zach Orner
ZachO@truefriends.org
952-852-0101 x321

Explore Your Future, Sessions 1 & 2

July 6-11 & 13-18, gr 11-12

TechGirlz

July 20-25, gr 7-9 girls

TechBoyz

July 20-25, gr 7-9 boys

Health Care Careers

Exploration Camp
July 20-25, gr 10-12
NTID, Rochester, NY
www.rit.edu/ntid/outreach/

Camp Lions Camp Sessions Youth Camp DHH/Deafblind

June 23-29, ages 7-17

Dixon, IL

High Adventure Camp

DHH/Deafblind

June 30-July 6, ages 13-17, 18-24

Makanda, IL

Youth Camp DHH Only

July 14-20, ages 7-17

Hudson, IL

Youth Camp DHH/Deafblind

July 21-27, ages 7-17

Hudson, IL

Youth Camp DHH/Deafblind

July 28-Aug 3, ages 7-17
Benton, IL
lionsofillinoisfoundation.org/camp-lions.html

Camp Sertoma

July 7-12, gr 3-8
East Gull Lake, MN
www.campsertoma.com

Sertoma Deaf Camp

July 14-19, ages 7-14
Camp Marvin Hillyard
Easton, MO
sertomadeafcamp.org

South Camp Teresita Pines

July 14-20, ages 7-15
Wrightwood, CA
lionswildcamp.org/schedule/

NAD Youth Leadership Camp

July 17-Aug 11, gr 7-12
Camp Talooali, Oregon
www.nad.org/youth/youth-leadership-camp/

Wisconsin Lions Camp

July 21-26, ages 6-17
July 28-Aug 2, ages 6-17
Aug 19-23, ages 18+ adults
Rosholt, WI
wisconsinlionscamp.com

Camp Pacifica

July 21-27, ages 7-15
Sierra Nevada foothills, CA
camppacifica.org/camp

E.X.I.T.E. Camp

July 25, 29, 31 Aug 2, 6, 8
girls gr 6-9, 9am-4pm
PACER Center, Bloomington, MN
pacer.org/stc/exite/Camp.asp

Camp Grizzly DHH & KODA

July 28-Aug 3, ages 7-15
Wilseyville, CA
www.campgrizzly.org

Northern Lights ASL Camp

Aug 4-9, ages 7-17
Lake George, MN
truefriends.org/camp/

Camp Ross Relles

Aug 4-10, ages 7-15
Nevada City, CA
lionswildcamp.org/schedule/

Sanneh Foundation FREE DHH Soccer Camp

Aug 12-15, ages 6-12
1:00 pm-3:30 pm
Phalen Recreation Center, St. Paul
apm.activecommunities.com/saintpaul/Activity_Search/55547



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709 University Ave. W.
St. Paul, MN 55104

FOCUS

NEWSLETTER

Minnesota Hands & Voices FOCUS Newsletter

March-April 2019

★★ 2019 Annual ★ Minnesota Hands & Voices ★ Metro ★★

Date: Thursday, August 1st

Time: 5:00-8:30 pm (rain or shine)

Where: Como Park Midway Pavilion
1199 Midway Pkwy, St Paul, MN

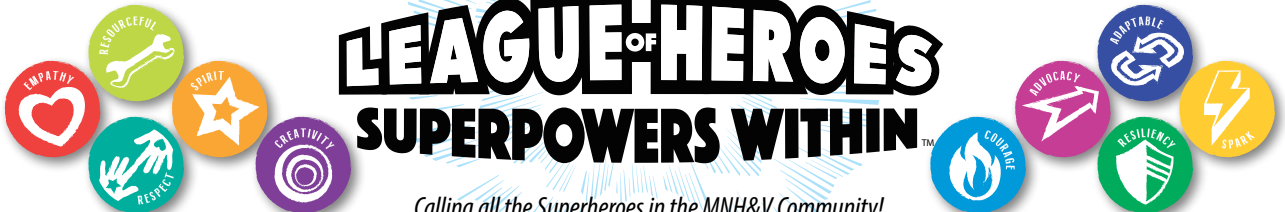
Free for Families:

- ★ Dinner
- ★ Fun Games
- ★ Entertainment
- ★ Face Painting
- ★ Door Prizes!

Dilly Bars
graciously
provided by



HANDS & VOICES
LEAGUE OF HEROES
SUPERPOWERS WITHIN™



Calling all the Superheroes in the MNH&V Community!
Dust off your superhero costume or come as you are to join our Hands & Voices' League of Heroes!

Find more details online at www.mnhandsandvoices.org/news-events/current-news-events.aspx

FAMILY PICNIC