

Funding Resources for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

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Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Phone: (202) 337-5220

Website: listeningandspokenlanguage.org

They have 3 programs that can assist children with hearing loss. Preschool-Age Financial Aid Program; Parent-Infant Financial Aid Program; School-age Financial Aid Program

Audient – Epic Hearing Healthcare

Phone: (866) 956-5400 x. 2 (ask for Audient low-income program)

Website: audientalliance.org

AUDIENT helps low income people nationwide access quality hearing aids and related care at a significantly lower cost. AUDIENT income qualifies families to be eligible for a discount on brand name hearing aids available through the AUDIENT Alliance's national network of dedicated hearing care providers. Brand selection includes Oticon, Phonak, Siemens, Widex, & Unitron hearing aids.

CaptionCall

Phone: (877) 557-2227

Website: captioncall.com

CaptionCall is a revolutionary telephone for anyone who has difficulty hearing on the phone. CaptionCall makes it easy to communicate confidently with friends, family and colleagues by phone.

Similar to captioned television, CaptionCall communication assistants use voice recognition technology to quickly provide written captions of what callers say on a large, easy-to-read screen. Plus, CaptionCall offers exceptional sound quality with amplification and customizable audio settings to match an individual's unique hearing loss. To qualify for this free service, an individual must have a hearing loss, a valid U.S. Social Security number or tax ID.

First Hand Foundation

Phone: (816) 201-1569

Website: cerner.com/firsthand/

The Foundation assists individual children who have clinical, health-related needs and no financial safety net to cover these expenses. This can include hearing aids.

Gift of Hearing Foundation

Phone: (617) 661-HEAR (4327)

Website: <http://www.giftofhearingfoundation.org>

Overview

Working closely with the medical community, the Gift of Hearing Foundation will provide financial support to help a select number of economically disadvantaged patients receive cochlear implants. We will use these selected cases to highlight the gaps in reimbursement for cochlear implants and advocate for change. We can provide financial assistance to those whose insurance coverage will not provide for the cost of CI Implants.

We do not assist with hearing aids.

Eligibility Requirements and Application Process

Applications for assistance must be submitted through the cochlear implant center that has determined that the individual qualifies as a CI candidate. GOHF does not accept applications from individuals. A qualified CI candidate should have their CI audiologist or surgeon's office contact GOHF directly for an application.

Hear Now Foundation

Phone: (800) 328-8602 (ask for Hear Now)

Website: sotheworldmayhear.org/hearnow/

Hear Now is a national non-profit program of the Starkey foundation committed to assisting deaf and hard-of-hearing persons with limited financial resources in obtaining high quality new hearing aids.

Help America Hear Program

Phone: (888) 580-8866

Website: Fssny.org

The Foundation for Sight and Sound through its Help America Hear Program (HAH) provides hearing aids for men, women and children with limited financial resources.

Hike Fund

Website: thehikefund.org

The purpose of the Fund is to provide hearing devices for children with hearing losses between the ages of newborn and twenty years whose parents are unable to meet this special need financially.

iCanConnect The National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program

Website: www.icanconnect.org

Contact Information for Kentucky

Tricia Davis

Email: Tricia.Davis@EKU.edu and

Phone: (859) 622-8156.

Videophone: 859-353-6181

The goal of this program is to get technology into the hands of Americans with combined hearing and vision loss so they can connect with family, friends, and community. For those who qualify, technology equipment used for distance communication is provided free. The types of equipment available include: Braille devices, Phones, Computers, Signalers, and Mobile devices. (hearing aids are not included)

Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation (KATLC)

Phone: (877) 675-0195

Website: katlc.ky.gov

The Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation (KATLC) offers low interest loans for qualified applicants with disabilities who need assistive technology. This includes Hearing aids.

KY Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs

Phone: (800) 232-1160

Website: chfs.ky.gov/ccshcn

The Commission can cover hearing aids for children/teenagers up to age 21.

Kentucky Deaf-Blind Services

Contact: Chad Hunt Office f/t Blind

Phone: (800) 222-1215 or (270) 495-3132 (VP)

Chad.Hunt@ky.gov

OFB and OVR work together to provide vocational services to individuals who are deaf-blind. This can include the purchase of assistive technology including hearing aids.

Kentucky Medicaid

Hearing Services

Phone: (502) 564-6890

Website: chfs.ky.gov/dms/hearing.htm

Hearing and hearing aid evaluations performed by audiologists, and hearing aids dispensed by hearing aid dealers are covered for persons under age 21. Follow-up visits, checkups and certain hearing aid repairs are also covered.

Kentucky Medicaid Waivers (no age limit)

Hearing aids can be provided for individuals enrolled in the Supports for Community Living (SCL) Waiver Program.

Phone: (502) 564-7702

The Home and Community Based waiver can provide \$3,500 toward the cost of hearing aids.

Phone: (502) 5646930

Other Medicaid waivers Acquired Brain Injury, and Michelle P can provide hearing aids only when the consumer directed option is being used.

Phone: (502) 564-5560

Website: chfs.ky.gov/dms (click programs and services)

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs (KDVA)

Phone: (800) 572-6245

Website: veterans.ky.gov

The KDVA can guide eligible veterans through the process of receiving services from the Federal Veterans administration this can include hearing aids.

Kentucky Office for Vocational Rehabilitation Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

Phone: (800) 372-7172 (V/TTY)

OVR provides vocational services to individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. This can include the purchase of assistive technology including hearing aids.

Kentucky's Statewide Hearing Aid Assistance and Reuse Program SHARP

(800) 327-5287

katsnet.org

The goal of this program is to make it easier for Kentuckians with hearing loss to acquire hearing aids. To achieve this goal, we are providing the following services to residents of Kentucky as long as funds are available.

- Assistance with application fees for Hear Now, Help America Hear and other similar programs;
- Assistance with the purchase of reconditioned hearing aids;
- Assistance with the repair of hearing aids;
- Assist in finding Hearing Providers that work with the above programs;
- Donation of no longer needed hearing aids: (donated hearing aids help fund SHARP)

To donate no longer needed hearing aids (any age, any condition), as well as hearing aid remotes, and transmitters. Contact the KATS Network (SHARP) to request a self-addressed stamped container to place the hearing aids in. If requested, a receipt may be provided for the donation.

Lexington Lions Club Hearing Aid Distribution Program

(859) 277-3725 (Audiologist-Karen Kallio)

Helps low income individuals who live in Lexington/Fayette County Kentucky acquire hearing aids.

Lions Club International

Website: <http://www.lionsclubs.org>

Assists low income individuals with purchasing hearing aids. This program can only be accessed through a local Lions club.

Miracle-Ear Foundation Gift of Sound Program

Phone: (800) 234-5422

Website: miracleearfoundation.org

The Miracle-Ear Foundation serves and support children and adults who have a hearing loss. Our Gift of Sound program provides at no-cost hearing aids and hearing support services to families or individuals who have income that are significantly limited. (There is a \$150 application fee for adults)

Optimist International Help Them Hear Program

Phone: (800) 500-8130

Website: <http://www.optimist.org>

Provides College Scholarships to hearing impaired youth.

Private Insurance

Kentucky law requires health benefit plans, including those issued by HMOs, to cover one hearing aid per hearing-impaired ear and all related services up to \$1,400 every 36 months for children under age 18. The benefit is subject to all applicable copayments, coinsurance, deductibles, and out-of-pocket limitations. (Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 304.17A-132 and 304.17A-005(19)) Check your policy. There may be exemptions.

RALD - Military Discount Program

Website: www.williamssound.com/RALD

Overview

Reduced cost assistive listening systems for retired and active-duty military service members and their families. In an effort to improve the quality of life for those who serve our country, Williams Sound has proudly teamed with the Military Audiology Association to offer the RALD program to both retired and active-duty military service members and their families. The RALD program was created to provide these individuals access to assistive listening devices (ALDs) at a reduced cost, along with free personalized telephone support.

For additional information on RALD, please visit their website.

Sertoma - Hearing Aid Project

Phone: (816) 333-8300

Website: <http://www.sertoma.org/>

Website: Hearingaiddonations.org

Overview

The Hearing Aid Project (The Project) provides low income individuals access to hearing assistive devices and related hearing health services that they cannot otherwise obtain due to cost. The Hearing Aid Project serves all, from young adult through seniors.

Sertoma also maintains a national and by state resource list for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing.

Eligibility Requirements and Application Process

Call or visit their website for additional information.

Telecommunication Access Program (TAP)

Phone: (800) 372-2907

VP: (502) 416-0607

The TAP is administered by Kentucky Commission for the deaf and hard of hearing KCDHH and provide specialized telecommunications equipment at no charge to deaf, hard of hearing, speech impaired or deaf-blind Kentucky residents.

TPA Scholarship Trust for the Deaf and Near Deaf

Phone: (877) 872-2638

Website: tpahq.org

The Travelers Protective Association of America established the TPA Scholarship Trust for the Deaf and Near Deaf in 1975 to provide financial aid to children and adults who suffer deafness or hearing impairment and who need assistance in obtaining mechanical devices, medical or specialized treatment or specialized education as well as speech classes, note takers, interpreters, etc. and in other areas of need that are directly related to hearing impairment.

Kentucky Hearing Loss Associations

(contact for meeting date, location and time)

Help line: Phone: (502) 233-5774

Bowling Green Chapter

Email: donna@hearinglosskyhome.org

Email: jeannie@hearinglosskyhome.org

Kentuckiana Chapter (Louisville)

Email: info@hearinglossky.org

Website: hearinglossky.org

Lexington Chapter

Email: infolex@hlaa-ky.org

Kentucky Home Chapter (Bardstown)

Phone: (502) 233-5774

Email: info@hearinglosskyhome.org

Website: <http://hearinglosskyhome.org/>

Additional Websites:

Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf, Inc. - listeningandspokenlanguage.org

American Society for Deaf Children - deafchildren.org

Auditory Verbal Learning Institute - listeningandspokenlanguage.org/AGBellAcademy

Better Hearing Institute - betterhearing.org

Gift of Hearing Foundation - giftofhearingfoundation.org

Healthy Hearing - healthyhearing.com

Helen Keller Services - helenkeller.org

Helen Keller National Center - hknc.org

Holley Ear Institute - stjohnprovidence.org/Holley/

KY Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing – kcdhh.ky.gov

KY School for the Deaf - ksd.k12.ky.us

Let Them Hear Foundation - letthemhear.org

MEDICAID and SCHIP Programs - cms.hhs.gov/apps/contacts/

National Association of the Deaf - nad.org

National Center on Deaf-Blindness - nationaldb.org

National Technical Institute for the Deaf Scholarship Listings - ntid.rit.edu

Rienzi Foundation for Cochlear Implants– rienzifoundation.org

For Cochlear Phone: (718) 956-3505

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Assistive Technology Vendors List

Aiphone Corporation

(425) 455-0510 (V)
www.aiphone.com

Casio Computer Co.

(973) 361-5400 V
www.casio.com

Deafworks Co

(800) 855-2881 (V)
(801) 465-1957 (T)
www.deafworks.com

DE Sievers & Associates Visual Alarms

(800) 469-0278 (V)
(800) 469-0524 (T)
<mailto:sievers@erols.com>

Dirad Technologies, Inc.

(800) 778-2927 (V/T)
www.dirad.com

Global Assistive Devices, Inc.

(954) 776-1373 (V/T)
www.globalassistive.com

Hal Hen Company

(516) 294-3200 (V)
(800) 242-5436 (V)
www.halhen.com

HARC Mercantile, Ltd.

(800) 445-9968 (V/T)
(269) 324-1615 (V/T)
www.harcmercantile.com

Harris Communications, Inc

(800) 825-6758 (V)
(800) 825-9187 (T)
(866) 789-3468 (VP)
www.harriscomm.com

Hear More

(800) 881-4327 (V)
(800) 281-3555 (T)
www.hearmore.com

Hearing Resources

(800) 531-2139 (V/T)
www.earlink.com

Hello Direct, Inc.

(800) 435-5634 (V)
www.hellodirect.com

HiTec Group Int'l

(800) 228-8303 (V)
(800) 536-8890 (T)
www.hitec.com

Independent Living Aids Inc LLC.

(800) 537-2118 (V)
www.independentliving.com

NFSS Communications

(847) 265-8022 (V/T)
www.nfss.com

Plantronics

(800) 544-4660 (V)
800 241 8517
www.plantronics.com

Sonic Alert Inc

(248) 577-5400 (V/T)
www.sonicalert.com

Teltex, Inc.

(888) 515-8120 (V/T)
www.teltexinc.com

Ultratec, Inc.

(800) 482-2424 (V/T)
www.ultratec.com

Weitbrecht Communications

(800) 233-9130 (V/T)
www.weitbrecht.com