

Leading the Way

The Center for Hearing & Deaf Services, Inc. (HDS), began in 1920 as the League for the Hard of Hearing. Its primary goal, was to provide social activities for people with hearing loss. From these modest beginnings, HDS has evolved into our region's only comprehensive service center for individuals who are culturally deaf, deafblind, or hard of hearing, and their friends and families.



Our mission is to provide a diverse and affordable program of quality diagnostic, rehabilitative and supportive services to meet the unique challenges of children and

adults who are deaf and hard of hearing and to serve as an information and referral source for this population and the general public.

The vision of HDS staff is to be caring professionals, serving persons who are deaf or hard of hearing with excellence, dignity, and trust.

Leading the Way...

- HDS offered the first Chemical Dependency Program in the tri-state area for people who are deaf or hard of hearing
- the region's only Assistive Listening and Signaling Device Demonstration and Sale Center
- a Deaf Youth Program to provide activities for youth who are deaf and hard of hearing and their families
- a Hearing Aid Recycling Program
- Sign-A-Thon, the premier sign language awareness event in the Pittsburgh area.



Center for Hearing and Deaf Services
voice/tty 412.281.1375 • www.hdscenter.org
1945 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219



Center for Hearing & Deaf Services

Deaf Youth Program



Enriching lives through
social and educational activities

Center for Hearing and Deaf Services, Inc.
voice/tty 412.281.1375 • www.hdscenter.org
1945 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219



How We Can Help

Center for Hearing & Deaf Services



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The primary goal of the Deaf Youth Program (DYP) is to provide opportunities for area deaf and hard of



hearing youth to interact socially with their peers and with members of the Deaf community. We achieve this goal by conducting a rich variety of weekend recreational and cultural activities. In addition, DYP works to break down communication barriers by offering American Sign Language classes to families and friends of deaf or hard of hearing youth.

The DYP also offers occasional educational workshops and solicits ideas and feedback by hosting annual open meetings with a DYP advisory committee. In an on-going effort to keep deaf youth and their families informed—and to promote deaf awareness—the DYP posts event schedules online and collaborates with other local deaf-related organizations.

SOME RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES....

- Bowling
- Ice Skating
- Roller Skating
- Swimming
- Miniature golfing
- Pirate games
- Seasonal Activities

AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES...

- Attending open captioned movies
- Attending ASL interpreted theatre performances
- Touring local museums and historical centers
- Providing ASL interpreted children's storytelling

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES

Each fall and spring, the DYP offers levels I and II American Sign Language classes for families and friends of youth who are deaf or hard of hearing. These non-credit classes are inexpensive, informal, and set in a variety of locations throughout the Pittsburgh area. A Deaf Adult, whose primary mode of communication is ASL, teaches the classes. The goal of each class is to improve communication between deaf youth and their hearing family and friends, as well as to foster understanding of Deaf Culture. Each class meets one evening a week, in 90-minute sessions for 10 weeks.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

The DYP collaborates with other organizations in a variety of local deaf-related events and disseminates pertinent information on upcoming activities within the deaf and hard of hearing communities.

OUR PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE:

- Greater Pittsburgh Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
- PA Society for the Advancement of the Deaf
- Pittsburgh Association of the Deaf
- Pressley Ridge School for the Deaf
- University of Pittsburgh
- Western PA School for the Deaf

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

If you or someone you know could benefit from the Deaf Youth Program, please contact 412.281.1375 voice/tty or dyp@hdscenter.org.



LIVE UNITED™ 

Supported in part by the United Way—HDS
Donation Code: 90

The Center for Hearing & Deaf Services, Inc. does not discriminate in its admission or employment policies on the basis of gender, ethnic origin, age, religion, sexual orientation or disability.

Center for Hearing and Deaf Services, Inc.

1945 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
voice/tty 412.281.1375 • fax 412.281.6564
www.hdscenter.org

HDS-Westmoreland

1011 Old Salem Road, Suite 102, Greensburg, PA 15601
voice/tty 724.832.7600 • fax 724.832.7602

If you or someone you know could benefit from the Deaf Youth Program, please contact 412.281.1375 voice/tty or dyp@hdscenter.org.