

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
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Center for Hearing & Deaf Services

Assistive Device Demonstration and Sales Center



Listening and signaling products to enhance daily living activities for people with hearing loss

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How We Can Help

ASSISTIVE SIGNALING AND LISTENING DEVICES FOR EVERY NEED

Established in 1989, the Assistive Device Center (ADC) at the Center for Hearing & Deaf Services, offers an extensive display of assistive products on the market for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

In the past, many of these products could be purchased through catalogs only. Since products ordered through the mail did not provide the opportunity to “try before you buy,” they were often found unsuitable for the buyers’ needs. Now you can visit the ADC and be served by a trained professional (skilled in sign language) who will help select a device that meets most needs and budgets. Testing and demonstrations are always encouraged. Due to rapidly changing technology, the inventory at the Center is continually updated.

The Assistive Device Center is also an important resource for professionals serving the needs of people who are deaf or hard of hearing—as well as for hospitals, nursing homes, theaters, places of worship, educational facilities, work settings, and other venues. The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that most public facilities and places of business be accessible to people with disabilities including hard of hearing individuals. Many of the assistive listening products in the ADC can be used to fulfill requirements of the ADA.

SIGNALING AND ALERTING DEVICES

Fortunately, a wide range of devices have been designed and are available to help those who are deaf or hard of hearing respond to traditional signals or alerting sounds they cannot hear at home and work.



Center for Hearing & Deaf Services



Signalers available:

- Alarm Clocks w/vibrators
- Baby Cry
- Carbon Monoxide
- Doorbell
- Security
- Smoke/Fire Alarm
- Telephone
- Timers

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

These products improve the quality of sound and are particularly helpful in noisy environments or for listening to sounds coming from a distance. For a person who is hard of hearing, these devices make a profound difference when watching television with others, talking to a companion in a group setting or a crowded area like a restaurant, listening in a classroom, place of worship, or theater, etc.

Products available include:

- Personal Amplifiers
- Personal FM Systems
- TV Infrared Systems
- Large Area FM Systems

TELETYPEWRITERS (TTY)

A TTY is a specialized device that allows people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired to use the telephone. When a call is placed, conversations are possible by using a keyboard to type messages that appear on the unit’s small display screen. With these devices, consumers no longer need to rely on neighbors, co-workers, and relatives to make and receive their phone calls.

VIDEO PHONES

This device allows people who use sign language to talk face to face or speak to a hearing person through Video Relay Interpreter. Videophones can be connected to a TV or can be a stand alone device.

TELEPHONES & TELEPHONE AMPLIFIERS

Specialty telephones are available with large buttons, flashing lights, and built-in amplifiers. Some amplifiers are portable and can be carried in a pocket or purse—while others are more permanent and replace an existing handset. These devices improve

telephone usage because they allow you to adjust the volume of phone conversations.

These products can bring a sense of security, peace of mind and ultimately, more independent lives. The Assistive Device Center has many other products for use at home or in the workplace. Please call for more information, a catalog or visit the online store at www.store.hdscenter.org

Appointments are encouraged.

Acceptable Methods of Payment:

- Cash
- Check
- Money Order
- Mastercard, Visa, Discover, American Express

Return Policy:

All returns must be made within 10 business days for a full refund.

OUTREACH SERVICES—Hear Well, Live Well

Listen to the Rainbow, a Hearing Wellness Campaign, strives to educate the general public about the effects of hearing loss, how to prevent it, and what can be done to overcome its effects.

Interested in having a speaker? Please contact HDS.



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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.

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