

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

The Only Comprehensive Center in Western PA



Leading our region in services for adults and youth who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

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How We Can Help

Center for Hearing & Deaf Services



INTERPRETING SERVICES

Communication between individuals who are deaf and hearing often requires a sign language interpreter.



HDS provides interpreters for many situations: Educational, Medical, Legal, Occupational, Cultural, Recreational, and more. Interpreting services are available 24 hours a day,

7 days a week. All HDS interpreters follow the Code of Professional Conduct of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) and Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID).

DEAF YOUTH PROGRAM

The Deaf Youth Program (DYP) provides weekend recreational and cultural opportunities for deaf and hard of hearing youth, so that they may enjoy being with their peers—hearing, deaf, and hard of hearing. Offering American Sign Language (ASL) classes to families and friends of deaf and hard of hearing youth, DYP succeeds at breaking down communication barriers.



HEARING REHABILITATION SERVICES

Using the latest technology and audiologists certified by the State and the American Speech-Language Hearing Association, HDS provides Hearing Screenings, Tympanometry, and Audiological Evaluations. We also offer hearing aid evaluations, sales and services, custom ear molds, hearing protection,



and swim plugs. HDS accepts most insurance plans. Our Hearing Aid Recycling Program is an eco-friendly practice.

ASSISTIVE DEVICE CENTER

HDS offers an extensive display of assistive products available for consumers who are deaf or hard of hearing. This gives those who need the products the opportunity to “try before you buy”—while being helped by a trained professional (skilled in sign language) who assists in selecting devices that meet most needs and budgets. The Assistive Device Center is also a valuable technical resource for professionals serving this population.



LISTEN TO THE RAINBOW



There is help for people with hearing loss. The Listen to the Rainbow hearing wellness campaign focuses on raising awareness about hearing loss

prevention, treatment, and available technology. HDS understands the importance of healthy hearing and its impact on quality of life. We assist individuals and families in recognizing the effects of hearing loss, demonstrate how loss can be treated and prevented through on-site presentations, and provide helpful informational material



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

This critical service provides individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing

with behavioral health counseling and psychiatric services. All professionals in this program are experienced in serving people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

Designed to improve daily living skills—and foster independence—our individualized Life Skills program serves clients who are deaf and mentally challenged. Primary areas of instruction and activities: communication skills development, personal safety, personal hygiene and grooming, utilization of community resources, mobility training, social skills development, interpersonal issues, pre-vocational training, and sexual awareness. Following an initial intake evaluation, an individualized program is designed. Staff are fluent in American Sign Language (ASL) and have knowledge of deaf culture.



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.

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