



In 2019 Hand-N-Hand,

- Served **11** of **17** Northeast WI counties
- Welcomed **52** Families & **30** Volunteers
- Hosted Silent Night & All That Jazz Fundraiser
- Provided:
 - **22** DHH Playgroups
 - **22** Roots-N-Wings
 - **10** Music-N-Motion
 - **7** Parent-N-Parent Networking Meetings
 - **6** Parent Power Hour (*Pilot Program*)
 - **6** Sign-N-Play *with Baby* (*Pilot Program*)
 - **5** Community Outings
 - **2** Scholarships

Annual Fund Campaign
2020 Spring Newsletter



Happenings

UNIQUELY PROVIDING SUPPORT AND RESOURCES SINCE 2002

Hand-N-Hand of Northeastern Wisconsin, Inc. provides support and resources for families who have children experiencing hearing loss. Our VISION is 'In NE WI all babies and young children who are identified with hearing loss will have a centralized resource creating a regional alliance with other agencies that provide services for children with hearing loss'.

Did You Know...

- ✚ Annually, in Wisconsin, roughly **110** children enter the world with a permanent hearing loss (WE-TRAC).
- ✚ Every year in the United States, **2 to 3** of every **1,000** children are born with hearing loss (CDC).
- ✚ Hearing loss is one of the most common congenital birth defects, yet nearly all parents of children with hearing loss have typical hearing, and no experience with the implications of hearing loss (CDC, 2010).

Why Support Hand-N-Hand?

- ✚ **Now in existence for over 17 years, Hand-N-Hand, a volunteer-driven nonprofit organization, provides specialized support and resources for families with children experiencing hearing loss.**
- ✚ **Hand-N-Hand continues to be the ONLY organization of its kind in Northeast Wisconsin.**
- ✚ **Approximately 90% of the funds necessary to operate Hand-N-Hand are raised from generous donors.**
- ✚ Every donation counts! Our total annual contribution goal for the 2020 campaign is **\$70,000**; and through a funding mix of revenues, grants, gifts, and sponsorships, we will ensure sustainability for our cause.
- ✚ Hand-N-Hand is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (EIN: 20-0679489).

When To Give?

- ✚ **NOW is the time to give! Hand-N-Hand's Annual Fund Campaign will be our community fundraising effort.** We will no longer host our Silent Night gala or bowling fundraisers and hope that we can continue to count on the generosity of those who gave for those events.

How To Give?

- ✚ **Please support Hand-N-Hand by making a gift of \$50, \$150, \$300 or \$500.** Or, consider a **Sponsorship gift of \$1,000** or more. [Sponsorship benefits](#) available.
- ✚ **At your convenience, gifts can be made online at www.hnhnew.org or sent by mail** (a donor envelope is enclosed). Many employers offer matching gift programs that double or triple the amount you give. Complete your employer's matching gift form and return it with your contribution. We'll take care of the rest!

Your generosity will make a difference in our community by helping us fulfill our mission of providing support and resources for families with children experiencing hearing loss in Northeast Wisconsin.

THANK YOU in advance for your generosity!

Jenny Geiken

Jenny Geiken
Founder & Director

The most important role for the family of an infant who is deaf or hard of hearing is to love, nurture, and communicate with the infant.... This experience can be enhanced when families choose to become involved with parental support groups, people who are deaf or hard of hearing, and/or their children's deaf or hard-of-hearing peers. - ICH 2007



"Hand-N-Hand has given us so many opportunities to surround us with others and information to educate us in an area we knew very little about. We are excited for our future and Hand-N-Hand is a big part in our journey." ~ Parent

Hand-N-Hand Educational Programs, Outreach & Early Support

As a family & community resource, Hand-N-Hand fosters relationships, promotes language, early literacy, and social & emotional development for children who are deaf and hard of hearing and their families. Hand-N-Hand also supports providers and helps families identify and access services throughout Wisconsin.

DHH Playgroups

A fun, social and learning environment where deaf and hard of hearing infants, toddlers and their families have full access to communication through visual and auditory communication systems.

Parent and Community Education

Discover a broad range of perspectives on hearing differences and related topics, learn sign language and learn about Deaf culture.

Early Support Services

Early Intervention and therapy services, consultations, family and community education. ESS offer regular office hours, specialized one:one and small group sessions to promote on-time development, and may be provided in combination with Birth to Three services.

Outreach

Community education and awareness to promote early intervention and education for young children and teens, build capacity and connections within our community and statewide, offer scholarships to support families with hearing related events, and a lending library.



Click here to view the [video](#) which embodies the heart of Hand-N-Hand



Relevant Resources

Support Success for Children with Hearing Loss

'Go-to' site for professionals and families seeking information about learning and social issues for children with hearing loss and what you can do to support their success.

www.successforkidswithhearingloss.com

Apps for Kids with Hearing Loss

List of recommended sign language apps for kids (and adults) to use on iDevices.

<http://bit.ly/VOEtWp>

Signing Time

Website that will spark imagination & a passion for learning American Sign Language.

www.signingtime.com

Spread The Sign App

Download and enjoy on your iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. World's largest sign language dictionary with over 300 000 signs!

Hearing Like Me

A hearing loss community brought to you by Phonak for better living, raising, supporting and learning.

www.hearinglikeme.com

hearinghenry headbands

Headbands to secure cochlear implants.

www.hearinghenry.com

Birth to 3

Wisconsin's early intervention program that supports families of children with delays or disabilities under the age of three.

For information on *Eligibility and Best Practices for Infants and Toddlers with Hearing Loss*

www.infantheating.org/stateguidelines/Wisconsin/wisconsin_info.html

NEWS to me...& NEW to You!

WISCONSIN LIONS CAMP

A quality camping experience that is provided free-of-charge to eligible children and adults with disabilities from Wisconsin. They serve children and adults who are blind or visually impaired, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, children with intellectual disabilities or autism, children with diabetes, and children with epilepsy.



[2020 Summer Camp Schedule](#)

Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing July 19-24 or 26-31; Application deadline May 22

Click here to apply online <https://www.rjotto.com/LionsCamp>

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



• Hand-N-Hand is thankful for the following 2020 donations:

Krause-Kraft-Mueller American Legion Post 106, Sons of American Legion Squadron 106, and the Men's Bible Study Group; totaling \$500

• We are excited to welcome the following presenters to our Spring Parent-N-Parent meetings:

March 16: Stacy Michels, Phonak

April 20: Nancy Gilbertson, sharing about Canine Companions for Independence

PNP Meetings are open to the community, registration required.

Want to GET INVOLVED?

Are you interested in giving back to your community? Hand-N-Hand welcomes individuals to give their time and share their talents. Get involved and join the Hand-N-Hand Board, a committee, or volunteer in our groups. Contact Jenny Geiken, jlgeiken@hnhnew.org or go to [Get Involved](#) at www.hnhnew.org. We look forward to meeting you!

2019 Pilot Programs at Hand-N-Hand: Sign-N-Play with Baby and Parent Power Hour

Hand-N-Hand of Northeastern Wisconsin, Inc. has heard the request from our community and families about their desire for sign language classes. We respect the importance of offering learning opportunities in American Sign Language (ASL) from a fluent/native ASL signer who will tailor instruction to the family's needs. We also recognize that some families are unable to attend evening classes, so we created a daytime playgroup for parents and babies. In the Fall of 2019, Hand-N-Hand created and implemented two educational pilot programs: **Sign-N-Play with Baby**, a 6-week sign language playgroup to foster play & social experiences for parents and their babies with hearing and those with a hearing difference; and **Parent Power Hour**, six (6) 1-hour groups facilitated by a D/HH community member to broaden knowledge of ASL & Deaf culture through interactive teaching activities and discussions. Participants appreciated the instruction from a native ASL user and recognize their struggles in learning ASL mirrors the learning their children face regularly.

Both pilot programs were well received and will be offered again. Hand-N-Hand was pleased to launch these classes and appreciates the funding support from the Green Bay Preble Optimist Club.



To inquire about specialized support for your young child who is deaf or hard of hearing or have questions about Hand-N-Hand programs or outreach, contact Jenny Geiken at jlgeiken@hnhnew.org. For detailed information or to register for events, please visit www.hnhnew.org.

The 2018 Making A Difference Award goes to... Dr. Megan McMahon!

Megan is a leader in her field and provides exceptional pediatric audiology care for families in Northeast WI. She goes the extra mile to expand her knowledge in working with our state's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program, participates in community events, and helps her workplace, Prevea Health, to become involved in causes that matter to her, specifically Hand-N-Hand. *"The Green Bay community and Hand-N-Hand are extremely lucky to have such an invaluable resource and we thank Megan for her sustained dedication and commitment to families and children with hearing loss."* Geiken said.

Since 2010, Hand-N-Hand has presented their Making A Difference Award annually to an individual or organization that has shown extraordinary commitment to making a difference in the lives of children with hearing loss in our community.



Click here for [photos of the Silent Night event](#)

Silent Night & All That Jazz

Hand-N-Hand raised \$32,000 during the ["Silent Night & All That Jazz"](#) fundraising event on November 16, 2019. The funds raised enable the continuation of quality educational programming as well as promoting awareness and outreach support to children who are deaf and hard of hearing, their families and the community throughout Northeast Wisconsin.

Thank you to everyone who joined us to champion the cause. **You're the Cat's Pajamas!**



SPECIAL THANKS to our 2019 Sponsors

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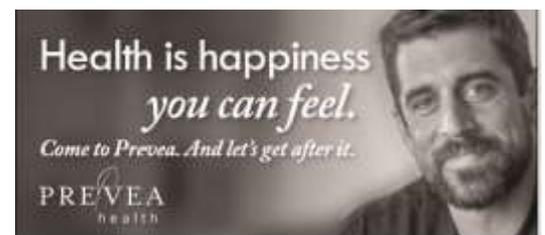
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