More than 90 percent of children who are deaf or hard of hearing are born to hearing parents.

(Mitchell RE, Karchmer MA. 2004)

90%

Families need support from other parents who share their lived experience.

(Hunting, V., Ward, A., Behl, D. 2019)



Kentucky Hands & Voices P.O. Box 43914 Louisville, KY 40253 1-888-398-5030

www.kyhandsandvoices.org info@kyhandsandvoices.org

Hands & Voices Headquarters www.handsandvoices.org







"What works for your child is what makes the choice right."™

## Who We Are...

Kentucky Hands & Voices is a non-profit, parent-driven organization dedicated to supporting families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. We are non-biased about communication methodologies and believe that families can make the best choices for their child if they have access to good information and support.

Hands & Voices is a safe place to explore options, get support, learn from one another and share what we have in common. We honor the role of parents and family as the single greatest factor in raising a well-adjusted, successful child.

We are an independent, state chapter affiliated with Hands & Voices Headquarters, an international organization based in Boulder, Colorado.

## Why We're Here...

Regardless of communication choices, we are here to work together to improve social and educational outcomes for children who are deaf or hard of hearing. We focus on areas of interest that are common to all parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing:

- We all want the best for our children.
- We deserve respect and honor for our role as parents and families.
- We require a beneficial, successful educational experience for our children.
- We need information from a wide variety of sources.
  - We want to know about

opportunities and resources.

- We need training and support to become effective advocates for our children.
- We are stronger when united by our common interests than divided by differing choices.
- We strive to be meaningfully involved in development of the systems that impact our children.

## What We Do...

- Provide social events for parents to meet other parents and children to meet other children "like them."
- Host parent cafés that provide opportunities for parents and caregivers to learn from and encourage one another on the journey.
- Offer direct parent-to-parent support through our *Guide By Your Side* program.
- Actively engage in the Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) program to better improve the systems working with our children.
- Collaborate with a variety of professionals audiologists, early intervention providers, educators, etc. to best serve our children.
- Provide opportunities to interact with and learn from the life experiences of deaf and hard of hearing adults.



