# Phonak Resource

## Organization involvement

2019 - This resource was created by the first Phonak Teen Advisory Board.

### Organizations starting list

#### Hands & Voices™

- Hands & Voices is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping families of deaf and hard of hearing children. They focus on communication. They also have a number of outreach activities, help with education, and advocacy.
- To become a member of Hands & Voices, simply fill out an application form, and a money order \$25 US (for families). If your area doesn't have its own Hands & Voices, you can set up a new group using tools provided by the organization. If someone is unable to make the yearly payment, services are available to help with that.
- Email parentadvocate@handsandvoices.org for any questions.

#### Phonak hEARo

- The Phonak hEARo program is a community of individuals geared toward fighting the stigma towards hearing loss, testing down barriers and finding new ways to help deaf and hard of hearing individuals reconnect and inspire others.
- You can become a hEARo in three different categories. As an advocate, a creator or an ambassador. The duties for each vary, however they all have one goal of breaking down the hearing loss stigma. This is through sharing ideas, creating stories to post on Hearing Like Me, take beautiful photos of hearing loss technology and hearing aids/cochlear implants.
- An application is available on the website at <a href="https://www.hearinglikeme.com/phonak-hearos/">https://www.hearinglikeme.com/phonak-hearos/</a>

#### **VOICE for Deaf Kids**

- VOICE for Deaf kids is a mission geared towards advocacy on behalf on deaf and hard of hearing children, along with their families. They provide information on accessibility, education, mentoring, as well as self-advocacy education. They also focus on educating the general public.
- You can join VOICE for deaf kids in different ways. As a student, or as part of a family. A youth membership costs \$25 CAD/ year or a family one costs \$75 CAD/year. The benefits of these include access to programs including a teen outreach program, access to special aid, and education connections. This program offers a number of events as well.
- You can start a membership here <a href="https://www.voicefordeafkids.com/Join-us">https://www.voicefordeafkids.com/Join-us</a>, or email <a href="mailto:admin@voicefordeafkids.com">admin@voicefordeafkids.com</a> for any questions or comments.



#### Silent Voice

- Silent Voice serves children, adults and youth in American sign language (ASL) environments. They dedicate their involvement to improving communication and relationships between deaf and hearing members of society and in families. They recognize American sign language as the primary method of communication, and advocate for the right to choose the best communication for one's own needs.
- You can be a part of Hands & Voices™ as a member. This is through empowerment, helping those through accessibility, education programs through American sign language, engaging youth and children in sports, activities, and leadership through ASL. For only \$10, members are able to have a vote in the community, be ambassadors for Silent Voice, and advocate on their behalf. You can also join Silent Voice through volunteering. This includes a fundraiser, barbeques, and administration.
- You can become a member at <a href="https://silentvoice.ca/membership/">https://silentvoice.ca/yolunteer/</a> or get started on a volunteer application at <a href="https://silentvoice.ca/volunteer/">https://silentvoice.ca/volunteer/</a>

#### World Federation for the Deaf

- WFD is an international non-profit organization that serves 133 countries. They are founding members of the
  International Disability Alliance and have a consultative status in the United Nations. They focus on promoting the
  rights of deaf people in conjunction to the declaration of human rights, and other human rights treaties.
- You can become an individual member. This means receiving discounts at WFD events and receive current information on deaf issues around the world. They also promote taking action in your own community through fundraisers, make
- YouTube videos on deaf human rights, offer ASL classes, become an advocate by writing members to people in your community, organize rallies and create workshops.
  - You can become an individual member at <a href="https://wfdeaf.org/get-involved/become-a-member/membership/">https://wfdeaf.org/get-involved/become-a-member/membership/</a>

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