

Hands & Voices: Start-up Efforts in Montana

Do you have an interest in improving the social and academic experience of your child or student with hearing loss?

Do you have a need for advocacy for your child or student with hearing loss?

Do you have an interest or talent that you might offer to a group of parents and professionals who have similar needs and interests?

Hands & Voices is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting families and their children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, as well as the professionals who serve them. We are a parent-driven, parent/professional collaborative group that is unbiased towards communication modes and methods. Our diverse membership includes those who are deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing impaired and their families who communicate orally, with signs, cue, and/or combined methods. We exist to help our children reach their highest potential.

A group of passionate parents and dedicated professionals are joining together in the process of establishing a statewide Chapter of Hands & Voices in Montana and we hope you will join us as we grow and support the needs of families in our state. Please visit the Hands & Voices website at **www.handsandvoices.org** to learn more about this organization and to access the many available resources. Please share your contact information with us and let us know how you are interested in participating in this start up effort or just want to keep in touch with what this group is up to. As we move forward we will begin to accept chapter memberships in which your yearly membership fee will be tax deductible and the benefits will include the Hands & Voices quarterly newspaper, *THE COMMUNICATOR*. All contributions will be used directly for our chapter activities. We hope you will become involved in our efforts.

Join us on our Facebook group at: Montana Parents & Supporters of Deaf/Hard of Hearing Children

For additional information, please contact:

Moriah Cochran moriah.cochran@yahoo.com 406-239-3076

Mission:

Hands and Voices is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing without a bias around communication modes or methodology. We're a parent-driven, non-profit organization providing families with the resources, networks, and information they need to improve communication access and educational outcomes for their children. Our outreach activities, parent/professional collaboration, and advocacy efforts are focused on enabling Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing children to reach their highest potential.