

HEARING AID RESOURCES

The Right to Communicate is a Fundamental Human Right



Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
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Information provided in this Resource for Hearing Aid booklet is for informational purposes rather than for professional advice. Please contact the resources directly. The Colorado Department of Human Services, and Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is not liable for its use.

COLORADO COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING: WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

As an American, one of our “inalienable” rights is our right to communicate. Colorado recognizes that some of our citizens are deprived of this basic right because of the lack of access to communication. The Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, a



unit within the Division of Boards and Commissions of the Colorado Department of Human Services, exists to promote effective communication access for all Coloradans. The commission strives to advocate for 432,128 Coloradans who are deaf and hard of hearing to ensure they have equal access to communication. Below are the six

major responsibilities of the commission:

Central resource for information and referrals: The commission provides useful information and referrals by the staff and through the use of resource directory that is readily available on the Commission website at www.ColoradoDeafCommission.com.

Education and Training: Training is made available to empower consumers and educates government agencies, public agencies, private entities and the community in areas of awareness, cultural sensitivity and communication accessibility.

System Level Advocacy: Studies are conducted to make recommendations to the community, support service providers, governmental agencies, private entities, and General Assembly regarding any action that may facilitate and streamline the provision of community-based and general governmental services to deaf and hard of hearing communities.

Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (TEDP): We provide telecommunications access by supplying free telecommunication equipment to deaf and hard-of-hearing citizens who qualify.

Legal Auxiliary Services: This program is charged with the coordination of auxiliary services, sign language interpreters and Communication Access Real-time Translation (CART) providers, and oversees quality standards and credentials of service providers for legal proceedings in the State Court System.

Grant Program: This program provides funding for government agencies, state-operated programs, and community organizations that address the needs of deaf and hard of hearing communities.

CHARITABLE HEARING CENTER RESOURCES

Bill Daniels Center for Children's Hearing

The Children's Hospital 13123 East 16th Avenue, Aurora, CO 80045

720-777-1234

www.thechildrenshospital.org

The Children's Hospital Bill Daniels Center for Children's Hearing is a multidisciplinary center providing comprehensive family-centered care to infants, toddlers, children and adolescents in Colorado and the surrounding area, who are deaf and/or hard of hearing. The center has a hearing aid loaner program to enable children to have amplifications while they are waiting for their permanent hearing aids.

Center for Hearing, Speech and Language

Denver Facility, 4280 Hale Parkway Denver, CO 80220

303-322-1871

Colorado Springs Facility, 1329 N. Academy Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80909

719-597-3390

www.chsl.org

The Center for Hearing, Speech and Language offers free and sliding-scale fees based on need, family size and income levels according to Federal Poverty Guidelines used to determine financial eligibility. Also, the center has a hearing aid bank which loans hearing aids to eligible applicants who are in urgent need for amplification while they are waiting for their permanent hearing aids.

Colorado Neurological Institute (CNI)

701 East Hampden Ave, Suite 330 Englewood, CO 80113

303-788-4010

www.thecni.org

The Colorado Neurological Institute provides a full complement of diagnostic testing and today's most advanced treatment for adults and children, including cochlear implants and implantable hearing aids. Cochlear implants cost an average of \$85,000 which is usually covered by health insurance. However, the patient usually has out-of-pocket expenses of about \$10,000 to \$20,000. The institute provides financial assistance through World Hearing Network, Baha Assistance Program, and Cochlear Implant Assistance Program to help patients pay for out of pocket expenses.

Marion Downs Hearing Center Foundation

1793 Quentin Street , Unit 2 , Aurora , CO 80045

720-848-3042 (v) 720-848-2979 (tty)

www.mariondowns.com

The Marion Downs Hearing Center Foundation is part of the University of Colorado Hospital System. It provides free and sliding scale fees for hearing diagnostic and hearing aid evaluations. Also, the center provides information related to sources for financial assistance for purchasing hearing aids.

CREDIT AND HEALTH INSURANCE RESOURCES

CareCredit

GE Card Services PO Box 96006, Orlando, FL 32896-0061
800-677-0718

www.carecredit.com

CareCredit is a simple way to consolidate and manage certain out-of-pocket healthcare expenses because it is a credit card with a revolving line of credit that can be used repeatedly and for any family member. Contact the CareCredit to obtain educational information related to eligibility, payment, interest rates and policy.

Ear Service Corporation (ESCO)

ESCO 3215 Fernbrook Lane North Plymouth, MN 55447-5325
800-992-3726

www.earserv.com

The Ear Service Corporation (ESCO) provides insurance in the United States for the loss of and damage to hearing aids. The ESCO is the trusted choice for hearing aids insurance.

HELPCard

P.O. Box 829 Springdale AR 72765
888-750-6793

www.helpcard.com

The HELPCard[®] provides unsecured consumer revolving credit financing programs to hearing service centers and providers.

Flexible Spending Accounts

www.bls.gov/opub/cwc/cm20031022ar01p1.htm

The federal government has implemented Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Codes which authorize employers to create Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) that reduce taxable income. Employees can deduct up to \$5,000 from their payroll to use for medical related expenses. The fund may be used towards various medical expenses, hearing diagnostic, hearing aid devices, etc. To establish a FSA, contact your employer's Human Resource Office to determine if they offers FSA health insurance plan, and consider enrolling during the open enrollment period.

GOVERNMENT RELATED RESOURCES

County Department of Social Services

1570 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203-1818 ·

303-866-2993

www.colorado.gov/hcpf

If you do not qualify for Medicaid Insurance because your income is too high, you may seek financial assistance for hearing aids through the **Medically Need Programs** that are operated by the County Department of Social Services. Contact the Department of Social Services in the County where you live to inquire of your eligibility.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

1575 Sherman Street, 4th Floor, Denver, CO 80203

303-866-4150 (tty) 866-870-4595 (v)

The Division of the Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) may provide assistance for hearing aids and assistive listening devices to eligible adults if they are required as part of Individual Plan for Employment (IPE) or if an individual can establish him or herself as an unpaid family worker. Contact the DVR Counselor in the County where you live to inquire of your eligibility.

Eye & Ear Program of La Plata and San Juan Counties Colorado, Inc.

281 Sawyer Drive, Durango, CO 81303-3412

970-247-5702

This program provides discounted prices for hearing aids to the residents of La Plata and San Juan Counties. Both children and adults are eligible to apply. To apply contact the San Juan Basin Health Department and inquire for the Eye and Ear Program.

Hearing Aid Bank for Weld County

University of Northern Colorado Audiology Clinic

Gunter Hall, Room 0330 Greeley, CO 80639

970-351-2012

www.unco.edu/nhs/asls/clinic.htm

The University of Northern Colorado Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology Clinic provides a variety of diagnostic and rehabilitative services to individuals with speech, language, hearing, and/or balance difficulties. The clinic provides reconditioned hearing aids to the residents of the Weld County using a sliding scale approval process.

Hearing Aids Insurance Coverage for Minors

www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2008a/csl.nsf/

[billcontainers/610430B2AAC086C787257377005D0464/\\$FILE/057_enr.pdf](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2008a/csl.nsf/billcontainers/610430B2AAC086C787257377005D0464/$FILE/057_enr.pdf)

The Colorado Senate Bill 08-057 that was signed into law by Governor Ritter in 2008 requires health insurance providers to cover children under the age of 18 years in Colorado to finance the purchase of new hearing aids, and to repair or replace old hearing aids.

Contact your health insurance provider to inquire of the procedure to utilize this coverage

Hearing Aids for School Children

www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/504faq.html

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law enacted in 1990 and reauthorized in 1997. It is designed to protect the rights of students with disabilities by ensuring that everyone receives a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), regardless of their abilities. The law requires schools to provide financial assistance to students to purchase hearing aids and repair/replace old hearing aids as required by their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Medicaid and County Department of Social Services

1570 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203-1818 ·

303-866-2993

www.colorado.gov/hcpf

Medicaid Insurance is a state operated health insurance program for people with low income. People who are qualified for Medicaid insurance may be considered for coverage of hearing aids. To apply and determine your eligibility for Medicaid Insurance login on the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing at www.colorado.gov/hcpf.

TRICARE

Military Health Service Provider for the U.S. Department of Defense

5111 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA 22041-3206

877-874-2273 North Regional Office

800-444-5445 South Regional Office

888-874-9378 West Regional Office

888-777-8343 Overseas Members Line

www.tricare.osd.mil

Tricare is a health service provider for the military and their family members. Beneficiaries who have hearing loss can see their primary physician for referral to audiologists who are affiliated with TriCare for hearing diagnostic and other related services.

Veterans Health Administration

3773 Cherry Creek North Drive Denver, CO 80209

303-331-7500

www4.va.gov/HAC/hacmain.asp

If you are a Veteran who has been discharged from active services because of disabilities; a former Prisoner of War; been awarded a purple heart; receiving benefits through Title 38 of the US Code 1151; and, receiving increased pension because of being permanently home bound, you may be entitled to coverage for hearing aids and other assistive listening devices.

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION RESOURCES

Communications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CDHH) (Colorado Optimist project)

2050 Mt Zion Dr Golden, CO 80401-1738

303-278-1204

3272 Foxtail Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80920-5507

719-282-1227

The Communication for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is sponsored by the Optimist Clubs in Colorado. The CDHH collects old hearing aids and cooperates with the Starkey, a hearing aids manufacture and distributor of hearing aids to refurbish the hearing aids. Also, Starkey donates new hearing aids.

Friends of Man

P.O. Box 937, Littleton, Colorado 80160-0937

303-798-2342

www.friendsofman.org

The Friends of Man is a charitable arm of the Institute for the New Man, that gives help to people who find themselves in a situation where they have nowhere else to turn. It may be an elderly person on a fixed income, a working family whose child is struck by severe illness, an accident victim, a disabled person, or a school child whose family can't afford basic needs. The Friends of Man may provide financial assistance to purchase hearing aids.

H.E.A.R. Project

4331 Sage Court, Boulder, Colorado 80301

303-527-1818

www.coloradoaudiology.org

The H.E.A.R. Project provides financial assistance to Colorado children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing, and do not qualify for public funding. The H.E.A.R. Project provides funding for amplification, rehabilitation and associated services. Parents can apply for funding with the assistance of their audiologist.

Kiwanis Clubs

3636 Woodview Trace Indianapolis, IN 46268-3196

800-549-2647

www.rmdkiwanis.com

Although the Kiwanis Clubs does not provide financial assistance for purchasing hearing aids at the national level, the local chapters may help their friends, family members and neighbors as needed. To apply contact a local Kiwanis Club near where you live.

Lions Club International

300 W. 22nd Street Oak Brook IL 60523-8842
630-571-5466

www.lionsclubs.org

One of the most effective ways Lions help people with hearing loss is through their hearing aid recycling program. Lions recycle thousands of hearing aids a year that enhance the lives of adults and children worldwide.

Optimists Clubs

Help Them Hear Program
800-500-8130

www.optimist.org

The Help Them Hear program sponsored by the Optimists Club helps clubs that heighten public awareness of the problems associated with hearing loss. Some Optimists clubs accept donations, and they work with various companies and organizations to help those in need of hearing aids. Donated hearing aids are repaired or recycled and given to those in need.

Sertoma Club

1912 E. Meyer Blvd. Kansas City, MO 64132
816-333-8300

www.sertoma.org

The Sertoma Hearing Aid Recycling Program helps needy people obtain hearing aids. Clubs collect used hearing aids, have them refurbished and distribute them to people in need. In cases where an individual cannot afford to buy a hearing aid, a club can raise the needed funds to purchase the aid. Also, the club provides hearing aid repair program and hearing aid battery replacement program. To apply contact a local Sertoma Club near where you live.

Starkey Hearing Foundation, Hear Now

6700 Washington Ave South
Eden Prairie, MN 55344
800-328-8602

<http://www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org/programs/hear-now/>

Hear Now is committed to assisting U.S. residents with hearing loss, who have no resources to acquire hearing aids. Starkey Hearing Foundation provides the hearing aids and runs the program. For an application, go to <http://www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/FORM7970-10-EE-XX-Hear-Now-Application-2014.pdf>.

AUDIOLOGISTS

AURORA

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303 337-9699

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www.familyhearingco.com

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286 16th Street, Burlington, CO 80807
719 346-4722

CASTLE ROCK

Rachel Roberts, AuD

Accent on Hearing
755 S Perry St, Suite 500
Castle Rock, CO 80104
303 663-2235
www.accentonhearing.net

Linda Baker, Au.D.

Castle Rock Center for Audiology
62 Founder's Parkway, 62-B
Castle Rock, CO 80104
303 814-1725
www.parkeraudiology.com

Joanne LaPorta

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Michael Iliff, Au.D

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303 885-1730
www.widexusa.com/wps/portal/widex

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719-633-1494
www.cshp.net

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719 520-1155
www.coloradoaudiology.com

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5014 El Camino Drive Suite 200
Colorado Springs, CO 80918
719 633-4100
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1396 S. 21st Street
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719 520-3311

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2121 E. Harmony Rd Suite 350
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2528 West 16th Street #100
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970-352-2881
www.hearingtime.com

Dr. Karen Swope is an Audiologist in this facility, Part time Dr. Jacki Reider.

Jacki Buffington-Reider

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Please contact us if you need further information



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