

California Hands & Voices

Supporting families throughout California since 2012



Our Mission

California Hands & Voices is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing in a **respectful** and **non-judgmental** manner regarding language opportunities, communication tools, or educational approaches. We're a parent-driven, nonprofit organization providing families with the resources, networks, and information to improve communication access and educational outcomes for their children. Our outreach activities, parent/professional collaboration, and advocacy efforts are focused on enabling children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing to reach their highest potential.

Having a child who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing often brings many questions.

- Where do I begin?
- What services are available for my child and our family?
- How do I navigate the school system?
- Where can I meet other families who understand?
- Is everything going to be okay?

Whether your child:

- Was recently identified
- Has been identified for years
- Has additional disabilities
- Uses hearing technology or not
- Communicates using American Sign Language
- Uses spoken language
- Uses both ASL and spoken language

We welcome families of children who are:

- Deaf
- Hard of Hearing
- Deaf Blind
- Deaf Disabled/DeafPlus

Why Parent-to-Parent Support Matters

Professionals, schools, and community partners play an important role in your child's success. If you'd like support building these connections, we're here to help. Parent-to-parent support is another essential part of that support system, offering understanding that comes from walking a similar path. It is built on connection, shared experiences, and hope. [We are here for every step of the journey.](#)

Our team provides:

- Parent perspectives
- Compassionate support
- Lived experience
- Practical resources
- Encouragement and connection

Our diverse team of parents has made many different decisions for and with their children. We're here to support your family's unique journey with respect, information, and encouragement. [Today may feel overwhelming, but it won't always feel this way.](#) Support is provided at no cost, thanks to the generosity of donors and volunteers.

You Are Not Alone You Belong Here

Our programs include:

Local Family Gatherings
Advocacy, Support & Training (ASTra)
Parent-to-Parent Support
Family Camps



*"At family camp I realized I wasn't alone."
~ CA Hands & Voices Parent*



En Español

We are a statewide chapter of Hands & Voices handsandvoices.org

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

We Are Parents Too

Our program staff, board members, and volunteers are parents of children who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, or DeafPlus. We understand the questions, emotions, and decisions families face because we've walked a similar journey.

Our Values

We are a parent-driven, family-centered community committed to providing respectful, non-judgmental support to families with Deaf and Hard of Hearing children. We value the lived experiences of Deaf and Hard of Hearing adults and collaborate with professionals to strengthen support for families.

You're Welcome Here

We are committed to creating a welcoming space for families of all backgrounds, including families of children with additional disabilities. We meet families where they are, recognizing that their needs and decisions may evolve throughout their journey.



How We Support Families

Helping Families Build Their Village

We connect families with other families, Deaf and Hard of Hearing adults, professionals, and community partners throughout California to build a strong network of support. Through shared experiences, trusted information, practical guidance, and family-centered support, we empower families to make informed decisions and move forward with confidence and joy.

Parent-to-Parent Connections

Build meaningful relationships with parents who understand the journey and can offer encouragement, perspective, resources, and shared experiences. Families can connect with others who have walked similar paths and understand the importance of having a supportive village.

Family Events

Family Camp, regional gatherings, virtual workshops, and social events create opportunities for families to connect, learn, celebrate, and build lasting friendships with others who share their experiences.

Advocacy, Support & Training (ASTra)

Families gain knowledge and tools to navigate IFSPs, IEPs, Section 504 plans, educational rights, and transitions while strengthening their advocacy skills. Families can also receive individualized parent-to-parent support before and after IFSP and IEP meetings to help them prepare, participate, process, and feel more confident throughout the journey.

System Navigation

Connect families with healthcare, early intervention, education, and community services, making it easier to find and access the programs, resources, and supports available to them.

Youth & Young Adult Support

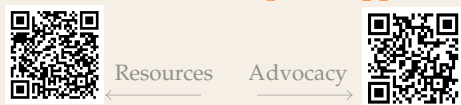
Provide information, connections, and opportunities that support children and youth from early childhood through the transition to adulthood, while encouraging self-advocacy, confidence, and meaningful participation.

Leadership & Family Engagement

Grow as a leader by volunteering, sharing your experiences, connecting with other families, and helping strengthen support for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and their families throughout California. Together, families help shape stronger, more inclusive communities and ensure every family has the opportunity to Foster Joy.

Need to talk to another parent?

Scan here to request support.



Parent Membership – \$25 per year

Annual Membership Benefits Includes:

- The Communicator quarterly newspaper
- Priority access to educational advocacy support
- Family Camp discount
- Discounts on select events
- ASTra Conference discount

Membership is not required to receive support.

Website: cahandsandvoices.org
Email: info@cahandsandvoices.org
Phone: (858) 432-3238 (text/voicemail)
Social: @cahandsandvoices

Free Mailing List

For updates on events, resources, and more

Become a Member



Stay Informed



Support Our Mission

California Hands & Voices is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Your tax-deductible donations help us provide support to more families. Every donation helps ensure that no family walks this journey alone.