Message from our Director:

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter and welcome to the House Children’s Hearing Center of UCLA!

Our center was established in 2013 as a comprehensive hearing center for children birth through 21 years of age. We offer diagnostic and treatment services for infants, children and young adults who experience or are at risk for hearing loss. We offer hearing aid and cochlear implant services, speech therapy/auditory verbal therapy, educational liaison services for children from all over the world and in our own Los Angeles community. We look forward to providing services to you or your child when needed.

Sincerely,
Lisa Owens, AuD, CCC-SLP/A
Director of Audiology

Tidbit #1 from our Audiology Team:

This is a very exciting time for the House Children’s Hearing Center of UCLA. We are offering increased services for children birth-21 years of age. One of the areas that we are excited to be expanding is Auditory Processing Disorder Evaluations (APD) in children over the age of seven. Some children who experience normal peripheral hearing testing (i.e. who have normal hearing on a standard hearing test) may experience difficulty with processing or understanding auditory information. (Continued on page 2)
Tidbit #2 from our Audiology Team:

How Hard is Your Child Listening?

Listening effort is defined as mental exertion required to attend to, and understand, an auditory message. This is different from fatigue, which is extreme tiredness resulting from mental or physical exertion. This is important to understand the drain the child experiences during a school day. Research does show that listening requires more effort for children with hearing loss. So, how can we help? Here’s a tip: Reduce risk of “auditory bombardment” by turning down or off unnecessary sounds in the environment or setting (i.e., radio, music). Learn how to use silence!

Gems from your Speech Pathologist:

“Hear To Sing, Hear To Play!”

Did you know that there are striking similarities between speech and singing? Research shows how music engages the entire brain and improves communication between the two hemispheres. What does this mean for our children with hearing loss? It means that music and singing improves speech, language, listening, and cognition for our little ones!

Our program, “Hear to Sing, Hear to Play,” is a parent-centered music program for parents of children with hearing loss. Skilled professionals, over the course of six weeks, guide parents to use the components of singing such as songs, rhythms, and movement to maximize their young children’s auditory development. Music is magical. Singing makes listening fun! Come move to the beat, play musical instruments, and sing with us to build your child’s brain and support their listening and spoken language potential!

For more information on our Music Group days and times, please contact our Speech/Language Pathologist and Auditory-Verbal Therapist, Sandy Alexander, at her direct line: (213) 273-8006.

Nuggets from the Educational Liaison:

Your child is more than half way through the school year. In what academic area is he/she experiencing excellent success? What area is most challenging? Have you discussed your concern with the classroom teacher or with the DHH specialist?

Parents/care givers are their children’s greatest and best advocate. Would you like to discuss your questions or concerns about your child’s IEP? Services? Support at school?

Make an appointment with Naomi Smith, Educational Liaison. Direct line: (213)989-7475.

Resources:

My Baby has a Hearing Loss:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ezU7ttqa0I&t=32s

Language Milestones developed by CA Dept of Ed:
https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ss/dh/