



*The Parents of Hard of Hearing Children Support Group
Newsletter February 2006*



MISSION

*To Provide support and encouragement to Parents and Families of
children with hearing loss*

The parents group hosts regular activities for children and parents, and holds monthly support meetings for parents. We aim to serve the needs of all group members; members are encouraged to share and bring forward ideas. If your family has needs or concerns related to your child's hearing loss, or if you want your child to become involved with our group, why not come out to our next event? Hope to see your family soon!



National News Flash

Phillip Rogers of Newfoundland is the new CHHA National Young Adult Representative. If you have any questions or concerns related to youth between the ages of 18-30, please e-mail Phillip at chhayarep@gmail.com

Photo Album of Recent Events



On December 4, 2005 the Parents Group held it's Annual Christmas Afternoon Tea at Waterford Manor. Everyone who attended had a wonderful time!

Thank you to Sound Listening Environments (Hushh-Ups) for sponsoring this event!



As has become tradition, the parents group decorated the Christmas tree at the CHHA-NL office. Thank you to the parents who came out to help decorate the tree in CHHA-NL colours.



The Annual Breakfast with Santa was a huge success, with our largest turnout to date! The Breakfast was held on December 18th at CJ's Diner in Mount Pearl. Guests enjoyed breakfast, photos with Santa and a special visit from Darth Vader.



Children can send their birthday date to Irene at CHHA-NL. A special birthday treat will be sent to you.

Send birthdays to chhanl@nfld.net

Upcoming Events

<i>Feb 26th</i>	Family Bowling at Pearl Gate Lanes at 3:00 pm. Each family or group should have a minimum of 4 players and the cost is \$5.00 per family. Please call Irene at 753-3224 to register.
<i>March 6th</i>	Parents Group Meeting at CHHA-NL office. We will be developing a Parents Manual. Parents are asked to bring and share stories about their child's hearing loss.
<i>March 31st</i>	Annual Parents Night Out at Boston Pizza!
<i>April 10th</i>	"Feelings Workshop" at CHHA-NL 7:00 pm. With Guest Speakers.
<i>April 24th</i>	Regular meeting at CHHA-NL office. We will be discussing the Parents Manual, Grade 5 Speak Off, PEI National Conference.
<i>May 8th</i>	Annual Grade 5 Speak Off at the Newfoundland School for the Deaf. 7:00 pm.
<i>June 5th</i>	Last Meeting of the year—Review of draft Parents Manual.

I had to name the feelings to know them.

"I didn't have feelings. I didn't know feelings until I was age 9. Age 9 I went to deaf camp. There, I learned signs—happy, sad, upset, angry, ugly. Age 9 I learned feelings."

- A profoundly deaf boy

You can help your child learn about feelings. Here are some things you can do:

- **Show and tell your child how you're feeling.**

Even if it's just 'silly' or 'tired'. Say how you're feeling in words (spoken or sign language). This will help your child learn the words for different feelings. Show how you're feeling with body movements and strong expressions on your face. Make sure your face matches the feeling you are trying to show. Don't talk to your child about feeling sad with a huge smile on your face—that will confuse him or her.

- **When you see that your child is sad or angry, tell him or her it's okay to feel that way.**

Let him or her talk about why he/she feels that way.

- **Take extra time to notice the feelings of other people.**

You can do it when you look at picture books together, watch Sesame Street or other TV shows, and even in real life. Use words to describe the feelings. You might say things like, "That boy looks like he's scared of the dog". If you're at the playground with your child, and you notice another child being teased, ask your child how that might feel.

This article is from "Raising Deaf Kids: A world of information about children with hearing loss". You can find this page online at: <http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/growingup/child.jsp>



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Upcoming Conferences

AG Bell 2006 Convention

Friday, June 23– Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Pittsburgh, PA

www.agbell.org

Educational sessions designed for parents, professionals, and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing.

CHHA National Conference

June 1-4, 2006

Charlottetown, PEI

www.chha.ca/conference

Clarke School Mainstream Fall Conference

October 19-20, 2006