



# COLORADO HANDS & VOICES™

November & December 2024 Newsletter

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

# CONNECTION



TO RSVP PLEASE GO TO  
[TINYURL.COM/2023EVENTSCOHV](https://tinyurl.com/2023eventscohv)



## CO GIVES DAY

Colorado Gives Day is a wonderful way to give back around the state! See more on page 2.

## EVENTS

Take a look at page 4 for a full list of events. COH&V events are in **RED**, H&V HQ Events are in **BLUE**. Others are in **GREEN**

## WINTER FEST

Don't miss out on the fun! Signing Santa, music, crafts and more! See more on page 3.

It's that time of year again: the hustle and bustle of the holidays. It's a high energy, fast paced, and often frantic, time of connections and festive fun. This is the time of year that I remember to add yet another thing to do on my holiday to-do list. One thing I'm doing every day, but I focus myself to make it front and center this time of year, is ensuring that there is accessibility and inclusion for my son.

Some easy ways I can make sure this happens is by starting with a deep breath to calm my excitement, and I look around the room. Is my centerpiece on my table low enough he can see other's faces and hands during our dinner conversations? I remember to remind my guests to take turns talking, so my son can access the conversation. And if he asks someone to repeat what was said, we will repeat it, because as my son proudly tells people, the phrase "never mind" is not allowed in our house. I try to slow myself down and explain what is coming and our calendar of plans, so I can help him understand what is coming next. But I also talk with my kids, and let them know that I am also just a mom, and I will make mistakes, so if something isn't helping, it's okay to let me know, we will work together to fix it. Afterall, we are on this journey, learning together!

We thank all of our guests, sponsors, and bidders, for coming to our *A Red Carpet Event* last month. It was a wonderful success! And as such, we will be sharing with you in the coming weeks our plans for in-person events across the state. Congratulations to Dr. Debbie Mood for her Family First Award (see page 2). As we enter closer to 2025, keep an eye on our upcoming events, like our Winter Festival (see age 2), along with many more listed on page 3. A quick reminder that our staff will be taking time with their families from Saturday, December 21st through Monday, January 6th. We hope you have a wonderful holiday season.

I leave you with a reminder that you are doing a wonderful job, and you are enough!



by Jami Fries, Executive Director

# COLORADO GIVES DAY

Every year we are excited for Colorado Gives Day. This is a wonderful way to make good happen by connecting people, ideas and nonprofits. Colorado Hands & Voices is always honored to receive donations from our Colorado community to help us continue our mission of supporting families who are raising children that are Deaf/Hard of Hearing from birth to age 18. Your donations go towards events around the state. This year we will be hosting our Mom's Nite Inn, events for teens (with parent support through this transition), and family events! To help us make this happen, you can donate [HERE](#).

Did you know that from November 1st- December 10th your donation will be boosted by \$1M+ Incentive Fund, thanks to Colorado Gives Foundation and First Bank. Plus, if you set up a new monthly donation to Colorado Hands & Voices, your first donation will be matched up to \$100 while funds last!



## THE ASCENT PROGRAM



## ASCENT PROGRAM

Colorado's Deaf/Hard of Hearing/Deaf Blind Adult Role Model program is back! Do you have a child who is Deaf/Hard of Hearing, between the ages of 0-3? This is a wonderful way to connect your family with a DHHDB Role Model, so you can learn about being a DHHDB individual. These role models can do in-home visits or online to answer questions, and provide insight to your family.



Scan me

To connect with a DHHDB Role Model

If you are interested but want to know more about the program, watch the video [HERE](#). Or click [HERE](#) to meet the Ascent Program's DHHDB Adults.

## FAMILY FIRST AWARD WINNER

A big congratulations, and thank you, to Dr. Debbie Mood for her tireless work in Colorado to help families who are raising children that have a dual diagnosis of hearing differences and behavioral challenges. Dr. Mood has long been our go-to professional when families come to us with questions regarding behaviors with their D/HH child. She has the wonderful skill set of understanding the child as a whole and seeing behaviors as D/HH and as additional needs.

We were thrilled to be able to celebrate with her and her beautiful family at our Fall Gala, *A Red Carpet Event*. Thank you, Dr. Mood for always meeting families where they are at for support and guidance.



# COME JOIN OUR TEAM

We are excited to announce we are currently hiring additional Guide By Your Side team members. This is a great part-time job, that is mostly work from home, with a few events around the state that are in person. We are looking for two parent guides, one in a rural area, and one Spanish Speaking Parent Guide. You must be a parent of a child that is deaf or hard of hearing.

Is this you? Please fill out our application [HERE](#), and we will reach out to schedule an interview!



**JOIN OUR TEAM**

**We are hiring two Parent Guides**  
 -One Spanish Speaking Guide  
 -One Rural Area Parent Guide



Apply Now  
 \*Must be a parent of child that is Deaf/Hard of Hearing



## WELCOME TO DR. KATIE CUE

We are excited to announce that Dr. Katie Cue has been hired as the Colorado Early Hearing, Detection, and Intervention (CO-EHDI) Director. With Dr. Cue's position being filled, Colorado can resume its EHDI work, which includes parents voices with their child's newborn hearing screening, identification, and early intervention journey. We are excited to have Dr. Cue on board, and we are thrilled to get our system moving again!

If you have a story to share, if its a success story, or a concern, please reach out to us at [info@co-hv.org](mailto:info@co-hv.org). Or if you are interested in joining a



## COEHDI

Colorado Early Hearing Detection and Intervention

group of parents over zoom to discuss strengths/weaknesses in our system, we would love to hear from you.

## THANK YOU TO OUR FALL DONARS

Come celebrate with us on December 7th at Bethany Lutheran Church, as we enjoy the season of winter! This is an amazing event where families can connect with each other, ages birth-8 (please feel free to register if your child still wishes to participate and is over the age of 8). A special thanks to Feel the Beat for helping with music, CAD for hosting a craft table, and Deaf Santa for connecting with our kids.

Don't forget to register so you can take home your own copy of Sneezzy the Snowman. We will have ASL interpreters, access to Cued Speech, and Spanish translators.

Please feel free to share far and wide. We are excited to see you!

**Winter Festival**

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 4500 E HAMPDEN AVE  
 ENGLEWOOD, CO 80113

**FOR FAMILIES WITH DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN AGES 0-8**

SATURDAY- DECEMBER 7, 2024  
 2:30PM - 4:30PM

**FUN CRAFTS, STORYTIME, MUSIC, AND MORE!**

BOOK: 

SHARE WITH SANTA YOUR WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAYS THIS YEAR IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE, SPOKEN ENGLISH, OR SPANISH.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RSVP:  
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/WINTERFESTIVAL2024](https://tinyurl.com/winterfestival2024)



# EVENTS

## December 5th (and every Thursday): Youth Creative Movement (In-Person)

Hosted By Feel The Beat. 5:00-6:00 pm Located at the Westminster Location. For more info click [HERE](#).

## December 7th (and every Saturday): Teen & Adult Contemporary (In-Person)

Hosted By Feel The Beat. 12:30-1:30pm Located at the Westminster Location. For more info click [HERE](#).

## December 5th: Extended Family- How Can I help you? (Virtual)

Hosted by COH&V. 7:00-8:00pm. RSVP [HERE](#).

## December 7th: Winter Festival (In-Person)

Co-Hosted by COH&V, CSDB, RMDS, Listen Foundation, AGBell, MSD, and CO-EHDI.

2:30-4:00 pm MST, Englewood CO. Register [HERE](#).

## December 7th: CSDB Craft Fair (In Person)

Hosted By CSDB. 10:00am-3:00pm Located in the CSDB Gym.

## December 10th: Children First- Reducing Harm from Toxic Stress and Abuse (Virtual)

Hosted by H&V HQ- OUR Project. 10:00-11:00 am. Register [HERE](#).

## December 21st: Celebrate The Holidays with Music

Hosted by Tiny Tots. 9:30 am & 10:45am. Located at the Littleton EPIC Campus. Click [HERE](#) for more info.

## January 1st- Staying Alive in 2025 (Virtual 5K)

Hosted By H&V HQ and COH&V- Virtual 5k. To register click [HERE](#).

## January 10th: Toddler Program at Play Street Museum

Hosted by RMDS. For More info email [Julie Moers](#) or [Susie Broderick](#)

## January 15th: ASTra Open Office Hours (Virtual)

Hosted by COH&V. 7:00-8:00 pm. Register [HERE](#).

## January 28th: Assessments for Celebrating Achievements and Planning What's Next (Virtual)

Hosted by H&V HQ. Register [HERE](#).

## February 8th: You Are Not Alone (English- Virtual)

Co-Hosted by COH&V. 7:00-8:00 pm MST. Register [HERE](#).

## February 9th: You Are Not Alone (Spanish- Virtual)

Co-Hosted by COH&V. 7:00-8:00 pm MST. Register [HERE](#).

## March 25th: Language Acquisition for All (Virtual)

Hosted by H&V HQ. Register [HERE](#).



Do you have an event that you would like us to share with our families? Please send us your information and a flyer at [info@co-hv.org](mailto:info@co-hv.org)

"Like" us on Facebook. Parents, ask to join these private Facebook group(s) to see the latest updates.

- Colorado Chapter - Hands & Voices (general),
- COHV Unilateral Hearing Loss
- Manos Y Voces (Spanish)
- COHV Deaf+Autism
- cCMV Family Network
- Instagram and Twitter: Colorado Hands & Voices



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 Include your name, location, and child's age, and school district.  
 If you have a particular area of interest, let us know!