

HEAR INDIANA

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Hear Indiana Hosts Hear Here Indianapolis 2009

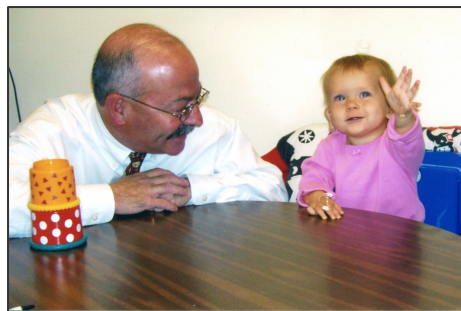
27th Annual Conference to demonstrate how Hoosiers are “Doing Deaf Differently”

For immediate release

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Indianapolis—On October 30, 2009, more than 160 attendees are expected to attend Hear Here Indianapolis 2009 presented by Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital at St.Vincent. This will be Hear Indiana’s 27th Annual Conference to provide state-of-the-art information on hearing technology and the most up-to-date strategies on improving listening, literacy, and spoken language skills. Attendees can participate in person or via webinar.

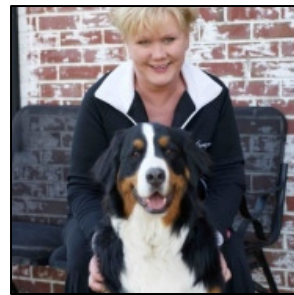
Keynote speaker, Donald M. Goldberg, Ph.D., CCC-SLP/A, FAAA, LSLS Cert. AVT explains, “With today’s technology, hard of hearing and even profoundly deaf children can learn to listen and speak. The future is bright



and the ‘sky is the limit’ for those children who are given access to the full range of educational, occupational, and social choices in life.”

Hear Indiana’s executive director, Naomi Horton, adds, “The data suggest that 90 percent of Indiana families with newly diagnosed children are choosing an auditory oral/verbal communication methodology, which focuses on listening and speaking rather than the use of sign language. As a result of this conference, more deaf and hard of hearing students will excel in the mainstream and become independent members of society.”

Patty Spittler, former Indianapolis WISH-TV anchor and current host of WTHR’s PetPalsTV, will provide the welcoming speech at Hear Here Indianapolis. “When I lost my hearing due to Meniere’s disease in 2004, I thought my life was over. I tried to learn sign language, but it was



hard, and I didn’t feel comfortable in the signing Deaf culture. Today I am profoundly deaf in my left ear, but I wear a hearing aid in my right ear which allows me to communicate verbally. Hear Indiana has helped me realize that my life is not over. It feels great to be doing deaf differently!”

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About Hear Indiana

Hear Indiana is the non-profit Indiana chapter of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AG Bell). For nearly 40 years the organization has helped children with hearing loss achieve their fullest potential as independent members of society.

More information about Hear Indiana or to register for the conference:
www.hearindiana.org

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