A YEAR TO REMEMBER

During the 2020-2021 school year at Desert Voices, we found our strength: each of us—families, students, listening and spoken language professionals, our leadership team and Board of Directors. We thought you’d enjoy reading how well our families and children did during this unprecedented time.

OUR MISSION

Desert Voices’ mission is to teach each child, who is deaf or hard of hearing, the oral language skills needed to talk and understand when spoken to. Our goal is to prepare the children and their family to mainstream into their school of choice with hearing children their age.

CONTACT US

www.desert-voices.org
info@desert-voices.org

Scan the QR CODE to start your investment today!
PARENT COACHING

Parent Coaching is a weekly individual session lead by a listening and spoken language professional with the child and a parent, grandparent, or caregiver. This setting provides the necessary foundation for children and their families to be successful in an educational setting and to understand their child's learning potential using listening and spoken language. The individualized session allows parents and caregivers to understand their child's hearing loss, practice strategies to support their child's listening and spoken language at home and in their community, language development critical for literacy and school readiness, and to receive individualized counseling on their child's hearing journey. Listening and spoken language professionals collaborate with the family, the audiologist, the ENT, and other outside team members to ensure the child is developing in all areas of development and has appropriate access to sound to optimize the child's development of listening and spoken language.

JUMP START

Jump Start is a weekly two hour class lead by listening and spoken language professionals. This classroom setting builds upon the foundation of Parent Coaching sessions and provides multiple opportunities for both the child and the parent/caregiver to practice and improve their listening and spoken language skills. This group setting allows children to begin to learn the routine of a classroom, continue to develop their listening/auditory skills, build receptive vocabulary, and begin imitating words. Parents and caregivers are practicing strategies in a community setting while they build relationships with other parents as well as learning more about their child's needs in an educational setting. The child's Desert Voices team will support the family to ensure the child is acquiring skills in all developmental domains that allows the child to independently learn in an educational setting.
TODDLER

Toddler class meets twice a week for 3.5 hours per day and is lead by a listening and spoken language professional. During the class, each child will receive 30 minutes of one-on-one instruction with a listening andspoken language professional. The desired outcomes of this classroom are for each child to build a word bank allowing the child to consistently and readily combine two to three words at home and school. This is accomplished through play based lessons which focus on the first 250 words learned by typical hearing toddlers. The structured day includes free choice work, circle time, art, dramatic play, snack, story time, and recess. Every part of the day focuses on language and vocabulary. The skills learned in the toddler classroom prepare children to enter our preschool and begin to learn simple sentences.

PRESCHOOL

Preschool classes meet Monday through Friday for 6.5 hours per day. Children alternate between two different settings, both focusing on communication skills. In groups of two or three children, a listening and spoken language professional provides direct language instruction focusing on vocabulary, syntax, conversational language, articulation, auditory training, and language enrichment. The small student to teacher ratio gives each child multiple opportunities to practice syntactically correct language. Children engage in a larger group setting with up to fifteen children as part of their preschool day. This setting focuses on positive social and emotional skills, fine and gross motor development, pragmatic use of language, literacy and school readiness skills. The preschool offers the opportunity for a child to become fully immersed in an education setting learning through oral instruction and interacting with classmates using complex language.
Our Community Partners are an important step in a child's Listening and Spoken Language journey. We received 40 referrals from some of the following:

- Pediatric Audiologist
- Cochlear Implant Teams
- Arizona State School for the Deaf and Blind
- OPTION SCHOOLS
- Local School Districts
OUR IMPACT

2020 - 2021

Families Served

- preschool: 46.7%
- early intervention (0-3): 53.3%

Hours of Services Provided

Preschool - onsite and virtual

- Q1: 150
- Q2: 100
- Q3: 50
- Q4: 0

Hours of Services Provided

Early Intervention - virtual

- Q1: 6,000
- Q2: 4,000
- Q3: 2,000
- Q4: 0

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OUR IMPACT

2020 - 2021

$287k
SCHOLARSHIP DOLLARS PROVIDED

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On average, our team of LSL Providers completed 37 hours of professional development.

Some of the learning opportunities included:

- Early Literacy
- The Science of Trauma & Resilience
- Auditory Verbal Therapy & Education
- Tools for Antiracist Teaching
OUR IMPACT

SOCIAL MEDIA

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5k FACEBOOK IMPRESSIONS

3k INSTAGRAM INSIGHTS

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2020 - 2021 Revenue - $1,004,661.58

- families 4.2%
- fundraising events 6.5%
- individuals & corporations 22.1%
- school districts 37.5%
- private foundations 28.7%

2020 - 2021 Expenses - $1,022,438.41

- preschool 53.6%
- fundraising 16.3%
- parent coaching 30.2%
Madden

Just wrapped up 3rd grade with straight A's and was awarded Most Outstanding in Language amongst his hearing peers.

Kendall

Thank you Desert Voices! Kendall has transitioned out of speech therapy before graduating kindergarten! Woohoo!!! You are all AMAZING!

Carson

Graduated from Basha High School 2021 and is looking forward to traveling east to attend Rochester Institute of Technology where he plans to study business administration/marketing.
OUR IMPACT

OUR TEAM

DeeAnn Chapman, Executive Director
2009 to Present
MBA Arizona State University
B.A. Business Administration Western Oregon University

Kristen Levi, Development and Operations Manager
2009 to Present
Mesa Community College

Jamie Sepulveda, Programs Manager
2017 to Present
LSLS Cert. AVEd Candidate
Teacher of the Deaf
MS DE Master in Deaf Education, Washington University
BS Communication Disorders, Truman State

Tracie LeBlanc, Speech Language Pathologist
2003 - Present
M.S., CCC-SLP, LSLS Cert. AVEd
B.S. Speech and Hearing Science, University of Arizona
M.S. Communications Disorders, Arizona State University

Ginger Noschka, Teacher of the Deaf
2009 to Present
Bachelor of Science in the Education of Deaf Children
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Southwest Human Development - Harris Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Certification

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OUR TEAM

Stephanie Farber, Teacher of the Deaf

2016 to Present
LSLS Cert. AVEd
M.S. Deaf Education, Washington University, St. Louis
B.A. Linguistics, Washington University, St. Louis

Kendall Collins, Teacher of the Deaf

2017 to Present
LSLS Cert. AVEd Candidate
M.S. Deaf Education Washington University, St. Louis
B.A. Health Science, University of Missouri (Mizzou)

Abbey Decker, Teacher of the Deaf

2018 to Present
Biola University
B.S in Communication Sciences and Disorders
Mt. Saint Mary’s University - The John Tracy Clinic
M.S in Special Education with an emphasis in Deaf Education
In progress: M.S in Speech Language Pathology

Audrey Brooks, Teacher of the Deaf

2019 to Present
M.S. Deaf Education, Washington University in St. Louis
B.A. Communication Disorders, Truman State University

Sofia Arjona, Teacher of the Deaf

2021 to Present
Spanish Speaking
M. S. Deaf Education & Hearing Science, University of Texas Health Science Center
B. S. Interdisciplinary Studies EC- 6 ESL, Texas State University
First we want to start off by saying thank you. Desert Voices is honored to share with you the impact your support has made over this past year. Please know that your investment and belief has been critical in the success of our students and families on their listening and spoken language journey.

With that being said, we ask you to please consider making another investment in our mission. Your donation is paving the way for children who are deaf and hard of hearing by setting them up for success in whatever their endeavors might be. Help give the gift that lasts a lifetime - a voice.

Scan the QR below or go directly to www.desert-voices.org to start your investment today!