

Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

COMMUNICATION. ACCEPTANCE. EMPOWERMENT.

DIVERSITY in Hearing Loss

By Bethaney Hall

Here at the Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing the staff see a variety of people walk in our Sarasota and Venice offices on a daily basis. Our local community may not realize there is such a diverse population for those with hearing loss. These people come in for different reasons whether for an amplified phone, advocacy, employment, communication strategies with a child or family member, American Sign Language classes, deaf socials, support groups and so forth. In spite of the various degrees of hearing loss among our clients the common goal is communication.

Here is a brief description of the different types of people that all have a hearing loss:

- Deaf or hard of hearing from birth using American Sign Language. Considers themselves as a part of deaf culture. Identifies themselves as Deaf or hard of hearing. Tend to share the same views and values. Advocates for deaf rights. Preserves American Sign Language. Participates in deaf socials and events.
- Deaf or hard of hearing from birth using cochlear implants and spoken language. They may or may not use sign language

(signing and voicing at the same timetotal communication).

- Workforce age individuals who have lost some or all of their hearing and who may use sign language, hearing aids or cochlear implants (late-deafened).
- Senior citizens who have lost their hearing as a part of the aging process and who may or may not use hearing technology (hard of hearing or latedeafened).
- Deaf-blind, either from birth or over time.

Our staff specializes in all types of hearing loss. Each one has the background to work with our local deaf and hard of hearing community, whether it's a senior citizen who needs an amplified phone, a hard of hearing child seeking communication skills or a culturally deaf person who wants to attend to a deaf social. Our Adults and Children & Families programs are designed to cater their needs. We understand diversity in hearing loss.

Bethaney Hall, Program Specialist Email: <u>bhall@ccdhh.org</u>



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The POWER of the Herd - Children & Families Program

By Erin Bosch

The Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is partnering with InStride Therapy Inc. to offer an innovative, groundbreaking pilot program "The Power of the Herd".

The program will consist of 4 sessions at two and half hours each session. The sessions will include: demonstrations, classroom discussions, simulation, and hands-on time with horses. Sessions are based on foundation of Natural Horsemanship, relying on psychology, understanding and communication skills to build a relationship with a horse. Some skills children will develop and be required to use include: honesty, responsibility, respect, patience, and assertiveness.

The program will be divided into two groups, ages 7-10 and 11-14, so activities are age and developmentally appropriate. The program will be taught by InStride Executive Director Donna Blem, a Two-Star Parelli Professional. Staff members from the Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will guide Ms Blem utilizing their expertise and knowledge of hearing loss and its impact on children.

Through collaborative efforts, specific target areas for each age group have been devised. The target areas were selected based on the critical needs of children with hearing loss. The program will occur between March and May 2014 at Instride's new state-of-the-art facility in Nokomis, Florida



Building life skills through natural horsemanship.

The Sertoma Golf Tournament

The Sertoma Club of Bradenton invites you to the 16th annual Sertoma Golf Tournament at:

Sara Bay Country Club

7011 Willow Street Sarasota, FL 34243

In support of Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, many local charities and University of South Florida.

Friday, May 16, 2014 11:00 am Registration 12:30 Tee Off 5:00 pm Dinner

For more information, please call: Bill Stewart – (941) 730-7921



The GIVING Partner

In the coming months the Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will be raising money to support services through The Giving Partner. Your donations are appreciated!

The Giving Partner is a collaborative initiative of 3 community foundations:

- Community Foundation of Sarasota County
- Gulf Coast Community Foundation
- Manatee Community Foundation

To donate to the Center go to the website: <u>http://thegivingpartner.guidestar.org/</u>.

Just go to the 'find' button and type in 'Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing of Manatee Sarasota Inc'. We appreciate your donation!



The intersection of community and philanthropy.

Make the time. Volunteering is a powerful way to feel good and make a difference. Connect with organizations featured in The Giving Partner and learn about ways to get involved.

Share your talent. Consider serving on a nonprofit board or committee or providing a professional service at no cost to a nonprofit. It's a great way to share your experience to make our community even stronger.

Give some treasure. Donate to your favorite organizations through their profiles in The Giving Partner. Whether it's \$10 or \$10,000, you make an impact.

The Giving Partner

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You can learn more about InStride by going to their website: www.instridetherapy.org.

Erin Bosch, Children & Families Coordinator Email: <u>ebosch@ccdhh.orq</u>

