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ANNUAL REPORT

2021

YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Every penny counts!
Please consider a small (or large)
donation to help us offset
our yearly expenses.

Make checks payable to:

HLAA COC
PO BOX 42801
OKC, OK 73123

OUR CHAPTER OFFERS

- A safe place to talk about hearing loss with people who are facing the same issues.
- 'News you can use' on hearing assistance technology, coping tips, and community resources
- Tools to advocate for yourself and others with hearing loss

Join Us For Monthly Meetings In-Person or Online:

Third Thursday of each month
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at
Will Rogers Exhibition Center
in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
3400 NW 36th Street, OKC, OK 73112

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR *SHARON HENDRICKS*

2020 was a trying year; masks, glass protection screens and virtual meetings were not kind to those of us living with hearing loss.

Our chapter tried to meet in person, but in an effort to keep all our members safe and informed, we hosted virtual Zoom meetings. Our programming continued with virtual guest speakers and special events. We also awarded three students with hearing loss scholarships of \$1,500 each. In fact, this was the 6th year in a row for our scholarship program. In total we have now given \$16,000 in scholarships and hope to give more! We continued working to LOOP OKC, seeing hearing loops installed in several metro locations. Our monthly printed newsletter continues and is a valuable resource to some 500 subscribers.

2021 has brought new excitement to our group. The ice cream social in August was our first face-to-face meeting in over a year. Our monthly meetings became educational seminars, fully accessible with a hearing loop and live captioning. December we celebrated together with a cookie exchange, fun give-a-ways, and fellowship for all.

As we look forward to 2022, I see a bright future for our strong chapter. With new volunteer leadership and membership participation, our chapter looks forward to the growth we saw just before the pandemic. Our informative monthly meetings, scholarship fundraising and hearing loop advocacy continue at full speed ahead.

This continued success of our chapter depends on your help!

There is no charge for membership in our chapter, however; the successes and hopes mentioned above incur costs. Scholarships, newsletters, and live captioning are some of our major expenses. We need your financial support. Our yearly requested membership donation is only \$15 per year for individuals and \$20 per family. Please consider an additional contribution of any size to help with our group's specific special requests. Every dollar is appreciated. We are a 501 (c) 3 corporation and all donations are tax exempt.

OUR MISSION

The Mission of our chapter of the Hearing Loss Association is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support and advocacy.

OUR HISTORY

Our Chapter was founded in the fall of 1990 by Faye Donalson. On Sept. 1, 1998 she opened the Hearing Helpers Room which was filled with important hearing assistive technology to help people with hearing loss live better at home and work. Countless people visited through the years, assisted by our amazing volunteers.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

OUR CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENTS

- Hosted the National HLAA Convention in 2007 with over 700 attendees from across the nation. We hope to host again soon with the new and impressive OKC convention center, complete with hearing loop accessibility,
- Awarded \$2500 by the OKC Community Foundation for its participation in the Hiker's Club. Our members walked 5,061 miles during the competition.
- Started a Scholarship program in 2015, with the first 2 scholarships being awarded in 2016 for the amount of \$500 each. Due to the generosity of members and Friends of HLAA, the scholarships were increased to \$1000 each for the next two years and \$1,500 each since that time for a total of \$16,000 having been awarded since the start of the program.
- Participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Nichols Hills City Council Chamber for the advocacy of the installation of a Hearing Loop System. Members also participated in performance enhancement at the Civic Center Music Hall's hearing loop system. One of our members was even featured on a TV segment highlighting this achievement. Members also participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony for Rodeo Cinema's Hearing Loop System- Oklahoma City's first movie theater with this technology.
- 25 members attended our first ever "Field Trip" to the Oklahoma Heart Hospital for a live cooking demonstration and dinner for a healthy heart meal.



MULTIPLE CHAPTER AWARDS

Spirit of HLAA
5 times including 2019

State Coordinator
4 times

Newsletter
2 times

Family Involvement
2 times

Outreach

Website

Chapter on a Mission

Community Service

Get in the Hearing Loop

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Please consider a special donation to cover these recurring charges:

- \$50- One month's postage
- \$100- Live captioning for one monthly meeting
- \$1500- Individual College Scholarship Sponsorship for a highschool student with hearing loss

