



GUIDE BY YOUR SIDE™

WHAT IS HANDS & VOICES GUIDE BY YOUR SIDE™ OF PENNSYLVANIA?

Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side™ of Pennsylvania (GBYS) is dedicated to directly supporting families and their infants and toddlers who are identified with hearing loss by offering them the opportunity to talk to or meet face-to-face with a Parent Guide.

WHAT IS A PARENT GUIDE?

GBYS Parent Guides are parents of children who are deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind who have received special training. This training provides:

- A strong foundation in supporting families *without a bias toward* communication modes or methods
- A functional understanding of formal systems and services available to families and their children

Parent Guides are able to bring their direct experience, specialized knowledge, and personal compassion to their role while making the family's needs their primary focus.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM?

Families of Pennsylvania infants and toddlers (ages birth to 3) who have a hearing loss.



GUIDE BY
YOUR SIDE™

**A program for families of a child who is deaf,
hard of hearing, or deaf-blind**

Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side™ of PA
6340 Flank Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112
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800-360-7282 (in PA only) • 717-580-0839

www.paearlyhearing.org
www.handsandvoicesofpa.org
www.handsandvoices.org

WHAT CAN THE GBYS PROGRAM DO FOR MY FAMILY?

GBYS Parent Guides located throughout the state provide:

- Timely emotional support following the diagnosis of hearing loss
- Direct parent/peer support and networking
- Unbiased information and resource sharing specific to hearing loss, including insights on navigating the systems from a parent perspective
- Support to families throughout the infant/toddler early intervention years by combining an experienced parent's insight with knowledge of the early intervention system
- Information about other parent support opportunities

HOW MUCH DOES THE GBYS PROGRAM COST?

The GBYS program is provided to families at no cost.

HOW DO I REQUEST A GBYS PARENT GUIDE?

- Complete the GBYS Referral Form on the families page on www.paearlyhearing.org/families/diagnosed/item/70
- Or call the Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side™ of PA Program Coordinator at **800-360-7282** or **717-580-0839**
- Or email agaspich@pattan.net

Our Guide Is:

Name

Phone

Email

Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side™ of PA is supported by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Guide By Your Side has an office at the Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) and shares resources with Early Intervention Technical Assistance (EITA).