

BC Early Hearing Program

A service of BC Children's Hospital
and the Provincial Health Services Authority

Hands & Voices *Guide By Your Side* Program:

Job Openings for Parent Guide & Deaf Guide

The *Guide By Your Side* program provides parent support linking parents of children newly identified deaf/hard of hearing or deafblind through newborn hearing screening with trained and experienced "Parent Guides" and "Deaf/Hard of Hearing Guides".

Guides are trained to support families *without bias* towards modes or methods of communication. We believe in the Hands & Voices slogan, "*What Works for your Child is what makes the Choice right.*"



What is the role of the Parent Guide?

Guide By Your Side Parent Guides offer parents the opportunity to establish a supportive relationship with another parent, sharing stories about their experiences raising a child who is deaf/hard of hearing, as well as some of the practical advice a parent learns over the years (e.g. how did we keep those hearing aids on our baby's ears and out of his mouth?!).

What is the role of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Guide?

A Deaf/Hard of Hearing Guide provides parents with an invaluable perspective that comes from direct, personal experience. We currently have an opening for a Deaf adult role model, fluent in American Sign Language.

How to Apply - Please submit a letter outlining your interest, qualifications and experience to kshauer@cw.bc.ca. See "Request for Interest" below for further details regarding these part-time positions. Application letters must be received no later than **September 29th, 2017.**

More information about *Guide By Your Side*, BC Early Hearing Program, and Hands & Voices:

www.phsa.ca/our-services/programs-services/bc-early-hearing-program/early-language-support/guide-by-your-side

www.bchandsandvoices.com

www.handsandvoices.org

Request for Interest: *Parent Guide Position*

Hands & Voices *Guide By Your Side* Program (GBYS) BC Early Hearing Program (BCEHP)

The Parent Guide will contact families to provide non-biased information and support around resources available for children newly identified deaf/hard of hearing.

Working on an as-needed basis with families, and under the guidance of the GBYS Coordinator, the responsibilities of the guides will include:

- The provision of timely parent-to-parent support at the time of identification. This will include making initial contact with families, collaborating with BCEHP / GBYS Parent & Deaf/Hard of Hearing Guide team members to determine information and resources required, and follow-up to ensure that families' needs are met.
- Participation in the creation and review of materials used by the BC Early Hearing Program.
- Maintenance of regular statistics and data logging of activities as necessary to the BCEHP.
- Attending monthly meetings for the purpose of collaboration and planning for the GBYS Program.
- Participation in initial training / educational activities as required (approx. 3 – 4 days) as well as ongoing 2-day GBYS team training provided twice per year (Friday/Saturday combination).

Qualifications & Requirements

- First hand, current knowledge and understanding of the impact of reduced hearing levels on the family and the child (must be a parent of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing with a high school diploma - Dogwood certificate).
- Knowledge of BC resources, communication, language and technology opportunities prevalent in the field of deafness. Contractors must be willing to maintain membership in BC Hands and Voices.
- Must have access to personal computer or laptop, internet and telephone or cell phone (voice and/or text).

Additional Details

Maximum 4-6 hours per week depending on need (not guaranteed); two full training days provided twice/year. Occasional travel required for trainings, outreach and events.

This is a paid contract position. Hourly rate to be discussed.

Interpreters can be provided for interview process, required trainings and monthly meetings.

Interested contractors should submit a letter outlining their interest, qualifications and experience to:

Kim Shauer, Coordinator
Hands & Voices *Guide By Your Side* Program
BC Early Hearing Program
kshauer@cw.bc.ca

**Deadline for submission is extended to Friday, September 29th, 2017.
Please forward this to parents that you believe would make effective Parent Guides.**

**(Parents can be hearing, Deaf or Hard of Hearing but must be a
parent of a child who is deaf/hard of hearing).**

Request for Interest: *Deaf/Hard of Hearing Guide Position*

Hands & Voices *Guide By Your Side* Program (GBYS) BC Early Hearing Program (BCEHP)

The Deaf/Hard of Hearing Guide (DHH Guide) will work with families to provide non-biased information and support, sharing their invaluable perspective that comes from direct, personal experience.

DHH Guides provide parents with:

- A safe place to ask questions about hearing differences or deafness
- Awareness of and sensitivity to issues faced by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Hope that their child will live a successful life as a deaf or hard of hearing individual / have opportunity to achieve their full potential
- Awareness of Deaf culture, community and resources

Working on an as-needed basis with families, and under the guidance of the GBYS Coordinator, the responsibilities of the DHH Guides include:

- The provision of timely support to parents after their baby is identified deaf/hard of hearing. This will include making initial contact with families, collaborating with BCEHP / Guide team members to determine information and resources required, and follow-up to ensure that families' needs are met.
- Participation in the creation and review of materials used by BC Early Hearing Program.
- Maintenance of regular statistics and data logging of activities as necessary to the BCEHP.
- Attending monthly meetings for the purpose of collaboration and planning for the GBYS Program.
- Participation in initial training / educational activities as required (approx. 3 – 4 days) as well as ongoing 2-day GBYS team training provided twice per year (Friday/Saturday combination).

Qualifications & Requirements

- A DHH Guide must be an adult who is d/Deaf, hard of hearing, d/Deaf/blind with a high school diploma (Dogwood certificate).
- Knowledge of BC resources, communication, language and technology opportunities prevalent in the field of deafness. Contractors must be willing to maintain membership in BC Hands and Voices.
- Must have access to personal computer or laptop, internet and cell phone (voice and/or text).

Additional Details

Maximum 4-6 hours per week depending on need (not guaranteed); two full training days provided twice/year.

Occasional travel required for trainings, outreach and events.

This is a paid contract position. Hourly rate to be discussed.

Interpreters provided for interview process, required trainings and monthly meetings.

Interested contractors should submit a letter outlining their interest, qualifications and experience to:

Kim Shauer, Coordinator

Hands & Voices *Guide By Your Side* Program

BC Early Hearing Program kshauer@cw.bc.ca

Deadline for submission is Friday, September 29th, 2017.

Please forward this to adults that you believe would make effective DHH Guides.