



Quarterly Report October – December 2009

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Parent Workgroup November 2009

Pictured from left to right are Parent Guides: Maria Teresa Hernandez, Alison Rollins, Carrie Balian (with Maggie), Crystal Schwartz and Beth Donofrio.

During the workgroup GBYS Parent Guides along with other parents reviewed documents and materials that are distributed to families with children who have a hearing loss.

Our Mission:

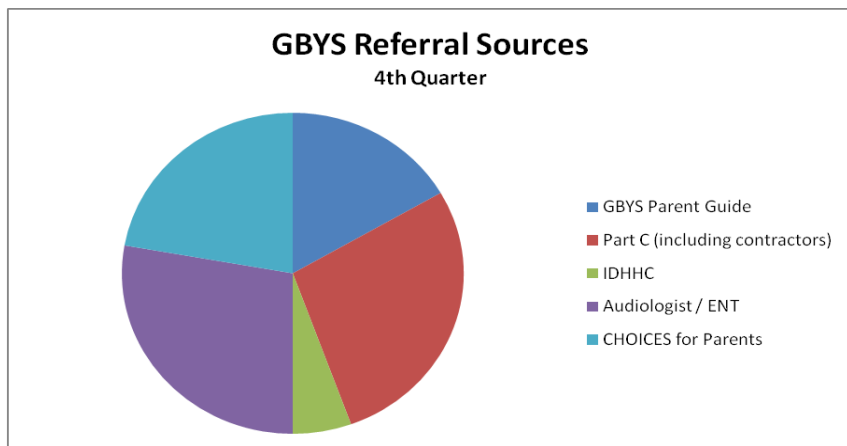
Guide By Your Side provides unbiased, emotional support and resources by trained Parent Guides to families with children who have a hearing loss.

Through the generosity of private grants and personal donations, Guide By Your Side is able to provide free services to families. Families can be referred to the program from providers or call directly to participate.

If you would like to refer a family, request brochures/posters or make a donation please contact the GBYS Program Coordinator, Carrie Balian.

Program Information:

- 1 Program Coordinator
- 10 Parent Guides (PG)
 - Located throughout the state
 - Backgrounds vary in communication opportunities, amplification opportunities
 - PG who is a native Spanish speaker
 - PG who is Deaf
 - PG who is Hard of Hearing



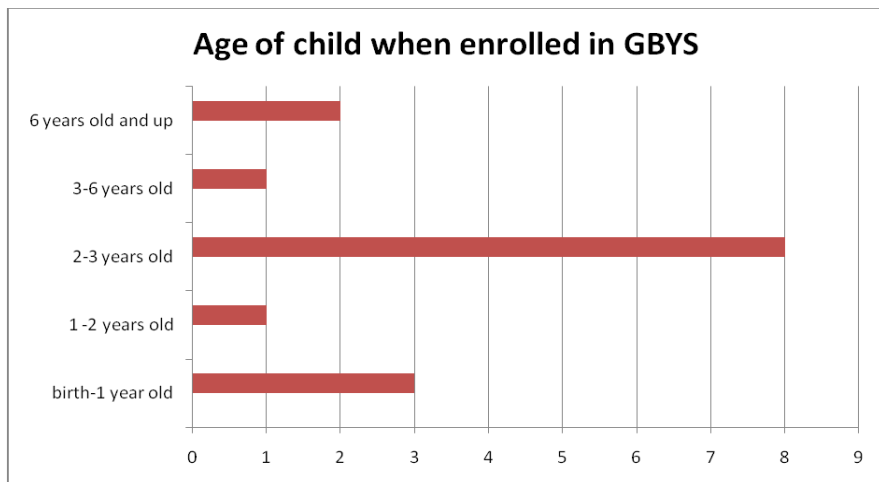
Referral Sources of GBYS families: (Oct-Dec 2009)

- Audiologists/ENT (5)
- CHOICES for Parents (4)
- GBYS Parent Guides (3)
- Part C including contractors (5)
- IDHHC (1)



Quarter Reporting for Oct – December 2009:

- Families referred 18, Families matched 15 (Unable to reach 2, 1 opted out)
- **Ethnicity** of the families referred:
 - 34% Latino (5 families)
 - 40% Caucasian (6 families)
 - 13% Asian (2 families)
 - 13% Multiracial (2 families)
- **Age** of children enrolled in GBYS:
 - 20% Birth-1 year old
 - 7% 1-2 years old
 - 53% 2-3 years old
 - 7% 3-6 years old
 - 13% 6 years and older
- **Primary Language** in the home:
 - English - 8
 - Spanish - 3
 - English & Spanish – 2
 - Other - 2
- **Insurance** information of enrolled families:
 - ALL Kids – 8 families
 - Private – 7 families
- **Newborn Hearing Screening** results as reported by the parent:
 - Did Not Pass – 8 children
 - Passed – 2 children
 - One pass/one DNP – 2 children
 - Not Screened – 3 children
- **Medical History** suggestive of:
 - Syndrome associated with a hearing loss – 2 children
 - Family History of hearing loss – 1 child
 - No known syndrome or etiology – 12 children
- **Unilateral vs. Bilateral** hearing loss:
 - Bilateral – 14 children (1 child is not documented)
- **Gender** of children enrolled in GBYS:
 - 9 male, 6 female



Comparison of age of children enrolled in GBYS from May – Sept to Oct – Dec 2009

	May-Sept 09	Oct-Dec 09
Birth-1 year old	46%	20%
1-2 years old	29%	7%
2-3 years old	7%	53%
3-6 years old	11%	7%
6 years and older	7%	13%

What have we accomplished?

Since our launching in late May 2009, we have had 47 families referred to Guide By Your Side. The families most common needs range from a desire to meet with other families and understanding more about raising a child who has a hearing loss to IEP and transitioning resources.

Outreach: GBYS information and materials have been mailed to CFC and DSCC offices. The Program Coordinator and Parent Guides have also provided individual presentations for ITHI, EAA, the state NICHQ project, school programs, clinics, an IDLA workshop and other workshops for families with children who have a hearing loss.

Community: During this past quarter Parent Guides have also arranged to host Parent Connection meetings in the Rock Island, Cook and Will County areas for families to network with one another while also learning more about raising a child with a hearing loss. In addition, several Parent Guides and GBYS families have stepped up to participate in a statewide workgroup focusing on making materials more parent-friendly and up to date.