



Our Mission:

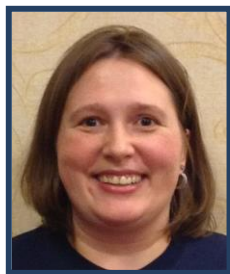
Guide By Your Side provides unbiased, emotional support and resources by trained Parent Guides to families with children who have a hearing loss.

Through the generosity of private grants, personal donations and funding through the Illinois Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program, Illinois Hands & Voices and CHOICES for Parents, 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
- 13 Parent Guides (PG)
 - Located throughout the state
 - Backgrounds vary in communication and amplification opportunities
 - Guides who are native Spanish speakers
 - Parent Guide who is Deaf



Guide Spotlight

Melissa A. has been a guide since 2009 and serves the Western and Central areas of IL. She has four children one of which has a hearing loss.

Comparison of ages of children enrolled in GBYS from July-Sept 2015 to Oct-Dec 2015

	July-Sept	Oct-Dec
Birth-1 year old	27%	60%
1-2 years old	36%	0%
2-3 years old	10%	30%
3-6 years old	0%	0%
6 years and older	27%	10%

Join us!

NEW! Clickable flier! Just click on the link or picture to go to the site!

What: Statewide calls for families with children who have a hearing loss. Professionals are welcome to join the calls too!

When: Jan 25th at 8:30pm— The Hearing Itinerant Teacher
 Guest Speaker: Jill Kelly. What are the roles and responsibilities of a Hearing Itinerant teacher? With over 25 years experience working with deaf and hard of hearing students of varying ages, Jill will also share hearing loss and ASL resources. To view the powerpoint during the presentation go to: <http://tinyurl.com/ofve876>

Feb 22nd at 8:30pm— Working with Hearing Loss and Additional Disabilities
 Guest Speaker: Linda Lenoff. An estimated 20%-40% of all children with hearing loss have a secondary disabling condition. This presentation provides information regarding the various characteristics, behaviors, and learning challenges presented by these students in the classroom setting. To view powerpoint during the presentation go to: <http://tinyurl.com/nd5jthw>

Mar 28th at 8:30pm— Cued Speech: How It Supports English Acquisition
 Presented by Karla Giese. Come learn about Cued Speech and how it can provide visual access to English. We will share some research and data on the use of Cued Speech as well as explain how it can be used across a variety of situations. To view powerpoint during the presentation go to: <http://tinyurl.com/pf2efds>

Where: From your home, call toll free (888) 494-4032 enter guest code: 4231446909

This conference call is organized by the Illinois Hands & Voices, Guide By Your Side program. The toll-free line is graciously made available by the IL DSCC/EHDI program. For more information please call 866.655.4588, visit us on the web at www.ilhandsandvoices.org/GBYS or email GBYS@choicesforparents.org.

Illinois Guide By Your Side (GBYS) is a collaborative program of Illinois Hands & Voices, CHOICES for Parents and the Illinois Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Program.

Stay up to date about events and resources and become a fan of Illinois Hands & Voices, Guide By Your Side!

The “Calls for All” that are advertised on the flier above are open to families and professionals. Please feel free to share the flier. You can find the flier on our facebook page and at www.ilhandsandvoices.org.

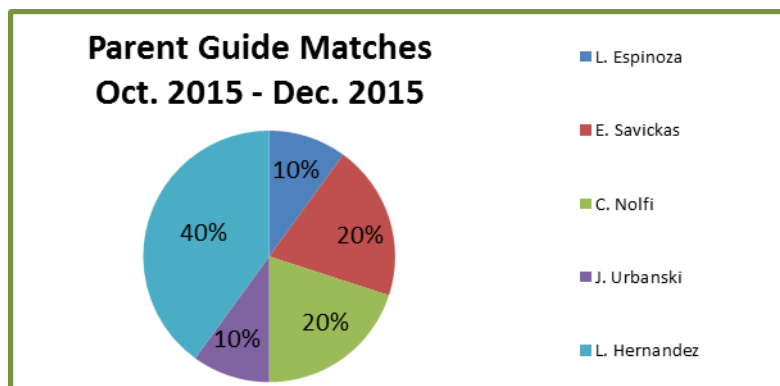
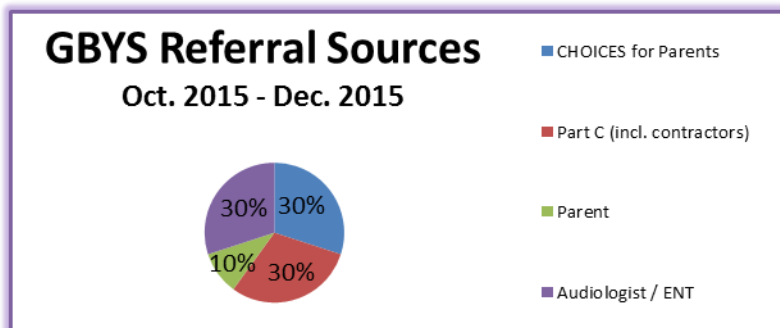
Have you “liked” us on Facebook yet? It is the easiest way to stay up to date with news and events! There are several events happening throughout IL in the coming months. Please make sure you share with families who have children with a hearing loss!





Quarter Reporting for Oct 2015 – Dec 2015:

- 25 Families referred , 10 Families matched
- **Ethnicity** of the families referred:
 - 60% Latino (6 families)
 - 40% Caucasian (4 families)
- **Age** of children enrolled in GBYS:
 - 60% Birth-1 year old
 - 0% 1-2 years old
 - 30% 2-3 years old
 - 0% 3-6 years old
 - 10% 6 years and older
- **Primary Language** in the home:
 - English – 3 families
 - Spanish – 4 families
 - Dual (English & Other) – 3 families
- **Newborn Hearing Screening** results as reported by the parent:
 - Did Not Pass – 8 children
 - Passed – 1 child
 - Unknown – 1 child
- **Gender** of children enrolled in GBYS:
 - 5 male, 5 female
- **Medical History** suggestive of:
 - Hereditary – 1 child
 - Condition assoc. with a hearing loss, 3 children
 - No known syndrome or etiology - 6 children
 - Hearing loss and additional needs- 0 children
- **Unilateral vs. Bilateral** hearing loss:
 - Bilateral – 5 children
 - Unilateral – 3 children
 - AN – 2 children
- **Insurance** information of enrolled families:
 - ALL Kids – 2 families
 - Medicaid –4 families
 - Private – 2 families
 - Dual coverage – 1 family
 - None – 1 family



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