



Carrie Balian, Program Coordinator (866) 655-4588 GBYS@choicesforparents.org www.ilhandsandvoices.org/GBYS

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
- 14 Parent Guides (PG)
 - Located throughout the state
 - Backgrounds vary in communication and amplification opportunities
 - o Guides who are native Spanish speakers
 - o Parent Guide who is Deaf



Guide Spotlight

Kelley has been a guide since 2011 and serves the lower Southwest part of IL. She has two children one of which who has a hearing loss.

Comparison of ages of children enrolled in GBYS from Jan.-Mar.2014 to Apr.- June 2014

	<u>JanMar.</u>	AprJune
Birth-1 year old	34%	23%
1-2 years old	5%	9%
2-3 years old	28%	14%
3-6 years old	5%	31%
6 years and older	28%	23%



Join us!

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

When: Sept. 29th at 8:30pm— Teaching your child to advocate — You've learned to ad vocate for your child but how do you move that ownership to your child? Learn techniques that work in helping your child successfully advocate for themselves. To view the PowerPoint presentation go online to:

https://uofi.webex.com/uofi/j.php?MTID=m0ce7e78dfa19b05fab24b44b87a577b6

Oct. 27th at 8:30pm— This call for all will discuss current and upcoming cochlear implant technology (including waterproof and Bluetooth options). In addition current practices in CI evaluation and surgery (including what to expect on the day of surgery) and cochlear implant outcomes will be reviewed. Please bring all of your CI questions to this call! Guest speaker, Audiologist Beth Tournis. To view the PowerPoint presentation go online to:

https://uofi.webex.com/uofi/j.php?MTID=m40e845e456d6c3ff44f494f9b2065b2e

Nov. 24th at 8:30pm— We will discuss current trends in hearing aid technology and assistive listening devices, and hearing aid connectivity (Bluetooth). In addition, device maintenance and troubleshooting tips will be reviewed. Guest speaker, Audiologist Joy Ringger. To view the presentation online go to: https://uofi.webex.com/uofi/j.php?MTID=mbc6e10d29deae2bb094340fbd47de6ee

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 and Illinois Guide By Your Side!



Parents & Professionals can now access all of our previous "Conference Calls for All" on similar topics as those mentioned in the above flier. Topics such as Genetics, FM Systems, Accommodations for Children in the Classroom and many more can be found on our IL Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) website (www.illinoissoundbeginnings.org) under the tabs: "For Families"/"Parent Support"/"Guide By Your Side"/"Illinois EHDI Webinars". If you have suggestions for future topics or would be interested in being featured as a guest speaker please contact Carrie at 224.343.1873.

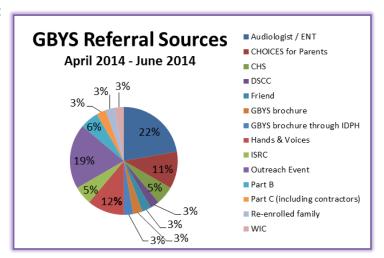
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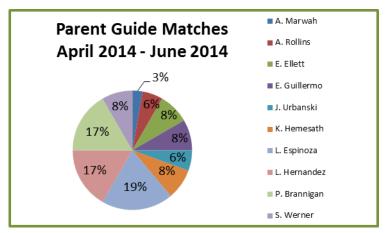
Quarter Reporting for Apr. 2014 – June 2014:

- > 44 Families referred, 35 Families matched
- **Ethnicity** of the families referred:
 - o 47% Latino (16 families)
 - o 30% Caucasian (11 families)
 - o 11% African American (4 families)
 - o 3% Pacific Islander (1 family)
 - o 9% Multiracial (3 families)
- > Age of children enrolled in GBYS:
 - o 23% Birth-1 year old
 - o 9% 1-2 years old
 - o 14% 2-3 years old
 - o 31% 3-6 years old
 - o 23% 6 years and older
- **Primary Language** in the home:
 - English 17 families
 - Spanish 8 families
 - English & Spanish 5 families
 - English & ASL 2 families
 - Spanish & ASL 1 family
 - Polish 2 families
- Newborn Hearing Screening results as reported by the parent:
 - Did Not Pass 21 children
 - Passed 5 children
 - o Pass/Did Not Pass 3 children
 - Was not screened 6 children
- ➤ **Gender** of children enrolled in GBYS:
 - o 20 male, 15 female
- ➤ **Medical History** suggestive of:
 - o Hereditary 1 child
 - o Condition assoc. with a hearing loss, 6 children
 - o No known syndrome or etiology 28 children
 - o Hearing loss and additional needs- 8 children
- ➤ Unilateral vs. Bilateral hearing loss:
 - o Bilateral 29 children
 - Unilateral 5 children, Auditory Neuropathy 1 child
- > Insurance information of enrolled families:
 - ALL Kids 17 families
 - Medicaid 4 families
 - Private 8 families
 - Dual coverage 6 families



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