

# FHC NEWS



2301 Research Blvd., Suite 110 • Rockville, MD 20850 • 301.738.1415

Spring/Summer 2007

THE FAMILY HEARING CENTER NEWS

[www.ttlc.org/fhc.htm](http://www.ttlc.org/fhc.htm)

## Greetings From The Director

I've been fitting hearing aids for 29 years and I have never experienced as much patient enthusiasm about new products. Whether it is the new mini behind the ear open fit hearing aids or new features such as directionality, hearing aids are generating more user satisfaction than ever before.

And, there is more good news! TLC's Family Hearing Center surveyed our patients who were fit with hearing aids between January 2006 and October 2006. The survey confirmed that patients are not only satisfied with their current hearing aids, but also happy with the services they receive from us. Of survey returns, the results are as follows: 100 percent of our patients are either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with their new hearing aids. 100 percent wear their hearing aids "always" or "most of the time." 97 percent would recommend our office or their audiologist to a friend or family member and 97 percent considered themselves successful hearing aid users.

Please know that you don't have to wait to receive a survey to let us know how you feel about our services. Our goal is to provide you with excellent hearing healthcare. If you need anything from us, please don't hesitate to let us know and we thank you for your trust.

Enjoy the summer!

*Susan Yaffe-Oziel, M.M.S., CCC-A*

## Giving To Others

We would like to send a very special thank you to several of our patients who have recently made donations to The Family Hearing Center so that we could purchase a new middle ear analyzer. We have also received generous donations from patients so that others less fortunate could purchase hearing aids. Many of you know how difficult it is to function day to day without the use of your hearing aids and you can also imagine the face of a patient who is told that an anonymous donor is offering them the gift of hearing. If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to our fund for patients who need hearing aids, please contact Susan Yaffe-Oziel at our center.

### The Perfect Gift for Father's Day...

Ask the FHC staff about unique gift ideas for friends and family with hearing loss.

It's right around the corner!  
June 17th



## Welcome Janet Morton!



Janet Morton, FHC's new Audiology Aide, joined us in September. Janet is working on her dissertation for the Audiology graduate program at University of Maryland. Janet wears many hats as the FHC's Audiology Aide, including walk-in-clinic on Fridays (12–2 P.M.) and Saturdays (11–1 P.M.). She

also runs our Battery Club. When she's not thinking about audiology, you may be able to catch Janet singing. Her major influences right now are the jazz greats—Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holliday, and Sarah Vaughan. Remember, if you need batteries, Janet's just a phone call away at 301.424.1415, ext. 113.

Visit our online store at [www.familyhearingcenter.org](http://www.familyhearingcenter.org) to purchase Amplified Phones, Alerting Systems, TV EARS, Cell Phone Devices and more!

Phone: 301.738.1415 ■ TTY: 301.424.5203 ■ Email: [ldelgado@ttl.org](mailto:ldelgado@ttl.org)

## Hearing Aids In The News:



Recently, you have probably noticed many print and television stories about hearing aids. Over the past year we have seen a large number of manufacturers design hearing aids that are specifically for people with

high-frequency hearing loss. These are called "open fit" hearing aids. They are small, inconspicuous, use very thin tubes, and in many cases are fitted to leave the ear canal open. They are offered in many new colors and designs. An open ear canal allows the

individual with a high-frequency hearing loss to hear low pitch sounds naturally. One manufacturer also offers one with a rechargeable battery. Call to determine if this hearing aid is a model appropriate for your hearing loss.

## United Healthcare Grant

The United Healthcare Children's Foundation is a public charity that helps meet the needs of children by providing grants for medical services. Parents of children up to age 16 are eligible to apply for grants for services that

improve their children's health and quality of life including hearing aids. The Foundation reviews criteria such as the potential of the intervention, the financial status of the family, and the severity of the child's illness.

More information can be found at [www.uhccf.org](http://www.uhccf.org). You do not need to have United Healthcare insurance to apply.

## Did You Know?



Many organizations serving people with disabilities are working to advocate ensuring that people with hearing loss receive services related to telecommunications. Over the years some of the changes have included closed captioning and voice carryover (a technology that

allows the hearing impaired individual to speak directly into a phone while they receive the response in a text mode). Most new television models are equipped with captioning through the remote control and there are new laws requiring cell phone manufacturers to make cell phones hearing aid compatible. For more information on

the history of telecommunications access for people with hearing loss, Karen Peltz Strauss, a telecommunications policy consultant in Washington, D.C., has a new book titled, [A New Civil Right; Telecommunications Equality for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Americans](#) (Gallaudet University Press).

## Update on the Hearing Aid Tax Credit

In an earlier newsletter we mentioned the huge effort from several organizations and individuals to gain support for a tax credit bill for people who purchase hearing aids. Several key supporters of the bill proposed to the

109th Congress were either defeated or did not seek re-election this past year. However, the new Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, does support increases in specific tax credit programs as do several members of the bi-partisan Senate. The bill would provide a \$500 tax credit per hearing aid for people purchasing hearing aids

if they are 55 or older or if they are purchasing hearing aids for a dependant. Please write to your state senators and local representatives in Congress asking for their support of this important bill.



The Family  
Hearing Center  
**TLC**  
The Treatment and Learning Centers

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**FAMILY HEARING CENTER NEWS**

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