# Heuser Hearing Institute Heuser Hearing & Language Academy

# **MARCH 2017**



WORDS FROM CEO Brett Bachmann



Author Henry David Thoreau once said, "Philanthropy is almost the only virtue which is sufficiently appreciated by mankind..." Louisville is one of the most giving cities I have been blessed to live in and I am both impressed and honored by its generosity. As the leader of this wonderful institution, I am thankful for our donors, board of directors, families and corporate partners, especially my friends at Kosair Charities and Delta Dental for their continuous support of Heuser Hearing.

Our annual Sound Beginnings Breakfast is Friday, May 19 at 8:30 a.m. at our downtown offices. I invite you to participate by calling our offices and making a reservation to attend this important morning that shines a light on this mission of educating deaf and hard of hearing students. And as the year moves on, we'll be busy reaching out to our corporate donors and friends as we embark on a capital needs campaign. Funds from this campaign will help us restore our infrastructure, make much needed repairs to our dated buildings and update our classrooms. I hope you will join us in this worthy cause!

Allow me to also boast about our new partnerships with The Kentucky Retired Teacher's Association (KRTA) and Masonic Homes of Kentucky as we expand our services and reach to the community and the state. And as always we continue with our research studies that partner us with The University of Louisville to bring about new discoveries in hearing health solutions.

Finally, I want to applaud my staff – this month represented by Nick Leahy, Au.D. Thanks to Nick, our audiologists and teachers, we strive to provide the best hearing health services and education for our deaf and hard of hearing students and patients. I am thankful that you keep supporting us - this school and this institute. My door is always open to you!

All the best!

-Brett



# LISTEN UP! PROJECT

#### Congratulations to our latest ListenUp recipients:

Diane Osborne heard about the Listen Up program in a TV ad and she is looking forward to the ease of hearing while at the movies and at church. She plans to volunteer at St. Joseph's Church.





Helen Eddings heard about the Listen Up program through a friend at

church. Getting new hearing aids will enhance her quality of life as she lives in assisted living housing. She plans to volunteer at St. Stephen Church, the Canaan Community Development Center and at the Jewish Community Center.



# **RESEARCH UPDATE: ONGOING PROJECTS IN ZAPLAB**

#### STUDY 1:

Dr. Chhayakant Patro, researcher at HHI is working on a study with adults 19-55 years to access normal hearing situations. This 3-week study will work to determine how normal hearing situations can not be so normal and compare results to patients with abnormal hearing.

### STUDY 2:

This is a project sponsored by Sonova AG and the Heuser Hearing Institute. The purpose of the study to evaluate the effectiveness of new hearing aid processing algorithms that seek to improve communication in complex everyday listening environments. The lab is actively recruiting patients with "mild-to-moderate sensorineural hearing loss". Results from this study will help to improve hearing aid designs and outcomes.

#### STUDY 3:

The study aims to learn about how the brain processes information about sounds in reverberation. To understand this, we are examining listener's abilities to determine what a sound is or where the sound is located in environments with simulated reverberation based on acoustical measurements of participants' ears. Results from this study will help improve both assistive technologies for the hearing impaired and the acoustical design of listening environments.



Nick Leahy has been with HHI for the last two years as an audiologist.

A native of Shively he attended the University of Louisville. Although he has a quiet demeanor, he has hidden musical talents and grew up playing music early on. Nick's love of music encouraged him to learn to play the drums, piano and guitar successfully while unsuccessfully trying to play the banjo and the violin. He was a member of the local non-profit group – The Louisville Leopard Percussionists.

Although he studied classical music performance, he chose healthcare because he enjoyed working with people. He shadowed an audiologist for one day and was hooked! "I love the mix of technical knowledge and patient-centered focus that the field of audiology offers," adds Nick.

He loves working at Heuser because he enjoys the work environment and the people. "The Heuser Hearing mission and commitment to best practice clinical care and dedication to improving the quality of life of the people of Kentuckiana mirrors my personal passion to provide the best care to my patients," says Nick.

# **THANK YOU SPALDING!**

Thanks to our students on loan from Spalding University – Christian Gryszowka, Taylor Desmond and Cynthia Carwile who are volunteering in Occupational Therapy at HHI in the areas of adult and pediatric hearing health. The students will be at HHI from January 31<sup>st</sup> through March 7<sup>th</sup>.

# **HEUSER 2017 EVENTS**

March 9th: Family Fun Night, 5:30-7pm, Free March 6-10th: Fire Safety March 21st: Fireman Visit **April 14<sup>th</sup>:** Easter Egg Hunt (DZ) April 28<sup>th</sup>: Zoo Field Trip May 4<sup>th</sup>: Derby in the Park Field Trip May 12<sup>th</sup>: Special Ladies' Day May 12th: HHLA Movie Premiere May 19th: Sunny Acres Farm Field Trip May 19th: Sound Beginnings Breakfast - Save the Date! May 24<sup>th</sup>: Graduation (between 7-10 graduates) July 24-28th: Summer Camp (Ocean Theme)

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