

## Parent to Parent

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### Coping With The Diagnosis

#### Where To Find The Information You Need

There are many ways to find information that will educate you about your child's hearing loss, as well as how to cope with that loss.

#### Information About Hearing Loss

The following links will help you locate information about your child's hearing loss and many of the terms associated with it.

<http://www.babyhearing.org/HearingAmplification/HearingLoss/index.asp>  
<http://www.deafchildren.org/home/home.html>  
<http://www.boystownhospital.org/parents/info/index.asp>  
<http://www.nichcy.org> (click on "Publications")  
<http://www.handsandvoices.org> (Click on "Articles Index" at bottom of page)

#### Information on Finding Support from Other Parents:

We often feel very alone. Most of us do not know anyone else who has a child with a hearing loss, and we feel the need to communicate with others in the same situation. Being able to connect with other parents who share this experience can be invaluable. There are local, statewide, and national parent organizations that parents can tie into. Unfortunately, they are not available in every city and state, but because of internet access, parents all over the United States and the world are able to connect, as well as offer support.

The following sites are just a sampling of the many sites available:

<http://www.deafchildren.org>  
<http://listen-up.org>  
<http://www.saywhatclub.com>  
<http://www.shhh.org>  
<http://www.parenttoparent.org>  
<http://www.gohear.org>  
<http://www.nichcy.org>

#### Information On Deaf Culture and Community

Soon after being told that our child is deaf, many of us are told that there is something called "Deaf Culture," or "Deaf Community." The idea of our child becoming part of a culture or community that is foreign to us is frightening. Understanding what is meant by these terms can be very helpful. We discover that there is a rich culture that our child may someday choose to be a part of. It is nothing to be feared.

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Deaf and hard of hearing adults can be a wonderful source of information and education, as well as provide support in raising our children. Most are willing to share their knowledge and personal experiences with us, and welcome questions from parents who are striving to make the best decisions possible for their children. Below you will find links to web sites that will connect you to these individuals.

<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov>  
<http://www.gallaudet.edu>  
<http://www.nad.org>  
<http://www.aslinfo.com>  
<http://www.deaflibrary.org>  
<http://www.deaflife.com>