



### Words from CEO Brett Bachmann



Thank you for your calls and emails to your legislators regarding Heuser Hearing & Language Academy's inclusion in the state budget. We are grateful to our community of parents, patients, donors, board members and staff who have rallied around our children having a bright future. Thanks to your efforts, HHLA's funding was restored in the draft budget.

However, on Monday, Governor Bevin vetoed the 2018-2020 budget proposal. Please continue to contact your representatives and Governor Bevin's office to advocate for HHLA. We are hopeful that with your calls and emails, we will remain in the budget.

Thanks again for raising your voice for the children who need it most. Your support and participation will help us ensure that we can continue to give children who are deaf or hard of hearing the gift of sound and language.

You can help make a difference by contacting your Senator via phone or email and by sharing the HHLA Facebook post that is pinned to the top of our Facebook page ([facebook.com/thehearinginstitute/](https://facebook.com/thehearinginstitute/)).

To find your Representative, visit [lrc.ky.gov](http://lrc.ky.gov) and click on "Who's my Legislator."

Governor Bevin's contact information can also be found [here](#).

Thank you for helping us ensure that we can continue to give children who are deaf or hard of hearing in our community the gift of sound and language.

*-Brett*

Brett Bachmann, CEO  
Heuser Hearing Institute



### Save the Date: Sound Beginnings Breakfast

Join Heuser Hearing & Language Academy and special guest Teddy Abrams for the Sound Beginnings Breakfast, sponsored by Delta Dental. The support raised at this event helps give children who are deaf or hard of hearing in our community the gift of sound and language. This event is free, but registration is required.

**To register or for more information on how to become a sponsor or table host, contact Shannon Kisselbaugh, Director of Philanthropy, at (502) 515-3320 or [shannonk@thehearinginstitute.org](mailto:shannonk@thehearinginstitute.org).**

**When:** Thursday, May 10, 2018, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

**Where:** Heuser Hearing & Language Academy, 111 E. Kentucky Street, Louisville



### Verna Blair, ListenUp! Recipient

Presenting Heuser Hearing Institute's newest Delta Dental Listen Up! Project recipient, Verna Blair. Verna was fitted with her new hearing aids at the Dupont Hearing Clinic by Dr. Margaret Denison. As part of this unique program, Verna and her sister Linda are interested in volunteering at Blessings in a Backpack.

Every year countless Kentuckians deal with the problems associated with hearing loss and are unable to afford proper care. The Delta Dental Listen Up! Project creates opportunities for you or a loved one to volunteer at your favorite charity in exchange for credit toward hearing aids.

**Learn more about our ListenUp! Program [here](#).**



### Stay Connected with Heuser!

Heuser Hearing Institute strives to offer the highest quality care for your entire family. Stay connected with us online, learn about upcoming news and events, and share your experience.

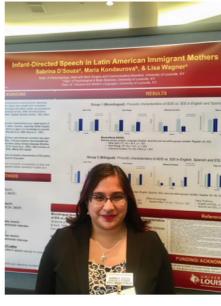
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### Research Update



Congratulations to Sabrina D'Souza, a graduate student at the University of Louisville's Speech-Language pathology program, for earning 1st place for her poster titled "Infant Directed Speech in Latin American Mothers" at the 2018 Kentucky Speech-Language- Hearing Association Convention in Lexington. The study, completed under the supervision of Dr. Kondaurava, a researcher at Heuser Hearing Institute and an assistant professor at the UofL, examined acoustic characteristics of mothers' speech to their young children in English, Spanish, and English as a Second Language. We thank all families at the Heuser Hearing Institute who participated in the current study.

**To learn more about the project and Dr. Kondaurava's research, visit her [faculty page](#).**



### The Link Between Gender & Hearing Loss

Chances are, you probably equate hearing loss with factors such as advanced age and exposure to loud noise. It might surprise you to learn there is a correlation between gender and hearing loss, as well. Overall, men are almost twice as likely to develop hearing loss as women.

The link between gender and hearing loss has a bit to do with aging. Because women tend to outlive men, they are more likely to end up living alone; this often results in a lack of financial security and may lead to depression, as well as certain physical conditions such as osteoporosis and thyroid disease. Men, on the other hand, have a greater risk of developing hearing loss in large part due to their participation in activities and occupations that expose them to dangerously high decibel levels. In societies where hazardous noise exposure is not a factor, men and women lose their hearing at about the same rate—evidence of this link. Consumption of analgesics may also be a contributing factor. Men are more likely to take aspirin on a daily basis due to concerns over their cardiovascular health.

Sociological factors aside, biology may also play a role. Across the board, women have better high-frequency hearing than men, especially above 2000 Hz. Paradoxically, this advantage decreases with age; by the time they turn 60, women are losing their low-frequency hearing at a faster rate than men—a phenomenon known as "gender reversal." Some theorize this is due to changes in ovarian steroid hormone production, which appears to boost hearing sensitivity in women prior to menopause. Because of this reversal, gender differences in hearing loss become much less pronounced in older individuals.

Interestingly, tinnitus—commonly referred to as a "ringing in the ears" and often a side effect of hearing loss—affects greater numbers of women than men. Women report more annoyance and stress due to the debilitating effects of tinnitus and are more likely to suffer from mental anguish and lack of sleep despite the fact that their tinnitus is generally not as loud as that experienced by men. This suggests that women are less effective at coping with tinnitus. Leading researchers to recommend exercise and relaxation techniques to help women manage their symptoms. Group therapy may prove especially helpful.

**If you are experiencing hearing loss or ringing in the ears, contact Heuser Hearing Institute today at (502) 584-3573 to schedule an appointment with an audiologist.**



### Mayor's Give A Day at Heuser

Join us for the Mayor's Give A Day on Friday, April 20, and help us spruce up the downtown campus for our students and patients!

Volunteers will help with weeding and mulching the flower beds.

**Register to volunteer on the Mayor's [Give A Day website](#).**

### 2018 Calendar of Events

For more information on the calendar of events, call (502) 515-3320 or visit our [event calendar](#) on our website.

**April 13 9:30 am – 11:30 am | Butterfly Society Event**

**April 20 9:00 am – 4:00 pm | Mayor's Give A Day at Heuser**

Register to volunteer on the Mayor's [Give A Day website](#).

**May 10 8:00 am – 9:30 am | Sound Beginnings Breakfast**

RSVP to Shannon Kisselbaugh at [shannonk@thehearinginstitute.org](mailto:shannonk@thehearinginstitute.org) or (502) 515-3320.

**May 14 – 18 | Butterfly Society Event – Teacher Appreciation Week**

**May 24 9:00 am–4:00 pm | Connectivity Demonstration**

Dupont Hearing Clinic. Call to reserve your spot at (502) 584-3573.

**July 28 8:00 am–11:00 am | The Dr. Ed Morgan 4 Mile Kiwanis Grand Slam Run/Walk at Louisville Slugger Field**

Proceeds from this event benefit Heuser Hearing & Language Academy and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Sign up at [Runsignup.com](http://Runsignup.com).

**October 19 | An Open House on Hearing**

Dupont Hearing Clinic. Call to reserve your spot at (502) 584-3573.

Lyndon Location  
417 Benjamin Lane  
Louisville, KY 40222

Dupont Location  
3900 Dupont Square South, Suite D  
Louisville, KY 40207

Downtown Campus  
111-117 East Kentucky St.  
Louisville, KY 40203