



### Words from CEO Brett Bachmann



"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." - William Arthur Ward

The end of another year is upon us. In the next few weeks, we will spend our time surrounded by family and friends, enjoying the holidays and reminiscing on just how quickly 2017 turned into 2018. At Heuser Hearing Institute, we are reflecting back on the past year's accomplishments, which we couldn't have achieved without our partnership with you – our community.

Over the summer, Heuser Hearing & Language Academy teachers received training in a new literacy curriculum called Foundations for Literacy and the curriculum was implemented this fall. This is the only literacy program focused on children ages 3-6 with hearing loss.

In 2017, we saw thousands of patients for their hearing health needs and we are thrilled to share that our Clinical Director, Dr. Ingrid Edwards, along with Drs. Arun Gadre and Casey Rutledge Roof, have identified a new form of post-traumatic vertigo. They will present their findings and the surgical procedure in January 2018 at the prestigious Triological Society Combined Sections Meeting.

Thanks to the support of the Dorothy M. Akin Fund from the Woman's Club of Louisville, we have completed much needed capital improvements to the downtown campus. The interior of Heuser Hearing & Language Academy has a fresh coat of paint, a new security and fire alarm systems, new egress locks, new gates on First & Brook streets, a new HVAC system and a freshly paved and striped parking lot. These improvements are essential for the safety and comfort of our students and we are deeply grateful for the support of the Akin Fund for making it possible.

Finally, your generous gifts help give our students who are deaf or hard of hearing the gift of sound and language. As you are making your year-end giving plans, please consider a donation to Heuser Hearing & Language Academy. Our Annual Campaign closes on May 31 and we are 60% to meeting our fundraising goal for the fiscal year. Any amount is appreciated.

My heartfelt gratitude goes out to the board, our donors, volunteers, families and friends of Heuser Hearing Institute. Happy holidays from our family to yours!

*-Brett*

Brett Bachmann, CEO  
Heuser Hearing Institute

### Year-End Giving

We know that you have many options when it comes to your year-end giving. Please consider including a gift to Heuser Hearing & Language Academy in your year-end charitable planning. Your gift gives children who are deaf or hard of hearing in our community the gift of sound and language. We simply can't do it without you. Your support will make a real, lasting impact in the lives of children and their families. [Donate online](#) or learn about [other ways to give](#).

**Questions? Contact Shannon Kisselbaugh, Director of Philanthropy, at [shannonk@thehearinginstitute.org](mailto:shannonk@thehearinginstitute.org) or (502) 515-3320.**



### Welcome Back, Dr. Feltner! C. Beth Feltner, Au.D.



C. Beth Feltner obtained her Doctorate in Audiology from Gallaudet University in Washington, DC and her undergraduate degree in Communication Disorders from Eastern Kentucky University. She is excited to return to Heuser after completing her clinical externship here in 2016-17. Prior to pursuing a career in audiology, Beth taught English in Japan for 4 years. Her clinical interests include adult and pediatric diagnostics and cochlear implants.



### New Literacy Curriculum at Heuser Hearing & Language Academy

Heuser Hearing & Language Academy has adopted a new literacy curriculum called Foundations for Literacy, developed by The Center on Literacy and Deafness. HHLA was one of the original schools that tested the curriculum during a 10-year trial. Foundations for Literacy is the only complete literacy program focused on teaching children ages 3-6 with hearing loss, either signing or voice.

Over the summer, all of our teachers attended a training for the new curriculum. This fall, Heuser launched a school-wide adoption of Foundations of Literacy. The new curriculum program focuses on phonological awareness, alphabetic knowledge, vocabulary, and story comprehension.

"The curriculum has aligned the entire school's focus on literacy. It's amazing to see the classes team together for literacy lessons!" says Debbie Woods, Education Director. "Our kindergarten children are already reading!"



### New Form of Post-Traumatic Vertigo Discovered

Congratulations to Heuser Hearing Institute's Clinical Director Dr. Ingrid Edwards, and Doctors Arun Gadre and Casey Rutledge Roof for identifying a new form of post-traumatic vertigo. Through the use of audiological assessment, imaging studies, and surgical treatment, they found that, following head injury, the bones of the middle ear can become hypermobile. Transmission of sound and pressure changes to the inner ear can cause persistent dizziness. Following surgical treatment, 90% of patients improved. Dr. Arun Gadre will present their findings and surgical procedure at the prestigious Triological Society Combined Sections Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona in January 2018.



### Hear for the Holidays

Don't miss out on your favorite holiday traditions, like dinner table conversation with your family and listening to your grandchildren at play. Start this holiday season hearing your best.

Untreated hearing loss can lead to a variety of negative health conditions, such as depression, cognitive decline, falls and more. The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association recommends hearing screenings once every 10 years for healthy patients under 50, and once every three years for those over 50 and those with certain risk factors (family history of hearing loss, occupational noise exposure, etc.).

Of those with diagnosed hearing loss, only one in five actually seeks treatment. Some benefits of simply using a hearing aid to treat your hearing loss include improvements in general health, professional success, emotional wellbeing and relationships with family and friends.

Get back in the conversation! The Heuser Hearing Institute providers can customize a treatment plan so you can connect with friends and family like you used to during the holidays. **Schedule an appointment today by calling (502) 584-3573.**

### Listen Up! Project's Newest Recipient

Congratulations to Babette Dimitrovich, the most recent Listen Up! Project recipient. Babette lost her hearing at age 2 and has been a patient at Heuser Hearing Institute since October and was referred for the Listen Up! Project by Dr. Angie Beach.

Every year, countless Kentuckians deal with the problems associated with hearing loss and are unable to afford the proper care needed. To help fill this void, The Listen Up! Project provides the opportunity for you or a loved one to volunteer at one of HHI's charitable partners in exchange for credit toward hearing aids. This pilot program has been made possible by a generous donation from Delta Dental of Kentucky's *Making Smiles Happen* program.

**Learn more about the ListenUp! Project at [www.thehearinginstitute.org](http://www.thehearinginstitute.org).**



*Babette Dimitrovich with her grandchildren, who she can hear and speak with thanks to her new hearing aids!*



### Quattr Designs Jewelry Show

We'd like to give special thanks to the members of Quattr Designs for supporting Heuser Hearing & Language Academy during their 4<sup>th</sup> annual jewelry and wearable fashions show at the Louisville Boat Club on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. The beautiful designs of all seven designers - Lona Northener, Lesley Rahner, Denise Coolney, Sharon Major, Suzanne Spencer, Roxy Lentz and Lois Stickler - attracted early holiday shoppers to the event. Partial proceeds of the event support Heuser Hearing & Language Academy.

### 2017 Calendar of Events

For more information on the calendar of events, call **(502) 515-3320** or visit [www.thehearinginstitute.org](http://www.thehearinginstitute.org) and click on Event Calendar.

**December 11 | 9:30 - 11:30 am**  
Butterfly Society December Event  
Wrap holiday gifts for students and put tags on bells for Polar Express Day.

**December 14**  
Heuser Hearing & Language Academy School-Wide  
Kiwani's Christmas Party

**December 19**  
Heuser Hearing & Language Academy Polar Express Day

**December 22**  
Heuser Hearing Institute closed for holiday

**December 25**  
Heuser Hearing Institute closed for holiday

**January 1**  
Heuser Hearing Institute closed for holiday

**January 9 | 9:30 - 11:30 am**  
Butterfly Society January Event  
Make popcorn bags for students to celebrate National Popcorn Day.

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