





The Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing embodies a rare combination of work that honors a rich heritage while transforming the future for all individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing and use listening and spoken language to communicate with the world around them.

The organization was founded by Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, a man of incredible talents who was a scientist, inventor and statesman. He also was an educator who sought to make it possible for children who were deaf and hard of hearing to speak and to live in the mainstream. The vision of Dr. Bell is now a reality. With early hearing detection, advanced hearing technology and professionals engaged in parent-focused intervention, we are making it possible for more families to choose and realize a listening and spoken language outcome for their child who is deaf or hard of hearing.

In 2013, the AG Bell Board of Directors took a bold step in adopting a new strategic plan and mission to *advance* listening and spoken language for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. This mission addresses the increasing need to advocate on behalf of families who are pursuing listening and spoken

Advocacy for the rights of families was underscored when we completed the groundbreaking Family Needs Assessment survey to gain insight on the perceptions of families with children who are deaf and hard

of hearing about the quality and availability of services as they progressed through the major phases of their child's journey. The survey results provide vital data painting a picture of hope and encouragement for families that have access to needed services. Yet, there is still a lot to be done for many families who continue to experience obstacles in finding information, advocacy, emotional support and financial help to meet the ongoing needs of their children. AG Bell is a lifelong resource,

support network and advocate for listening, learning, talking and living independently with hearing loss. Through our worldwide online resource for trusted and timely information—the Listening and Spoken Language Knowledge Center—we continue to answer this call. AG Bell also offers publications, training for professionals, scholarships and financial aid as well as local chapters for support and networking close to home.

The Alexander Graham Bell Academy for Listening and Spoken Language is the premier certifying body for professionals seeking the highest level of professional knowledge and skills, the Listening and Spoken Language Specialist (LSLS®) certification, needed to serve families and children to facilitate spoken language development during the critical early years and beyond.

Not content to rest on our accomplishments, we are looking forward to further growth of our programs and services in the year to come.

We thank you for your support without it, we would not be able to advance our shared mission.

Sorda M. Soldle Donald M. Goldberg, Ph.D.,

CCC-SLP/A, FAAA, LSLS Cert. AVT

Alexander Graham Bell Association

Emilio Alonso-Mendoza, J.D., CFRE Chief Executive Officer Alexander Graham Bell Association

OUR ENVISIONED FUTURE

Infants and young children who are deaf and hard of hearing receive timely diagnosis, access to appropriate technology and qualified services.

Families raising children who are deaf and hard of hearing receive all of the information, education and support needed to make confident, wellinformed decisions throughout their child's educational and life transitions.

Teens with hearing loss receive peer support and learn to be self-advocates as they transition to adulthood.

Adults who are deaf and hard of hearing conduct professional

and personal lives

free of barriers and

discrimination.

supporting these adults and families are knowledgeable and effective, and the LSLS certification is the standard of care for all services provided.

Professionals

The public

understands that people with hearing loss can listen and talk.

FINANCIAL AID AND **COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS**

In 2013, AG Bell awarded MORE THAN \$425,000 IN FINANCIAL AID AND COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS to children and young adults who are deaf and hard of hearing. These awards provide more than financial assistance; they also provide moral support to a community which understands the challenges and supports the opportunities to thrive using listening and spoken language, despite the financial barriers.

PARENT-INFANT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM

The Parent-Infant Financial Aid Program assists families of infants and toddlers up to age 3 with expenses for auditory support services, speech-language therapy and other related expenses.

In 2013, a total of \$125,155 was awarded to 129 infants and toddlers who are deaf and hard of hearing and learning to listen and talk.

PRESCHOOL-AGE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM

The Preschool-Age Financial Aid Program helps families of children from age 4 until they begin first grade to cover expenses associated with auditory support services, speech-language therapy, preschool tuition and other related expenses.

In 2013, a total of \$90,399 was awarded to the families of 92 children with hearing loss who are learning to listen and talk.



SCHOOL-AGE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM

The School-Age Financial Aid Program is for students who are deaf and hard of hearing in grades 1-12 attending a non-publicly funded school in a mainstream setting.

In 2013, a total of \$78,000 was awarded to 93 children with hearing loss attending private mainstream schools in their communities.

ARTS & SCIENCES AWARD PROGRAM

The Arts and Sciences Award Program assists families of students in grades 1-12 who are deaf and hard of hearing and participate in programs focused on developing skills in the arts or sciences.

In 2013, a total of \$29,000 was awarded to 38 students who are participating in programs such as music and dance lessons, musical theater and performing arts classes, summer arts camps and summer programs focused on various aspects of the sciences.

THE GEORGE H. NOFER SCHOLARSHIP FOR LAW AND PUBLIC POLICY

The George H. Nofer Scholarship for Law and Public Policy is for full-time graduate students who are deaf and hard of hearing and use listening and spoken language as their primary method of

ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

AG Bell advocates for the needs of children who are deaf and hard of hearing and use listening and spoken language. AG Bell works to shape public policy to improve educational services, increase public access and develop position statements. AG Bell staff and volunteer leaders continue to participate on critical committees and work groups such as the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing. Council on Education of the Deaf, the National Leadership Consortium in Sensory Disabilities and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Alliance.

AG Bell secured legal victories when it filed two amicus briefs—on behalf of a high school student and a college student—in support of captioning in the classroom. Both cases were positively resolved in 2013 and have widespread impact for students with hearing loss who are seeking communication access realtime translation (CART) for access to education.

communication, and who are attending an accredited mainstream law school or a master's or doctoral program in public policy or public administration. This scholarship recognizes George H. Nofer's service and generosity to AG Bell and to the fields of law and deafness research and education.

In 2013, Kate E. Georgen was selected to receive an award of \$10,000.

AG BELL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Thanks to generous donations from individuals over the years, AG Bell can offer several scholarships for full-time students who are deaf and hard of hearing and use listening and spoken language, among other criteria. In 2013, scholarships ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 were awarded to 20 applicants.

This merit-based program is very competitive, so wholehearted congratulations to: Grace Agolia (NY), Lauren Bricker (NY), Nathan Delvaux (WI), Kenneth Freeman (KY), Madeline Gustafson (WI), Rachel Knobel (MD), Derek Lee (CA), Alexandra Lynn (NY), Jackson Maddox (IA), Samantha Marciano (NY), Juliet McCarthy (NY), Lesley Miller (TX), Jordan Sack (RI), Sarah Smith (ME), Azariah Tan (MI), Joseph Vengen (NJ), Pei Wang (TX), Megan Whitesell (CT), Jessica Williams (FL) and Daniel Xu (CA).

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Nationwide, **MORE THAN**

of parents are now choosing a listening and spoken language outcome for



We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Our daughter has progressed significantly in all areas of her speech and language abilities in the past year. We hope she continues to shine and sets an example of superior achievement in spite of her profound hearing loss. Your vision that every child has a right to learn to listen and speak is definitely being realized.

- 2013 RECIPIENT FAMILY

Since 1996, AG Bell has served 326 teens with half of those participating in the past six years.

The Leadership Opportunities for Teens (LOFT) program is for high school students who are deaf and hard of hearing and use listening and spoken language as their primary mode of communication. LOFT provides a supportive and structured environment in which teens build their leadership skills through increasing their selfconfidence and understanding of their own strengths and skills through team activities designed to challenge them.

The volunteer leaders for LOFT are adults with hearing loss who also serve as counselors and role models for teens in the program.





LOFT really changed my life. The counselors demonstrated that we can be successful despite our hearing loss. This was incredibly empowering for me. I am more deter mined not to let my hearing loss be a hindrance, but a springboard. I believe my experience at LOFT will continue to impact me throughout my life in ways I do not yet know.

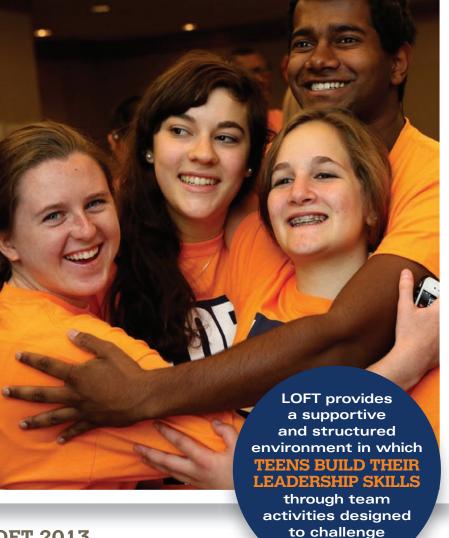
- 2013 LOFT PARTICIPANT

- 2013 LOFT PARENT

I wanted to let you know just how much LOFT exceeded our expectations as parents, as well as those of our daughter. It wasn't just the connections and friendships that she will have and cherish for the rest of her life, it was the kindling of the inner glow in her, that quiet confidence that parents hope their kids find. You've created something very, very special.

second year in a row, two sessions of LOFT were held serving a total of 41 teens. Additionally, as a pilot and to test some new programming ideas, LOFT was expanded from four to five days, giving each group of teens the opportunity to work together on a project that challenged them to articulate and showcase their

leadership skills.



LOFT 2013

In 2013, LOFT was held in Los Angeles, California. Participants came from across the United States, with one teen from Canada and one from Japan. For the

The teens in the first session worked on a film project which resulted in short video vignettes designed as a resource for teens and pre-teens, their parents and teachers to navigate challenging situations. The teens in the second session developed a "Teens & 'Tweens" program for middle school students with hearing loss and their parents to provide them with ideas on how to successfully

transition from middle to high school.

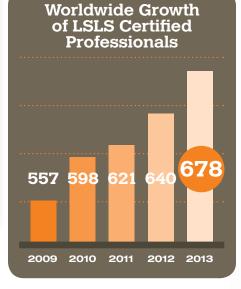
them.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AG Bell conducted its fourth Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) Symposium in Los Angeles in July. Designed to meet the continuing education needs of professionals working with children who are deaf and hard of hearing, the AG Bell LSL Symposium is the premier event for cutting-edge best practices to support children who are deaf and hard of hearing and their families.







LSLS Certified **Professionals** Worldwide: ▶3.8% increase over prior year

in the United ▶ 7.1% increase over prior year



The AG Bell Board of Directors at the recent 2014 AG Bell Convention in Orlando, Florida. First row from left to right: Corrine Altman, Joni Y. Alberg, Donald M. Goldberg, Teri Ouellette, Lyn Robertson, Catharine McNally and Kathleen Treni. Second row from left to right: Emilio Alonso-Mendoza, Evan Brunell, Ted Meyer, Meredith Sugar and Jonathan Berger.

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL ACADEMY FOR LISTENING AND SPOKEN LANGUAGE

The Alexander Graham Bell Academy for Listening and Spoken Language continues its mission to advance listening of offering approved LSLS CEUs to their and spoken language through standards of excellence and international certification of professionals. The AG Bell Academy offers the Listening and Spoken Language Specialist (LSLS®) certification to qualified professionals who meet rigorous academic, professional, post-graduate education and mentoring requirements, and who pass the LSLS certification exam. LSLS certified professionals are licensed audiologists, speech-language pathologists or educators of the deaf who have voluntarily attained a high level of specialty education and experience in listening and spoken language theory and practice.

Between 2012 and 2013, the AG Bell Academy saw a 48% increase in the number of organizations approved to offer continuing education units (CEUs) for LSLS. In that same timeframe, the number of individuals receiving LSLS CEUs directly from the AG Bell Academy

increased by 91%. This indicates that organizations are recognizing the value program attendees, and that attendees are requesting CEUs toward their certification and recertification more regularly.

In 2013, the AG Bell Academy:

- Administered the LSLS certification exam in eight locations in the United States, Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom.
- Exhibited and presented at several professional conferences.
- Developed a new Mentor Handbook to support the training of new LSLS certified professionals.



ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING • LISTENINGANDSPOKENLANGUAGE.ORG

DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

AG Bell greatly appreciates our donors who generously support our association. This honor list includes the individuals, corporations and foundations that have made financial contributions during fiscal year 2013 (January 1 – December 31) in support of AG Bell programs and services.





Estate of Daniel Barkan

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The 2013 AG Bell financial results were excellent, primarily as a result of the association being the beneficiary of a one-time trust distribution and the receipt of a three-year pledge to support the scholarship program. Following is a summary of the 2013 revenues and expenses. Programs and services offered by the association are designed to be as affordable as possible to members and participants who benefit from our services. As a result, these programs and services are not self-supported. All programs were made possible through the generosity of foundations and individuals who partner with the organization to advance listening and spoken language for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing.

2013 FINANCIALS

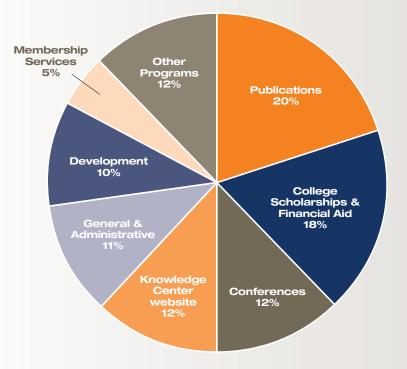


MORE THAN 1.1 MILLION PEOPLE WERE DIRECTLY SERVED in 2013 through programs, services, publications and books offered by AG Bell. An additional 6.769 INDIVIDUALS WERE TOUCHED when they came by an AG Bell booth at a conference, wrote an article, shared their input in an AG Bell survey, worked with AG Bell on a coalition, made a financial contribution to AG Bell or volunteered with AG Bell

SOURCES OF REVENUE











AG Bell relies on the GENEROUS SUPPORT

of members and donors to advance its mission.

The Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AG Bell) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that is a lifelong resource, support network and advocate for listening, learning, talking and living independently with hearing loss. Through publications, outreach, training, scholarships, financial aid and state chapters, AG Bell provides its members and the public with the support they need — close to home.



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