



ALL EARS! MISSION TAKES THE GLOBAL STAGE

On March 3rd, the world joins together for World Hearing Day, and this year's theme feels like it was written specifically for All Ears! families: 'From communities to classrooms: hearing care for all children.'

While the World Health Organization is calling for global leaders to prioritize early identification, All Ears! is already doing this work right here in our community. We know that the 'bridge' to the classroom begins the moment a child is diagnosed. By focusing on building the auditory brain during those critical early years, we aren't just helping children hear; we are ensuring they have the tools to listen, learn, and lead once they step into school. We are proud to be part of a global movement that recognizes that hearing care is foundational.

Our goal is to ensure that when an All Ears! student enters the classroom, they aren't struggling to keep up—they are ready to soar!

HAVE YOU HEARD?

HEARING TECHNOLOGY PROVIDES THE ACCESS TO SOUND, BUT SPEECH THERAPY PROVIDES THE INSTRUCTIONS THE BRAIN NEEDS TO UNDERSTAND IT.

For Children (Building the Brain)	For Adults (Retraining the Brain)
Creating neural pathways for sound and language for the first time.	Teaching the brain to map new digital signals to old auditory memories.
The School Gap: Ensures children enter kindergarten with age-appropriate language.	The Social Gap: Reduces isolation by restoring the ability to converse in noisy environments.
Foundation: Capitalizes on the "critical period" of rapid brain growth (ages 0–3).	Adaptability: Uses the brain's lifelong ability to learn and adjust to new sensory input.
Phonological Awareness: Learning the "tiny" sounds (like "s" and "t") needed for reading.	Auditory Discrimination: Differentiating speech from background noise (the "Cocktail Party" effect).
Educational Independence: Minimizes the need for lifelong special education services.	Professional/Social Success: Promotes job retention, cognitive health, and mental well-being.



ALL EARS! CENTER Mission Momentum

• FEBRUARY 2026

• ISSUE 2

• LOVE YOUR HEARING HEALTH

HAVE YOU HEARD?

All Ears! Center's patients range in age from birth → 96. No matter what age you are, your hearing health matters. By prioritizing your hearing health, you enhance your ability to connect with loved ones, engage in meaningful conversations, and participate fully in social interactions and the world around you.

WAYS TO SHOW YOUR HEARING HEALTH SOME LOVE ❤️

- WEAR YOUR HEARING DEVICES CONSISTENTLY TO KEEP YOUR BRAIN ACTIVE AND ENGAGED.
- SCHEDULE AN ANNUAL HEARING CHECK-UP WITH AN AUDIOLOGIST.
- PROTECT YOUR EARS FROM LOUD NOISES WITH EARPLUGS.

MYTH BUSTER 🧐

Babies don't need to wear hearing devices 10+ hours because they aren't doing much.

90% of what a child knows by kindergarten is learned from "overhearing". Babies brains develop rapidly and need access to the world around them to maximize learning.

Upcoming Family Night

Thursday, February 5

6:00-8:00 PM

Childcare and Dinner provided

[RSVP TO KIM.ERBELE@ALLEARSCENTER.ORG](mailto:KIM.ERBELE@ALLEARSCENTER.ORG)



FOR OUR YOUNG PATIENTS:

It's not too late! Family Nights are the perfect way to build connection with other families on the hearing journey and learn from experts in the field and each other. Information and email are at the bottom. This month explores public school services with guest experts to answer all of your questions.

FOR OUR ADULT PATIENTS:

ENHANCE YOUR WORLD AND ILLUMINATE THEIRS.

When you choose our expert hearing care for your own hearing journey, you pave the way for children with hearing loss to begin theirs.

Your visit directly supports our nonprofit mission to ensure children with hearing loss can Hear, Be Heard, and Thrive.



ASK THE EXPERT:

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ECI AND ALL EARS! THERAPY?

Both programs provide support for children who are DHH, though the type and depth of service differ.

Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) is broad support for birth-3 years old. The specialists generally provide services monthly and in the home. They collaborate with the Regional Day School for the Deaf and do not specifically focus on Listening and Spoken Language.

All Ears! professionals have Listening and Spoken Language certifications and focus on building brains for optimal language development through weekly sessions. They work collaboratively with ECI specialists and our pediatric audiologists who ensure hearing devices are properly fit and working for the best results. **Learn more at Family Night.**



ALL EARS! CENTER

Mission Momentum

• JANUARY 2026

• ISSUE 1

• NEW YEAR/NEW GOALS

WELCOME

Welcome to the inaugural issue of Mission Momentum, a meaningful resource from All Ears! Center designed to bridge the gap between clinical expertise and everyday success. Whether you are a parent navigating the daily hearing journey, a patient yourself, or a partner investing in the vision of limitless futures for kids who are deaf or hard of hearing, this newsletter is your monthly connection to the practical tools, research-backed insights, and heart-warming milestones that drive our mission forward. Together, we are ensuring every child has the momentum they need to Hear, Be Heard, and Thrive.

FOR OUR ADULT PATIENTS:

Did you know cochlear implants are good for all ages? We recently had a gentleman in his 80s upgrade his hearing aids for a cochlear implant. He couldn't wait to really hear his great grandchildren.

Just like with kids, your brain will need to relearn sounds you haven't heard in a long time. Patience and practice are key.

Ask your provider if you may be a candidate.

ASK THE EXPERT:

We would like to include a section that answers your questions. Please email them to us at info@allearscenter.org. (Your name will not be used.)

Don't forget to look in the next edition to see if your question was answered.

Upcoming Family Night

Thursday, January 8

6:00-8:00 PM

Childcare and Dinner provided

RSVP TO KIM.ERBELE@ALLEARSCENTER.ORG



FOR OUR YOUNG PATIENTS:

Let's start the year focusing on three simple, but powerful, goals to help your child reach their full potential.

★ GOAL 1: THE 10-HOUR CHALLENGE

To build a "listening brain," your child needs consistent access to sound. The goal for every child is 10+ hours of wear time daily. Start where you are and build from there. You will be amazed at the progress you will begin to hear!

Tip: Actually track the time and use a retention device. Ask your provider if you need clever ideas to help increase the time. We are here to help!

📖 GOAL 2: WORDS, WORDS, AND MORE WORDS

Read together: Reading just **five** short **books a day** can expose your child to 1.4 million more words by kindergarten. Reading is important because it offers different rhythms and vocabulary than every day speech, and it provides great bonding time.

Tip: You can narrate your day for added words: Talk about the laundry, the cereal, or the dog. Don't feel silly...Every word counts!

🗣️ GOAL 3: TAKE TURNS

It's not just about the words going in; it's also about the exchange. Science shows that back-and-forth "conversational turns" spark the most brain growth.

Tip: After you speak, count to five in your head. Give your child the space to take their turn! This works for babies, too. Let them respond with noises. You will be carrying on conversations in no time.