

Hearing Impairment

Brief Description:

Hearing impairment, or hearing loss, occurs when you lose part or all of your ability to hear and is classified based on the severity and type of hearing impairment (mild, moderate, severe, or profound).

How It Feels:

Flintstones Hearing Loss

<https://youtu.be/TD5E88fFnxE>

A Day Through a Deaf Person's Eyes

<https://youtu.be/ecmCHXZkTGI>

Helpful Links:

- **Hearts for Hearing** creates life-changing opportunities for children and adults with hearing loss to listen for a lifetime.

<https://www.heartsforhearing.org>

- **The Education Resource Center on Deafness** provides information, referrals, resources, workshops, summer programs, distance learning, and interpreter training for students, families, and professional service providers.

www.tsd.state.tx.us

- **Sorenson Communications** is a pioneer of industry-leading communication services for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. The company's offerings include Sorenson Video Relay Service® (VRS), the line of high-quality videophones (VP), and Sorenson IP Relay Service™(siprelay). Sorenson VRS enables deaf and hard-of-hearing callers to conduct video relay conversations with hearing friends, business colleagues, and family members through a qualified American Sign Language interpreter

www.sorensonvrs.com

- **The Division for Rehabilitative Services, Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services** (DHHS) works in partnership with people who are deaf or hard of hearing to eliminate societal and communication barriers to improve equal access for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. DHHS advocates for people of all ages who are deaf or hard of hearing to enable them to express their freedoms, participate in society to their individual potential, and reduce their isolation regardless of location, socioeconomic status, or degree of disability.

www.dars.state.tx.us

- **The Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center and Clearinghouse** at Gallaudet University develops, evaluates, and disseminates innovative curricula, instructional techniques and strategies, and materials. The aim of the Clerc Center is to improve the quality of education for deaf and hard of hearing children and youth from birth through age 21.

Clerccenter.gallaudet.edu

- **The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders Clearinghouse**, NIDCD is mandated to conduct and support biomedical and behavioral research and research training in the normal and disordered processes of hearing, balance, smell, taste, voice, speech, and language. The Institute also conducts and supports research and research training related to disease prevention and health promotion; addresses special biomedical and behavioral problems associated with people who have communication impairments or disorders; and supports efforts to create devices which substitute for lost and impaired sensory and communication function.

www.nidcd.nih.gov

- **The Hearing Loss Association of America's** mission is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy, and support. HLAA provides cutting edge information to consumers, policy makers, business professionals and family members through our dynamic website, www.hearingloss.org, an award-winning publication, Hearing Loss, an online newsletter, ENews, message boards. In addition, we bring consumers and policy makers together to learn about hearing accessibility issues at our national and regional conventions

www.hearingloss.org

Resources Available At Our Center:

- I Have a Sister My Sister is Deaf

- You Can Learn Sign Language
- Everything Sign Language
- American Sign Language

Link to Parent/Caregiver Support Group:

The Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing helps families, health care providers and education professionals understand childhood hearing loss and the importance of early diagnosis and intervention. Through advocacy, education, research and financial aid, AG Bell helps to ensure that every child and adult with hearing loss has the opportunity to listen, talk and thrive in mainstream society.

<http://www.agbell.org>