

25 years of making futures bright



Bright futures  
for Children

BC Family Hearing Resource Society

# Reaching Out

A Newsletter from the BC FAMILY HEARING RESOURCE CENTRE for families with deaf and hard of hearing children throughout BRITISH COLUMBIA.



Winter 2010 SPORTS SPECIAL

## Family Feature

### Not Letting a Little Thing Like a Helmet Get in the Way of Their Son's Dreams

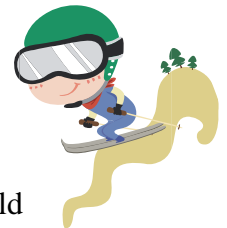


Liam (3yrs) & Noah (5yrs) get ready for the slopes!

*The Howse Family share their experience with BCFHRC's Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Dyan Spear, about finding their son Noah, who has a moderate to moderately-severe hearing loss, a perfect fit for his helmet so that he can join in on the family fun!*

Whether your dreams are in the pursuit of reaching for a gold medal or for the mere pleasure of sport, equipment is an inevitable requirement (and expense)! Finding a good helmet is an important first step. Some adaptations for children with hearing aids, bone conduction aids or cochlear implants may be necessary, as has been the experience of one of our local families from Deep Cove.

The Howse family is busy raising two very active boys. Noah and his younger brother Liam love to ski. The front entrance of the family's home is lined with skis, poles, boots and helmets, ready for their weekly ski trips up to close-by Seymour Mountain in North Vancouver. Father, Deon, reports that Noah is already leaving him behind on the slopes!



Parents of children with a hearing loss often ask what type of helmet they should get for their child if they are busy in sports and need to wear a helmet with their hearing device. Mom, Adrianna, was pleased to find the *Carrera* helmet because it has a molded area around the ear that leaves room for Noah's hearing aids.



Noah in his Carrera helmet

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website: [www.bcfamilyhearing.com](http://www.bcfamilyhearing.com) e-mail: [info@bcfamilyhearing.com](mailto:info@bcfamilyhearing.com)

Adrianna finds that this feature on the helmet enables the microphone on the hearing aid to continue to adequately receive information without acoustic feedback (that awful high-pitched whistling) and allows conversation to continue on the chairlift with minimal communication frustration and breakdowns.

The family attempted to use the FM system in the past but with limited success. As the family attempts to experiment with FM benefits, Adrianna is very aware of the communication challenges that Noah must face in difficult listening situations such as when conditions in skiing involve distance or wind, swimming without hearing aids, in a large gym or any other setting in which there is extraneous background noise, excess reverberation, or increased distance between speaker and listener.

Although Noah is a very fluent speaker and has had the wonderful support of early amplification and parent support, Adrianna has begun to explore alternative methods of communication to assist in Noah's comprehension during these challenging situations. As a supplement to spoken language, Adrianna has begun to take sign classes. She is seeing the benefits of a visual communication system to support her son as he pursues a list of many sports interests.

It will be exciting to see how technology will continue to improve in years to come. Continued advocacy for advancements and increased efficiency in helmet construction is a must for hearing aid and other assistive listening device users as this new generation of sports enthusiasts hit the slopes and the ice rinks.



**Noah enjoying a trip down the mountain**

“There is nothing to stop children with a hearing loss from doing any of these sports. We just need to be a bit creative in the process. I do not dwell on the hearing loss. It does not stand in the way of holding Noah back in sports,” Adrianna Howse.

Keep your eyes on these little ones. They may be our future Olympians!

## On the Fly...Hints for Home

### Five Minute Literacy Learning Activity

by Kristyn Payne  
Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Need an easy way to work on colour and object vocabulary. How about playing “**I SPY**”



**I spy,**  
**With my little eye...**  
**Something that is \_\_\_\_\_.**

**(say the color of the object you are thinking of and have your child guess what it is and vice versa)**

## Reaching Out Community Service Providers

### Bringing Voices Closer—In the Community

November was a busy month for workshops in the North. Judy Chrastina, Teacher for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, delivered “*Understanding Children with Hearing Loss*” to IDPs and SLPs in Quesnel and Prince Rupert. This workshop on audiology and equipment focused particularly on Sound Field FM systems and the benefits of their use in classroom settings.

Workshop participants experienced the Sound Field system first-hand as Judy used it throughout the days’ events. As Prince Rupert had recently purchased a Sound Field System for their preschool classroom, Judy demonstrated how to use and troubleshoot the system. Prince Rupert staff was amazed at how much better everyone could hear and remarked on how this would help to reduce teacher fatigue. The benefits are huge!



**l to r: Barb Kuhl, SLP, Judy Chrastina & Sharlene Wilson, SCD in Prince Rupert**



Sound Field FM systems are especially helpful for projecting the speaker’s voice and keeping people connected to the speaker. Participants don’t need to strain to hear, especially as the day progresses. While a personal FM system may bring the teacher’s voice directly into the hearing equipment of one child, a Sound Field FM system can deliver the sound around the room so that all the participants in a classroom can benefit from an amplified speech signal no matter where they are sitting.

There are several options for Sound Field FM systems. At BCFHRC, there are two portable Radium systems. The Radium system consists of one microphone and a large slim speaker that is able to project sounds out in a large V configuration designed to reach listeners throughout the room. Other systems, such as in our two classrooms, are stationary and consist of several speakers that may be mounted to each corner of the room. In each case, the teacher wears a microphone either on a boom headset, clipped to a lapel or around the neck. In effect, the listener is the same distance from the teacher as the microphone is from the teacher’s mouth (ideally 6 inches).

Some of the benefits of a Sound Field system are:

- Improved signal to noise ratio
- More attentive pupils
- Better comprehension and retention
- Improved language skills
- Fewer tiring repetitions for the teacher
- Reduced disruption
- Increased learning time
- Calmer class atmosphere and improved behaviour
- More inclusive environment for children
- Better academic results all around
- Happier children and staff

For more information on Sound Field FM systems talk to your therapist connected to BC Family Hearing Resource Society or go to <http://gofrontrow.com>



## 25 Years of Making A Difference

### In Appreciation of our Supporters

Since our last issue, the following individuals and organizations have continued to make a difference in the lives of our children and their families by generously donating to our centre either monetarily or through goods and services.



# Elks & Royal Purple Fund for Children

## \$120,000 annually!



ELKS & ROYAL PURPLE  
FUND FOR CHILDREN

#### Elks

- Agassiz
- Oliver
- Osoyoos
- Salmon Arm

#### Royal Purple

- Ashcroft
- Fort Nelson
- Kamloops
- Kelowna
- Keremeos
- Lillooet
- Oliver (in memory of Lady Thelma Glover)
- Princeton (in memory of Lady Thelma Glover)
- Salmon Arm
- Vernon

#### Individuals & Organizations

- Accurate Realtime Reporting
- Allegra Print & Imaging
- Valmore & Catherine Berry
- John Elliott: The Brewing Experience
- Drs. Graham & Cecily Bryce
- Gladys Pelkey-Currie
- Hugh Curtis
- Darrell A. Fehr (in memory of Lady Thelma Glover, Oliver Lodge #63)
- Dr. Joan Ford
- Doug & Shelley Faucher (in memory of Margaret & Leonard Noakes)
- Sherry Foster
- Barb & Gary Gee
- Sue & Charlie Hamlin
- Gary Han
- Ho Family
- James & Sally Hurst
- Joe & Eleanor McLaughlin
- Kathleen Noakes & John Mill (in Memory of Margaret & Leonard Noakes)
- Bob & Lynne Moore
- Manpreet & Kuldeep Parmar
- Michele & Mark Pedersen
- Francisco Pereira
- Peterson Family
- Hank & Rose Pierce
- Doug & Lynne Reeve
- Eleanor Scott
- Kim Shauer
- United Commercial Travelers
- United Way
  - London Drugs: Coquitlam Centre & Metro Vancouver
  - UBC: Ruth Warick
- WPCD Foundation
  - Lisa Moody



### Campbell's Soup Labels for Education



The Board and Staff of the BC Family Hearing Resource Society would like to acknowledge **Joyce Wood** for designating us a beneficiary of the Campbell's Soup Labels for Education program. In addition to being a member of the Royal Purple in Kelowna, Joyce has voluntarily organized for our centre to be recipients of this wonderful program. We have enjoyed using the musical instruments, barbeque, camera and toys provided to us from this program.

**Thank You Joyce & The Royal Purple!**

# 25 Years of Making A Difference

## Annual General Meeting 2009

The BC Family Hearing Resource Society's annual general meeting for 2009 took place on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

Our boardroom was filled with stakeholders who were informed of the agency's progress and highlights over the past year. Each year we invite stakeholders to update them on our work, to meet other families (free childcare provided) and to recognize the generosity of our donors and volunteers. This event also gives us the opportunity to showcase our donors with a rooftop display of stars acknowledging their generosity. Our audited financial statements are presented and reviewed by our auditors. The annual report was approved as well. Both these documents are available on request.



The annual report highlights our values, our mission and our achievements through services provided to families, training to community service providers and research. A power point presentation provided a visual 'year in review' for attendees to enjoy.

Additionally, our Board of Directors is elected annually at this meeting. We encourage involvement in our centre through volunteering, membership and donations. If you are interested in learning more about our work or becoming involved, please do not hesitate to contact Ellen Peterson, Acting Executive Director, at the centre.



## ELKS AND ROYAL PURPLE ANNUAL WALK-A-THON MAY 16 2010 CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK

Lace up your walking/running shoes and join us!

**Volunteers needed!!**  
**If you'd like to help out**  
**Please contact Ellen Peterson**  
**604-584-2827**

[epeterson@bcfamilyhearing.com](mailto:epeterson@bcfamilyhearing.com)



## Parent's Piece

### Mommy Had to "Learn to Listen"...

by Karen Jackson

*Some of you may know Karen Jackson, ECE who has worked with the BCFHRC for 5 years. Karen is hard of hearing herself and uses binaural hearing aids. Karen, her husband, Sean and daughter, Carrie-Anne have recently adopted two year old Cory, who has profound hearing loss bilaterally and uses a Cochlear Implant and a hearing aid. While Karen has taken parental leave for a year, you may still see the Jacksons around the centre these days as one of our newest family clients. Karen is busy caring for Cory and her very active daughter but she still finds time to maintain a blog about the Jackson family.*

Ever since our son's Cochlear Implant experience I've had to learn to listen for certain things he is asking me about and has been noticing "new" sounds surrounding our home, environment and social places that I never noticed before. It's a real eye opener, to say the least. I remember myself that when I first got my digital hearing aids, I noticed more sounds that I never knew existed before. It's not exactly as it is with a CI—I know that Cory hears more than I do. That is a fact! Today, he heard the phone ring; I didn't. That's just one of the examples.



We went to IGA recently and when we were in the frozen food section he stopped and put his finger to his ear with a cute facial expression; eyes wide and mouth slightly open. At first I wasn't sure if he'd heard a sudden sound or continuous sound. We both were standing there trying to figure it out when a clerk came by and asked if everything was okay. We must have looked pretty funny searching for a sound. He persisted with it though and kept on pointing to his ear. He even did a bit of sleuthing of his own, walking around and searching for the sound. A man walked by and I had to ask him. I explained to him that my son is deaf and he is learning to listen with his CI and that he is really fascinated with a "so called" sound he is "hearing". I continued to ask him, if he could tell me what he could hear...anything? The man looked at me blankly. I had to giggle, "I'm deaf too, so I can't tell what it is," I explained. I imagined that this elderly man was probably really confused or thought we were playing a cruel joke on him. He ran away quickly.

After some time, Cory figured it out after walking down the aisle again. He put his hands against the glass door of the freezer and must've felt it vibrating. He finally pointed to his ear and it was as if a light bulb went off in his head. That's what it was!!! I couldn't really hear it until I got closer; the humming of the freezer...it is quite loud. I hadn't really noticed that before. I knew it does that but I learned through touch. I guess it means I have to think harder about sounds around us that we as adults just take for granted. We tend to tune some sounds out because they are not meaningful.



As we'd been spending so much time trying to figure out this "mystery sound", we were in a rush so that we could get home so that Cory could play outside before his nap. Cory was trying to say something to me but I didn't quite catch it. I asked him to sign it to me but he didn't so I just encouraged him to keep moving with me. When we finally got home and I was putting the groceries away I found two cans of soup that I didn't "buy". I had no idea where they came from! I was thinking, "Was it someone else's bag?" I checked my bill; apparently I had paid for them—huh? Cory picked up a can and said, "oop". LOL...he must have put them in the cart and tried to ask me! I learned two things today: It is important for Cory to learn new sounds so he can understand them but also so he can learn to tune out a sound when it's not important AND pay real attention to what he says and does when he's trying to talk to me. Oh well, I guess I know what we are having for lunch today, "oop"!

**Attention Parents! If you have a story you'd like to share please email Carolyn Hawrish at [chawrish@bcfamilyhearing.com](mailto:chawrish@bcfamilyhearing.com)**

## You and Your Deaf or Hard of Hearing Child

### Keeping Up with Cochlear

by Carolyn Hawrish, Cert. AVT

*BCFHRC recently welcomed Raegan Bergstrom and Dacy Zacharias of Cochlear Corporation to share with our teaching and therapy staff the newly launched Nucleus 5 system and the Cochlear Awareness Network.*

Staff members were keen to get some hands-on practice with the new Nucleus 5 Speech Processor and Remote Assistant. The new technology boasts being the thinnest cochlear implant on the market and is 2.5 times smaller than the company's previous Freedom BTE. The remote control is the first of its kind in cochlear implant technology and allows parents to have greater control and flexibility in troubleshooting and maintaining equipment while moving the controls from behind the child's ear into the hands of the parent.



With the launching of rechargeable batteries for the Nucleus 5, the unit becomes water proof.... a relief to parents who wonder how to communicate with their child at bath time and at splash pools during the summer!

Cochlear assures its clients that the processor may be dropped into a puddle and submerged for up to 30 minutes with confidence that quality of sound will not be compromised.

While with us, Regional Manager for Cochlear Canada, Raegan Bergstrom, reminded us that although high impact sports are not recommended for CI recipients, the thinner and flatter profile of the Nucleus 5 system allows for a better fit of helmets. It is recommended by the company that recipients wear a helmet which leaves enough space over the implant site to prevent pressure from being applied.



With regards to scuba diving, older models of internal devices such as the CI24R, CI24M, and CI22M are validated to withstand pressure at a depth of 25 meters, and the CI24RE (Freedom) as well as the CIP810 are validated to withstand pressure at a depth of 40 meters under water for the purposes of scuba diving.

Dacy Zacharias is a mother of two girls near Calgary Alberta. Both girls have bilateral implants from Cochlear Corporation and have recently upgraded to the Nucleus 5 external devices. Dacy was thrilled to share her experience of using the new device with us and boasted that her highly active girls who love gymnastics are able to do cartwheels with the Nucleus 5



BTEs remaining on their ears!!

Dacy now works for Cochlear Corporation as the Awareness Manager for Canada. She shared with staff the many benefits for parents in using the company's online social networking website where CI users and/or their parents can meet others. Users are able to post information to their profiles, post blogs, contact other members with similar profiles, start user groups and post questions. For example, when our staff asked about which type of sports helmet Dacy recommends for use with a CI she directed us to her blog on the website: [www.cochlearcommunity.com](http://www.cochlearcommunity.com).

On her blog, Dacy lists a helmet made by FOX that goes up and around the ears so that it doesn't rub on the processor. She suggests this helmet in the summertime for Mountain Biking or summer sports. Cost is approximately \$100.



For Hockey, Dacy's girls use a *Reebok* helmet that expands and can be pushed and locked back together once it is on the head, "This way," she adds, "it doesn't knock the coils off when you slide it on. It also has a nice padding (gel) insert that makes it very comfortable and doesn't squash the coil". The *Reebok* helmet is around \$150-\$200. For winter sports like skiing, skating and snowboarding, Dacy likes a *Salomon* helmet that has a nice soft faux fur liner around the ears.

Dacy encourages any families who would like to know more or connect with other families to sign up and post a profile on the community awareness network.

## You and Your Deaf or Hard of Hearing Child

### Having a hard time keeping those hearing aids or cochlear implants on?

Many of our families share with us that they are constantly challenged in trying to keep their child's listening device coupled to their child's ears. While there is no ONE solution, other than to keep persisting and putting them back on, there are several products on the market to help you to:

- a) keep hearing device on your child's ears
- b) keep your child's hearing device from being lost

Not all products work for everybody—the best way for you to find out is trial and error! If you're unsure where to find a product, see the resources below, speak to your therapist and/or connect with a fellow parent of a child with hearing loss through the Parent to Parent Network by contacting Cathy Luther, Family Support Parent at BCFHRC.



Toupee Tape



Huggie Aids™



Body Glue



Phonak Stick n' Stay  
<http://verve.phonak.com>



[www.gearforears.com](http://www.gearforears.com)



[www.westone.com](http://www.westone.com)



Snug Fit for Nucleus 5 BTE  
[www.cochlearamericas.com](http://www.cochlearamericas.com)



Snug Fit for Freedom BTE



Mic Lock for BTE CIs

## Bits & Pieces

### Kindergarten Transition Survey

Recently we sent surveys to families whose children had transitioned to Kindergarten in September 2009.

If you received a survey we encourage you to complete it and return it to us. This is the first time we have surveyed families specifically regarding their children's Kindergarten Transition experience, therefore we are anticipating your feedback in order to improve our future services. Surveys are accessible online on our website. **Many thanks if you have already returned your survey!**



### Kindergarten Here We Come!

So far, PEER has held 4 evenings at BCFHRC and in cyberspace using web-cam technology. Session topics have included "*Kindergarten Transition & Readiness*", "*Access in the Classroom – Communication Strategies, Acoustics, Classroom Accommodations, Roles & Responsibilities,*" and, "*My Child's Hearing Loss & Equipment*". The next session, Wednesday, Feb 24<sup>th</sup> will focus on "*Social Emotional Development & Child Self-Advocacy*" followed by "*Parent Advocacy*" on March 24<sup>th</sup>.



On April 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, we welcome parents and their hard of hearing child to join us at the centre for a 3-day intensive PEER group. Parents will be reviewing the information from the workshops and will have the opportunity to hear from professionals, parents & teens who will be sitting on panels while their children participate in the classroom.

PEER is designed for hard of hearing preschoolers and their parents. The focus of this group is on ACCESS. Children with hearing loss often have difficulty *accessing* information in their environment. PEER group focuses on teaching children specific skills and strategies in a classroom setting so they can begin advocating for themselves when finding it difficult to hear or understand what is going on. Many of the children who attend this group already attend community preschools and may never have met another child, teenager or adult with an assistive listening device. PEER group is a fun place where kids who have hearing aids, cochlear implants, BAHAs and FM systems can meet other kids who have the same devices and start fostering independence with their own auditory equipment.

In order to support their children in school, parents need information and training. PEER group offers parents the opportunity to learn about the challenges that hard of hearing children typically face in school settings and how to advocate effectively for supports their child may need in Kindergarten.

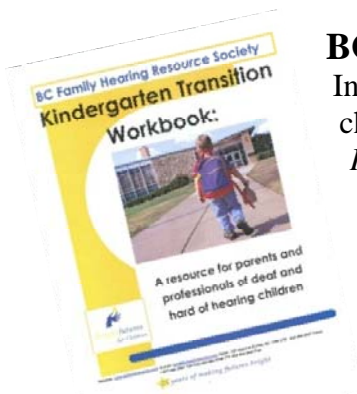
### BCFHRS Kindergarten Transition Workbook

In order to assist parents and community service providers with transitioning their children to Kindergarten, the BC Family Hearing Resource Society developed the *Kindergarten Transition Workbook*. The workbook provides guidelines to lead them through the transition process in an easy-to-read format.

Anyone can access the document by clicking on the link below

[www.bcfamilyhearing.com/pdfs/Kindergarten\\_transition\\_workbook.pdf](http://www.bcfamilyhearing.com/pdfs/Kindergarten_transition_workbook.pdf)

or we can send you a copy in the mail, just contact our centre!



## Bits & Pieces

### A New Face

*You may see a new face around BC Family Hearing Resource Centre. Please help us in welcoming our newest staff member! Sydelle will be joining our therapy staff part-time Monday through Wednesday.*

**Sydelle Murphy** has been working as a speech-language pathologist with deaf and hard of hearing children for the past six years. She became involved in the deaf community early in her career, learning American Sign Language at Vancouver Community College and the McKay Centre in Montreal. Sydelle later volunteered for the World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf in Montreal and interned at St. Francis de Sales School for the Deaf in Brooklyn, New York. Her final internship at the Deaf Children's Society of BC turned into a full-time job for the past six years. Sydelle recently served on the board of BC Hands & Voices. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Speech Sciences and Psychology at UBC and a Masters of Science from McGill University. Her favourite parts of her job are building relationships with the children and their families and blowing bubbles everyday! Sydelle is also the proud mother of a 14 month old son, Jakob Fox.



### It's a Boy!



BCFHRC would like to welcome its newest member of the Family, Oscar Payne Heffernan. Born November 8<sup>th</sup> weighing 8.7 lbs with a full head of hair! Kristyn Payne, one of our Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, is tired but loving this very special time with her new son. **Congratulations Kristyn & Scott and welcome to the world, Oscar!**



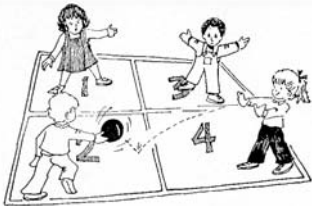
### Relative's Night



Our annual Relative's Night event takes place **May 12, 2010**. This intimate and informal information session is for relatives to learn about hearing loss and how it impacts the children in their lives. Uncles, Aunties, Grandmas, Grandpas and family friends (are encouraged to attend (Sorry no Moms or Dads). Watch for more information as we get closer to the date.

### Mingle & Play Summer Program

Although summer seems a long way off, we'd like to remind all families receiving services from the BC Family Hearing Resource Centre about the Mingle & Play Program.

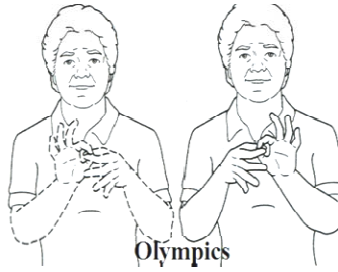


This popular program will run **August 3, 4, 5 & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010**. Each day provides a variety of activities in addition for a chance for parents to meet other families and children with hearing loss. There is no charge but parent participation is required. Lunches are included. You can attend for one or all 4 days. Watch for more details in the coming months.

# Seasonal Signs



Canada  
Canadian



Olympics



game



mitt



hockey



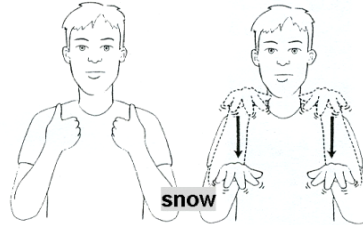
(downhill) ski



ice skating



rain



snow



## 'Tis the Season!

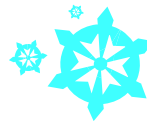


Emilie “skiing” with mom, Liliane

The Olympics are finally here and the opening ceremony was a spectacular display of winter sports. The dream for all these athletes started with parents exposing their children early in their lives to the excitement and joy of outdoor sports. It’s never too young to start, as we see in this picture of Emilie Paquin and her parents, one of our families from Revelstoke.



Emilie getting used to a new outlook.



## Calendar

<b>January</b>	<b>4 to Feb 12</b>	<b>Programs Block 3 begins</b>
	<b>27</b>	<b>PEER Evening Workshop #4</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Happy Valentine's Day ♥</b>
	<b>12-28</b>	<b>Olympics in Vancouver</b>
	<b>24</b>	<b>PEER Evening Workshop #5</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>12-21</b>	<b>Paralympic Games in Vancouver</b>
	<b>24</b>	<b>PEER Evening Workshop #6</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Good Friday Holiday</b>
	<b>5</b>	<b>Easter Monday Holiday</b>
	<b>14</b>	<b>Auditory Training Workshop-Victoria</b>
	<b>22, 23, 24</b>	<b>PEER Weekend Workshop</b>
	<b>23</b>	<b>BC Teacher's of the Deaf</b>
		<b>Itinerant Conference 2010 – Abbotsford</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Relative's Night</b>
	<b>15</b>	<b>BC Cochlear Implant Picnic - Kelowna</b>
	<b>16</b>	<b>Elks &amp; Royal Purple Walk-a-thon</b>



## Our Recent Outreach Consultant's visits to Communities Throughout BC

<b>October</b>	<b>Zara Newnham, Kamloops</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Nicola Swain, Port Alberni</b>
	<b>Dyan Spear, Fort St. John</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>Nicola Swain, Courtenay/Comox</b>
	<b>Zara Newnham, Prince George</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>Judy Chrastina, Bella Coola</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>Dyan Spear, Vernon</b>



## Newsletter - Mail, On-Line or Email?

Would you prefer to receive our newsletter emailed to you? Are you aware that our newsletters are posted on our website? In our efforts to "Go Green" we would like to offer the electronic distribution option to those interested.

To receive your newsletter this way, simply email [info@bcfamilyhearing.com](mailto:info@bcfamilyhearing.com) with the email address you would like the newsletter sent to AND the current name and address it is being sent to by mail in order to have your name removed from the list.

### Reaching Out

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Acting Executive Director: Ellen Peterson  
Editors: Cindy Adams & Carolyn (Tregrove) Hawrish

We are a family-centered early intervention Provincial Resource Program committed to individual communication choices. We provide support and resources throughout BC to deaf and hard of hearing children, their families and Community Service Providers.

The purpose of the Reaching Out Newsletter is to provide information and support to our readers.

Reference to any specific commercial products, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the BC Family Hearing Resource Society.

Articles and ideas are welcome! The opinions expressed therefore are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Board of Directors, or the staff. We reserve the right to edit contributions for brevity and clarity.

There is no fee for the Reaching Out newsletter, however, donations are gratefully accepted.

Sign Language from the Canadian Dictionary of ASL, Carol Sue Bailey & Kathy Dolby, Editors. Used with Permission from the University of Alberta Press.