



Hands & Voices New Mexico

July 2015

“What works for your child is what makes the choice right.”

What's Up with HVNM?

Greetings all!

Welcome to our summer newsletter. We would like to share with you some of our upcoming plans and ask for your input: suggestions, ideas, volunteers, or anything else that's on your mind.

We're very excited to announce that last year HVNM held four quarterly events! These included two in Albuquerque-area and one each in the Northern and Southern parts of the state. They were:

- September – **Back2School** (Albuquerque)
- January – **Happy New Y-Ear!** (Corrales)
- February – **Fun Family Event** (Las Cruces)
- May – **Better Speech and Hearing Month** (Farmington)

We collaborated with and invited participation from many different groups in New Mexico: Educating

Parents of Indian Children with Special Children (EPICS), New Mexico School For the Deaf (NMSD), both Center for Educational Consultation and Training (CECT) and Early Intervention and Involvement Division (EIID), Las Cruces Sunrise Lions Club, Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), New Mexico State University (NMSU) Department of Special Education & Communication Disorder, and more. We plan to continue with our collaboration model and are always looking for more opportunities. If you or your organization has an idea for something that HVNM could help leverage, please share.

Our plans for 2015/6 include hosting more events, some similar to last year, such as **Back2School** in late August and a **Happy New Y-Ear!** over winter break, plus more events outside the Albuquerque/Santa Fe orbits.

This year we are also introducing “micro-events.” These events are

smaller, family get-togethers hosted by a Parent Guide in their home region. Some of these will occasionally “pop up,” in between newsletter publications, so you should check in with our e-links:

- Web: hvnm.org
- Facebook: [facebook.com/handsandvoicesnm](https://www.facebook.com/handsandvoicesnm)
- Twitter: twitter.com/handvnm

So check us, “Like” us, and “Follow” us so you will be up to date with all our happenings! We are looking forward to another fun year providing opportunities for families with D/HH children to get together with other families, D/HH adults, and professionals who serve them.

We invite you to join us, as a member, a volunteer, or even as a board member! Email us at: parentgroup@hvnm.org

We would love to see you at our next event!

We Want You!

Some questions have been raised about who is welcome at these HVNM events and who are we trying to serve. HVNM events are meant for:

- ALL communication modes,
- ALL ages 0 - 18,
- ALL educational choices.

Deaf and hard of hearing adults and professionals who work with D/HH children are **always** welcome.



Please renew your membership today!

Why am I a Part of HVNM?

By Carol Clifford, Au.D.
Board Member

I know very few audiologists that left for college wanting to be an audiologist. Most of us found our way there by accident or shall I say by luck. Somewhere during that college experience, I like so many others, became entranced by what happens between the patient, the sound booth and the audiologist. While I am not sure you could call it love at first sight, there was a feeling that this is where I belonged. The feeling of sitting knee-to-knee with a patient, a parent, a child and working together for one goal - to help bring the best communication possible for this person - is what drives my passion as an audiologist. That is also what drove me to Hands & Voices New Mexico Chapter (HVNM). The opportunity to step out of the test environment and bring that passion to other arenas of the people I serve. The teamwork of all the players involved in HVNM - the parents and the professionals - helps me be a better audiologist. Watching as others jump into action to provide resources to a parent overwhelmed with a new diagnosis of hearing loss for their child or a new battle with social or school issues. It renews my energy as a pediatric audiologist knowing the HVNM community is working together to be there for parents at every stage of a deaf or hard of hearing child's life. It is seeing the reality of what happens once these families leave our offices and face the real world. It's about supporting the heart of the excitement that drove me to audiology in the first place.

Won't you join us?

2015 Membership

Please be sure to join Hands & Voices New Mexico Chapter and complete the online survey through our website, hvnmm.org:

Parent/Family: \$25 per year
Professional: \$40 per year
Institutional: \$50 per year

Benefits to you:

- Receive *The Communicator*, a Headquarters H&V quarterly newspaper
- Receive quarterly HVNM Chapter newsletter
- Information on workshops, resources, events
- Informational support for you and your family
- Opportunities for parents and professionals working together to help children who are D/HH

Scholarships are available if you wish to become a member but cannot afford the dues, please contact us.

Thank you!

Stay in Touch!

E-mail:

parentgroup@hvnmm.org

Website:

www.hvnmm.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/handsandvoicesnm

Twitter:

www.twitter.com/handvnm

Pinterest:

www.pinterest.com/hvnmm

Board Members & Advisory Board

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Professional
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Donal Welch

Professional

Marjorie Madsen Keilers

Executive Director
Parent, Hard of Hearing Adult

If you have a personal story, ideas for future articles, or if know of upcoming events that would benefit out readers, please let us know:

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