



May 2021
Better Hearing and Speech Month

Meet Jeff Bonnell,
GCDHH's own former Hard of Hearing board member!



Tell us about yourself (occupation, married, children, etc..)

Greetings I'm Jeff Bonnell, State Director for GA for the Hearing Loss Association of America and I am from Worthington, Ohio. I was born deaf in my right ear. My left ear compensated for my deaf ear so well most people didn't know I was deaf in one ear. That was until I had a minor stroke in 1999. I lost 95% of my hearing in my 'good' ear. My excellent audiologist fitted me with a hearing aid and I could hear! Over the next 15 years, my hearing deteriorated and stronger hearing aids helped. Then in 2015, I could hear but I could no longer understand ' I had outgrown my hearing aid. Cochlear implant surgery followed and my hearing has improved immensely. I hear and I understand! I learned to read lips as a youngster and I still use that skill to 'fill in' for words I didn't hear.

How long have you been Hard of Hearing and what is your preferred mode of communication?

Fortunately I've always been around family and friends who supported my hearing loss. Their help has been keen, but I went through stages of feeling alone, isolated, and not fitting in because I couldn't hear. The miracle of the cochlear implant changed all that!

Are You Hard of Hearing?

We've got you covered! You may qualify for no-cost equipment from [Georgia Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program](#). Here are some of our amazing products you may be able to take home with you!

Panasonic KXTGM450



This amplified phone works with both landline and wireless. Designed with a modern look, it can go up to 50 decibels, has speakerphone, automatic noise reduction and more!

Quattro Pro



The Quattro Pro was added to the program a little over a year ago and has been a huge success with our consumers. This neck loop has a Bluetooth for your cell phone and/or hearing aids and amplifies your cell phone as well as your surrounding environment. Easy, sleek, and effective.

XLCgo



XLCgo is a great alternative to the Quattro pro. Instead of a neck loop, you can use this clip-on device to your belt buckle or your car. Quattro Pro can go up to 50 decibels and can work with t-coil hearing aids.

AL-10



Keeping missing your phone calls because you're not hearing the ringing? The AL-10 is a three-in-one visual alert device that will flash strobe of lights to notify you whenever someone is calling your or ringing your door. It also has a vibrating bed shaker, so you won't ever be late again for your appointments!





ASL ONLINE CLASSES FOR KIDS



American Sign Language is the 3rd most common language in the U.S. and a beneficial skill for everyday life. It is a rich & visual language used by the Deaf community. Don't just learn ASL, open your eyes to a whole new culture-Deaf culture!

CHILDREN UNDER 14 ARE WELCOME TO ASL VIRTUAL CLASSES!

LEARN FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE, TABLET, LAPTOP FROM HOME!



VIRTUAL ASL CLASSES : \$50



VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

SATURDAYS

K-2ND 9AM-10AM EST
3RD-5TH 10:30AM-11:30AM EST
6TH-8TH 12PM-1PM EST

MAY 15, 22

JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26

JULY 10, 17

THIS IS A NON-CREDIT 1 HOUR COURSE FOR 8 SESSIONS , PLEASE CHOOSE YOUR CLASSES TO REGISTER

DEADLINE: MAY 10, 2021 MONDAY @ NOON

HIGHLIGHTS OF THESE COURSES



ONE-ON-ONE ATTENTION TO EACH STUDENT



INTERACTIVE ONLINE COURSES



GAIN ACCESS TO AUTHENTIC SIGNERS



GOT A QUESTION?



CONTACT ANDREA ALSTON
AALSTON@GCDHH.ORG



Register Now for ASL for Kids

Prior to COVID-19, Georgia Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (GCDHH) offered American Sign Language (ASL) Courses in-person at the center. When the pandemic started, GCDHH took a new approach with virtual classes for ASL to respect safety concerns. Today, remote classes are available for the community (age 14 and up) and businesses. Below are *upcoming* available courses:

- ASL I** - Beginner
- ASL II** - Intermediate
- ASL III** - Advanced
- ASL IV** - Advanced+

*There will be eight two-hour-long classes each semester.

The textbook is highly recommended for all ASL units- **A Basic Course in**

American Sign Language (Second Edition). This can be ordered via Amazon. GCDHH offers online ASL classes for children younger than 14 years old for one hour for eight sessions. We also offer private ASL one-on-one for a separate fee. At the end of the semester, a Certificate of Attendance will be given for those who participated. This is only for the proof of participation in ASL course and this does not count as certified for Sign Language Interpreter. If you wanted to become a certified interpreter, you would have to take Interpreting courses at any college/university that offers them.

If you are interested to learn American Sign Language, price inquiry or have questions, please email Community Coordinator, Andrea Alston at:
Aalston@gcdhh.org
404-381-8448

Did you know you can sign up your workplace for virtual American Sign Language Classes?

GCDHH offers customized ASL classes for businesses and workplaces. With a flat rate (prices are negotiable), your company can pick the hours and multiple dates for virtual ASL classes. You and your co-workers will take sessions and practice together on learning a new language. If interested, you can bring this available course to the attention of your management and contact us at Aalston@gcdhh.org. Your company can make a difference in language accessibility for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community!

[Fill out Questionnaire](#)

GCDHH UPCOMING EVENTS

June 5 - Atlanta Zoo
August TBA - Atlanta United
October TBA - Six Flags

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