

### A Half Dozen New Staff Members Join HEAR Wisconsin!

Learn more about our newest employees and their roles on Page 3

### A Fabulous Fall Festival and Open House!

Attend HEAR Wisconsin's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fall Fest that features face painting, pumpkin decorating, free food and hearing screenings, hungry baby goats, llamas and more! See back page for details and RSVP Info

### Change Your Life with Assistive Technology

Read about helpful products that might just make a difference on Page 2

# The Conduit

HEAR Wisconsin's newsletter about clients, donors, and events  
In-print and online



## Champion of Children

### Remembering Marlene Smith

November 1927 – April 2019



Marlene Smith visiting HEAR Wisconsin in March 2019

Marlene Smith will be remembered fondly by HEAR Wisconsin educators, staff and board members for her endearing love for children.

After being introduced to HEAR Wisconsin several years ago, she became a staunch supporter of early

intervention for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

As a former teacher for 38 years and having taught children with disabilities, Marlene understood the urgency and need for early intervention services. She knew that language development is so critical in these children's early years to ensure they can reach their potential in the academic years and beyond.

Marlene gave generously in the past five years to help support the Kellogg Child and Family Program where approximately 80 children and their families are served annually. She volunteered her time to be with children enrolled in the Toddler Communication Groups, an intensive language-enriched program, held weekly at HEAR Wisconsin's facility.

To remember Marlene and her generosity and loving care, HEAR Wisconsin dedicated the Toddler Group and Observation Rooms to her and her late husband, Gerald Smith. Her legacy lives on. ■

## Fear to Fearlessness

### Mom and Child Shine with Support

Each day, the staff at HEAR Wisconsin are grateful to meet and work with the most incredibly inspiring children and their families. Ani and her mom certainly fall into that category. As a newborn, Ani was diagnosed with Treacher-Collins syndrome. This rare condition can include hearing loss, underdeveloped facial bones and difficulty swallowing. Ani's mom, Michelle, was blindsided and sought help.

"If it wasn't for HEAR Wisconsin, I would have been lost," she said.

Michelle and Ani began receiving intensive therapies from staff at HEAR Wisconsin. During the home visits, a team guided Michelle, teaching her techniques to incorporate into daily routines with Ani. As Michelle's skill and understanding of her daughter's illness grew, Ani flourished. Ani recently graduated from HEAR Wisconsin's program.

"Ani makes me a better parent," Michelle said. "I try my best to keep her going for her future." ■

*We thank United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County for 72 years of partnering with HEAR Wisconsin.*

*United Way is sharing Ani's story as part of their 2019 Community Fund Campaign.*



Ani smiles during Toddler Communication Group at HEAR Wisconsin

## Streamline with Smart Assistive Technology Devices

Stop by HEAR Wisconsin and browse the wide variety of equipment including iPads, amplified phones, Pocketalkers and more!

Ask about the TEPP program! It provides vouchers for Wisconsin residents to purchase equipment needed to use basic phone services. Funding is available for anyone deaf, hard of hearing, speech, mobility or motion impaired.

For appointments with one of our assistive technology consultants, call 414-604-2200 or if using a video phone, call 414-395-2117. You may also send inquiries to [info@hearwi.org](mailto:info@hearwi.org). ■

### Best Seller!

#### Williams Sound Pocketalker 2.0 Personal Amplifier

Helps you hear conversations at home, in restaurants, while driving and in many more everyday situations. Amplification, tone and left/right ear balance controls allow you to customize to your hearing loss. Comfortable, lightweight design makes it easy to take anywhere. Includes both internal and plug-in microphone for superior sound pick-up. The Pocketalker 2.0 helps you hear the sounds and voices most important to you. It amplifies what you want to hear, while reducing distracting background noise.



#### Clarity Wake Assure JOLT travel alarm clock

This extra loud and vibrating alarm awakens even the deepest sleepers. The simple, easy-to-use design is great for home or travel. Sits on nightstand or can be placed under pillow for maximum effectiveness. It has a large clock display with backlight and also functions as a timer and flashlight! Also comes in black



## VOLUNTEER NEWS



## Wisconsin State Fair!

To show appreciation for New Berlin Lions Club's many years of support, ten staff and friends volunteered at its Corn Roast Stand on August 8th!



## Thank You, Baird and Nielsen Volunteers!

We accomplished so much with their help! Activities included assembling a long-awaited storage shed, mulching, planting, painting, installing new kitchen flooring, and much more!



## Look who's joined HEAR Wisconsin!

We're glad they're on our team. We especially thank the Wisconsin Department of Vocational Rehabilitation for referring Christian, Kristina and Michelle to us. Three of our six new employees are culturally Deaf and/or fluent in American Sign Language.



### The Doctor is In

#### Dr. Kristine Bayer, Audiologist

Dr. Kristine Bayer has been an audiologist for 23 years and has worked in a variety of clinical settings with both children and adults. Her goal is to build a lasting relationship with her patients to achieve their hearing healthcare needs. She strives to provide kind and compassionate care while utilizing the full extent of her education.

Dr. Bayer earned her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and her Doctor of Audiology degree from Salus University.

Away from the office, Dr. Bayer enjoys reading, yoga, and spending time with her husband and daughter.

**Need your hearing checked? Call 414-604-7219 today to make an appointment.**



**Nicole Brown**  
Audiology Assistant &  
Billing Specialist



**Christian Crump**  
Custodial Staff



**Abigail Lo**  
Technology Store  
Associate



**Michelle Trzecinski**  
Hearing Aid Battery  
Billing Specialist



**Kristina Zubic**  
Technology Store  
Associate

## WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE

### Want to show your support for HEAR Wisconsin in a tangible way and get a tax deduction? Here's how!

#### Individual Giving

Donate online, by mail or over the phone

#### Workplace Giving / Matching Program

Does your employer have a workplace match giving campaign? Mention HEAR Wisconsin!

#### Special Event Sponsor

Showcase your business brand! Call 414-604-2000 or email [fundraising@hearwi.org](mailto:fundraising@hearwi.org)

#### Planned Giving and Endowment Fund

Create your legacy! Name HEAR Wisconsin as a beneficiary in your will, life insurance or IRA account. Call Jill Van Calster at 414-604-7201 or [jvancalster@hearwi.org](mailto:jvancalster@hearwi.org)

#### Volunteer

Assist our staff with administrative, programming and/or special events! Call 414-604-2000 or email [volunteers@hearwi.org](mailto:volunteers@hearwi.org)



414-604-2000  
 info@hearwi.org  
 www.hearwi.org

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Go Green! Visit HEAR Wisconsin to sign up for our online newsletter.



2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
**FALL FESTIVAL**  
 Saturday, September 21  
 11 - 2 PM  
 at HEAR Wisconsin

*Rain or shine!*

# 50/50 RAFFLE!

Raffle Drawing at 1 PM  
 Saturday, September 21

at HEAR Wisconsin  
 10243 W National Ave

PETTING ZOO  
 BALLOON ARTISTS  
 PUMPKIN DECORATING

FREE HEARING SCREENINGS

50/50 RAFFLE

FREE FOOD!

BOUNCY HOUSE  
 FACE PAINTING  
 HAY FUN MAZE

The more tickets we sell, the more YOU could win!

50/50 Raffle Tickets

- 1 for \$5.00
- 3 for \$10.00
- 8 for \$20.00

Don't miss your opportunity!

For more information, call 414-604-2200, or stop in at the HEAR Wisconsin's front desk.

Winner does not need to be present to win.

Winner wins 50% of the money collected. The other 50% will benefit HEAR Wisconsin.

Discover how HEAR Wisconsin helps children, adults and seniors who are deaf or hard of hearing. Stop in for our Open House to see our state-of-the-art hearing healthcare clinic!



RSVP at [www.hearwi.org/events](http://www.hearwi.org/events) or call 414-604-2200