



HANDS &
VOICES™
MARYLAND/D.C.

Stipend Opportunity: **GBYS Deaf/HH Adult Guide**

Position: Maryland/DC Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side (“GBYS”) Deaf/Hard of Hearing Adult Guide (Filling 3 positions)

Date Issued: August 23, 2022

Date Closed: October 10, 2022

Stipend: \$18 an hour up to 10 hours a month = \$180/month

Interviews will take place the week of October 10 depending on schedules.

Position Summary

The Maryland/DC Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side D/HH Adult Guide must be an adult who is deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind, or deaf with additional disabilities, who resides in Maryland, and who will undergo specialized training to provide support to families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing. DHH Adult Guides will be trained to provide exposure of communication modes and methods to families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing, and to increase awareness of and sensitivity to issues faced by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. A DHH Adult Guide will share their own personal experiences as a DHH individual and to create a safe place and provide appropriate input in which children, parents and professionals can ask questions about hearing loss or deafness.

Specialized Knowledge and Skills

- To provide exposure to DHH adults modeling a variety of communication modes and methods to families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- To increase awareness of and sensitivity to issues faced by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- To share information through personal experiences of DHH individuals.
- To create a safe place in which children, parents and professionals can ask questions about hearing loss or deafness.
- To provide trained, relevant and appropriate input to families seeking a better understanding of deafness and hearing loss.
- To provide a mechanism for the skills, abilities and experiences of adults who are deaf or hard of hearing to influence the development of more effective programs and services.

Performance Expectations

- DHH Guides are expected to meet identified protocols in a timely way. If the designated timelines cannot be met, Guides are expected to contact the GBYS Program Co-Coordinator and ask that the case be re-assigned.
- DHH Guides will provide their own transportation and must be willing to travel to meet with families. Mileage and other authorized expenses will be covered.
- DHH Guides will complete all necessary paperwork as outlined in the GBYS program protocol.
- DHH Guides will maintain regular contact with the GBYS Program Co-Coordinator, as outlined in the GBYS program protocol.
- DHH Guides will have access to the internet and/or a fax machine, and be willing to do business via email and internet technologies.
- DHH Guides will attend a mandatory initial training and required on-going trainings.
- DHH Guides will maintain standards of confidentiality, as outlined in the GBYS program protocol.
- DHH Guides will be members of and maintain good standing within the Hands & Voices organization.
- DHH Guides will treat all families with kindness and respect regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic status, or lifestyle choices even if they are inconsistent or in conflict with their own values. If a DHH Guide feels that they are unable to support a family, s/he must inform the GBYS Program Co-Coordinator. Any unresolved or repeated occurrences of unprofessionalism of this nature may be grounds for termination.
- DHH Guides will be active within their communities and leaders throughout the state/province or territory in which they live and work.

Requirements

- ❖ Some travel across the state.
- ❖ Flexible scheduling to meet the needs of the program and to be able to visit with families at a wide variety of times.
- ❖ Become member of Maryland/DC Hands & Voices chapter

Required Conferences/Trainings

- ❖ Guide By Your Side Parent and Deaf/HH Guide Training – date TBD, in Maryland.
- ❖ Hands and Voices Leadership Conference (if funds allow) - September 2023, in Grand Rapids, Michigan

Please send your application and cover letter sharing your experience with the above-mentioned specialized knowledge and skills to:

Katie Huray, President of Maryland/DC Hands & Voices
Email: mddchandsandvoices@gmail.com