

HLA-NJ News and Views

A Monthly Column from The Hearing Loss Association of NJ

By Arlene Romoff, Past President , HLA-NJ

6th Annual NJ Walk4Hearing - 2013

Set for October 20 in Mercer County Park

Kickoff Event on September 8 at Yogi Berra Museum

The countdown has begun for the 6th annual NJ Walk4Hearing, so save the date - Sunday, October 20, at Mercer County Park West in West Windsor, NJ. The kickoff event, which is a fun rally to learn more about the Walk, is scheduled for Sunday, September 8 at the Yogi Berra Museum on the campus of Montclair State University.

As always, the NJ Walk4Hearing offers people of all ages a chance to gather in a tree-shaded lakeside park to support programs and services that help people with hearing loss. It's a great chance to see old friends in the hearing loss community, and to make new ones. Take part in the 5K (3.1 miles) walk...or sit and enjoy a hot dog or other snacks in bucolic surroundings. Face-painting and other activities will be offered for young people.

The Walk4Hearing also welcomes alliance teams – organizations in NJ that participate in the Walk to raise funds for their own projects. An alliance team can be formed by any non-profit organization that serves people with hearing loss, to participate in the Walk4Hearing. ALDA-GS, Summit Speech School, and the Deaf-Blind League of NJ were alliance teams in last year's Walk, and have found participating in the NJ Walk4Hearing very beneficial – enjoyable for their members, and an excellent way to raise funds.

The Walk4Hearing also the most important fund-raiser of the year for the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey and its parent organization, the Hearing Loss Association of America. Since the first Walk was held in 2006, the Walk4Hearing has raised over \$4 million to generate increased awareness of hearing loss, advocate at the national level, and support chapters across the country. Here in New Jersey, the funds raised by the Walk4Hearing support national programs, and such local initiatives as college scholarships, assistive device demonstration centers for the latest technology to help people with hearing loss, and five local chapters throughout the state. HLA-NJ also serves as a resource in the community, available to answer individuals questions and provide solutions to those with hearing loss and their families.

For more information, visit the Walk Web site directly at www.walk4hearing.org - HLAA's Web site, www.hearingloss.org , or HLA-NJ's Web site, www.hearingloss-nj.org.

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Everyone who lives with hearing loss has a story to tell, a coping tip to pass on, or a question. We'd like to use some reader experiences in future columns, and follow up on suggestions. Please send any information to HLA-NJ at info@hearingloss-nj.org.

To learn more about HLA-NJ, please contact Arlene Romoff at info@hearingloss-nj.org. We also invite you to visit our website at www.hearingloss-nj.org, or to attend one of our local chapter meetings in Bergen, Monmouth/Ocean, Middlesex County, Morris County or our newest South Jersey Shore chapter. Dates, places and times for chapter meetings are available at www.hearingloss-nj.org.