

# Audiology

## Successful treatment starts with science

- Our audiology department is unique in that it was built for and serves only children ... even infants with our new PEHDI® Program.
- Before children can learn how to listen and speak, it's imperative to know the extent of their hearing loss. Child's Voice has a comprehensive audiology department where audiometric tests guide us towards the proper treatment.
- The process begins with a full audiological evaluation to determine what the child can and cannot hear, and to what degree they can hear in each frequency.



- Students may receive diagnostic testing such as: Tympanometry testing, to diagnose disorders of the middle ear or an Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE) test, which examines how hair cells of the inner ear are functioning.

## Led to their own devices

- We dispense and verify the fit of hearing instruments/ aids for children using Real Ear Measurements (REM) to tune them precisely.
- To ensure that cochlear implants are functioning at optimal levels, implants are MAPped regularly. This is the most exact way to tune a cochlear implant and confirm good access to speech and language.



- We fit, verify and dispense FM systems, a supplementary device that assist students with hearing aids or cochlear implants to hear speech at a distance or in noisy situations.

## Audiology beyond the ears

- Our audiologist sees every student for a standard school year equipment check and full evaluation to assist with determining goals and needed accommodations.
- As part of our commitment to the whole family, our audiologist offers counseling to parents and caregivers to discuss social and emotional issues a child with hearing loss might face at home and in the classroom.
- In class observation is utilized to ensure device functionality and aid in creating a tailored learning and listening environment for each child.



# Pediatric Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (PEHDI)<sup>®</sup> Program

## The littlest ears...

- Early, consistent and appropriate access to sound is critical for babies to develop listening and spoken language skills.
- We use state-of-the-art non-sedated, auditory brain stem response (ABR) testing for infants and very young children. We are thrilled to have this advanced technology that is used in hospitals around the country for rescreenings and full testing.
- Temporary hearing aids are available to provide early access to sound while waiting on customized devices.



- Newborns and infants that did not pass their initial hearing screening or are at risk for hearing loss due to low birth weight, medications, family history or other factors should be re-screened and evaluated.



- Child's Voice staff is active in the community with fellow organizations in an effort to increase awareness of risk factors and opportunities for screenings/testing. Our audiologist works closely with the Illinois Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Board to ensure that testing and reporting are conducive to children receiving the most efficient and effective services.

## Given a lifetime of opportunity

- Earlier diagnosis results in earlier access to sound and intervention services for each child and their family. At Child's Voice support is available and educational options are shared upon diagnosis.
- Services are offered in a non-clinical, child-focused, family-friendly environment.

Child's Voice is a listening and spoken language school for children who have hearing loss. We teach our students to listen, speak and communicate effectively without the use of sign language to give them lifelong opportunities in the mainstream world.