It’s not about perfect. It’s about effort. And when you bring that effort every single day, that’s where transformation happens. That’s how change occurs.”

- Jillian Michaels

Transforming Systems with Family Engagement: The H&V Way
## At a Glance Agenda

**September 15-17, 2017 - Galena IL**

### Friday, September 15th

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am - 8:30pm</td>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30AM-9:30AM</td>
<td><strong>CONCURRENT MEETINGS (MUST PRE-REGISTER)</strong></td>
<td>Eagle Ballrooms II</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I. GBYS Program Coordinators</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom III</td>
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<td>II. H&amp;V Chapter Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45am - 11:30am</td>
<td>Combined Leadership meeting: GBYS Coords, ASTra Coords &amp; Chapter Leaders (must pre-register)</td>
<td>Eagle Ballrooms II &amp; III</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30am-1:00pm</td>
<td>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN</td>
<td>Woodlands Restaurant III</td>
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<td>11:30am-1:00pm</td>
<td>FL3 Needs Assessment Focus Group – BY INVITATION ONLY</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00PM - 4:00PM</td>
<td><strong>CONCURRENT PRE-SESSIONS (THERE IS A COST TO ATTEND THESE SESSIONS, SEE REGISTRATION FORM)</strong></td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II</td>
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<td></td>
<td>I. The Art of Leadership</td>
<td>Galena IV</td>
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<td>II. Why Reinvent the Wheel? Turn-key Systems for Chapters</td>
<td>Galena V</td>
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<td>III. But How Do We Know?</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 - 3:00pm</td>
<td>Hands &amp; Voices NEW Leaders Training (no cost but must pre-register)</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom III</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 - 5:00pm</td>
<td>First Time H&amp;V Leadership Conference Attendee Gathering (no cost but must pre-register)</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom III</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 - 7:00pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
<td>Eagle Ballrooms II &amp; III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 - 10:00pm</td>
<td>General Conference Begins - Mixer, Updates &amp; Poster Session</td>
<td>Eagle Ballrooms II &amp; III</td>
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### Saturday, September 16th

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:15-4:30pm</td>
<td>Exhibitors</td>
<td>Galena Room Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:15-8:15am</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast / Regional Chapter Leaders Breakfasts (See full agenda for breakouts)</td>
<td>Eagle &amp; Galena Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15-8:45am</td>
<td>WELCOME</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II/III</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45-9:45am</td>
<td>PLENARY I: Who Am I? A deaf Identity Crisis</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II/III</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-11:00am</td>
<td><strong>BREAKOUT SESSION A</strong></td>
<td>Galena IV/V</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Track One: We are Hands &amp; Voices; Intro to H&amp;V Programs</td>
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<td>Track Two: Leading for Success: Enhancing Team Effectiveness</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II</td>
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<td>Track Three: DHH Infusion: Feasible First Steps</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom III</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15-12:15pm</td>
<td>PLENARY II: Confronting Bias in Collaborative Teams</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II/III</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15-12:45pm</td>
<td>H&amp;V Tribute to Sheila Cargile (Mississippi H&amp;V) &amp; Awards Ceremony</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II/III</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45-2:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch (Optional sessions during lunch - See full agenda for details)</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom Lobby</td>
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<td>2:00-3:00pm</td>
<td><strong>BREAKOUT SESSION B</strong></td>
<td>Galena IV/V</td>
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<td>Track One: Supporting Families Without Bias</td>
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<td>Track Two: How To: Run a successful Fundraising Event in your State</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II</td>
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<td>Track Three: From Parent Advocacy to Student Advocacy</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom III</td>
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<td>3:15-4:15pm</td>
<td><strong>BREAKOUT SESSION C</strong></td>
<td>Boardroom III</td>
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<td>Track A: Engaging with EHDI Coordinators</td>
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<td>Track B: Professionals Supporting H&amp;V - A conversation with Rick Hauan</td>
<td>Boardroom IV</td>
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<td>Track C: A Discussion on LEAD-K</td>
<td>Galena IV</td>
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<td>Track D: Zoho Workflow Q&amp;A</td>
<td>Galena V</td>
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<td>Track E: What to Say When (Part 2): O.U.R. Children's Safety</td>
<td>Woodlands Restaurant III</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30-6:30pm</td>
<td>Up-Time</td>
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<td>Dinner - On Your Own</td>
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### Sunday, September 17th

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30-8:30am</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30-8:30am</td>
<td>ASTra Meeting</td>
<td>Boardroom III</td>
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<td>8:45-9:45am</td>
<td><strong>BREAKOUT SESSION D</strong></td>
<td>Galena IV/V</td>
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<td>Track One: Taking Advantage of Multiple Opportunities</td>
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<td>Track Two: Transition: A lifelong journey that begins early</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II</td>
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<td>Track Three: Family Leadership Opportunities that Create Brighter Futures for Our Children</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom III</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-11:00AM</td>
<td><strong>BREAKOUT SESSION E</strong></td>
<td>Galena IV/V</td>
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<td>Track One: Picking Up the Pieces: Rebuilding Chapters One Brick at a Time</td>
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<td>Track Two: Crisis Communication Strategies</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II</td>
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<td>Track Three: Promoting Positive Behaviors in Children with Hearing Loss</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom III</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15-12:15pm</td>
<td>PLENARY III: An H&amp;V Conversation: Engaging Families and Leaders in a Diverse World</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II/III</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15-12:30pm</td>
<td>Closing Remarks/Naming Circle</td>
<td>Eagle Ballroom II/III</td>
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Thanks to the following Organizations, Agencies, and Companies for their support of Hands & Voices and of this conference

PLATINUM SPONSORS
- Caption Access -
- Gallaudet University -
- MED-EL -

Thanks to all our Exhibitors:
- Caption Access -
  - CHOICES -
  - DCMP -
  - Family Trac -
- Gallaudet University -
- Hands & Voices -
- Illinois School for the Deaf -
- Listening & Learning Lab Vanderbilt -

MED-EL
- Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education center -
- National Center for Hearing Assessment & Management -
- National Cued Speech Association -
- Phonak -
- Rochester Institute of Technology -
- Sprint Relay -

A special thanks to:
Thanks to the Hands & Voices organizing committee for all their hard work!
Molly Martzke, Jeannene Evenstad, Helen Leiser, Janet DesGeorges, and Djenne-amal Morris

Illinois School for the Deaf Outreach for AV Equipment
Oticon for their generous recognition of Sheila Cargile by providing one parent scholarship to the conference.

Thank you to all our presenters for your time and expertise in sharing at this event.

A huge THANK YOU to our conference chapter hosts:
ILLINOIS HANDS & VOICES
Friday, September 15th

7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast  Breakfast is on your own. Check out the enclosed sheet for options.

Morning - Concurrent Meetings
9:00am – 12:00pm (Requires separate registration)

8:30 am - 9:30 am  SESSION I:  Eagle Ballroom II
GBYS PROGRAM COORDINATORS
This session is an annual meeting and training for the GBYS Program Coordinators. During this session, we will discuss how we plan to enhance GBYS programming utilizing an evidenced based Conceptual Framework of Parent to Parent Support model and the next steps to implementing this in your Chapter program. We will have the special opportunity during this session to have Dr. Sheila Moodie, one of the authors of the Conceptual Framework, as our guest. This session will be sure to provide ongoing training as well as allow for an opportunity for the Program Coordinators to get to know one another through a “fun” activity and connect/reconnect with each other in person like they seldom get to do.

Trainers: Lisa Kovacs (HQ)

8:30 am - 9:30 am  SESSION II:  Eagle Ballroom III
CHAPTER LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT
This session is an annual meeting and training for Chapter Parent Leadership in Authorized and Provisional Chapters, as well as Chapter Start-up efforts. We will be discussing Hands & Voices HQ as the award recipient of the HRSA Cooperative Agreement for Family Leadership in Language and Learning (FL3). The goal of this Cooperative Agreement is to ensure statewide EHDI systems incorporate certain elements that support the families, parents and caregivers of deaf or hard of hearing infants/children in optimizing language, literacy and social-emotional development. What does this mean for your Chapter, as many of you are receiving new or additional support, as well as funding and participation from your state EHDI system? How do you ensure that you have the capacity to support this, as well as ensuring the health and sustainability of your strong, transitioning or developing Chapter and Board of Directors? We will explore the elements necessary to build your leadership and own capacity to support your fellow Chapter leadership, your membership and create sustainability. If you are a Canadian chapter, learn how you can benefit from this growth within our organization.

Trainers: Terri Patterson (GA/HQ), Janet DesGeorges (HQ)

9:45 am -11:30 am COMBINED Hands & Voices Leadership  Eagle Ballroom II/III
MEETING FOR GBYS COORDINATORS, ASTRa COORDINATORS AND CHAPTER LEADERS. TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP
In the book, The Leadership Challenge, Kouzes and Posner present five practices that exemplary leaders employ to enable their people to turn challenging situations into successes. Transformational leaders use these practices to encourage staff to exceed their own expectations, engage staff in continuous improvement efforts, develop and empower staff, build and maintain positive relationships, as well as focus on long-term goals, a vision that others buy into, and action plans to successfully achieve the desired future. The Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership are:

1. Model the Way
2. Inspire a Shared Vision
3. Challenge the Process
4. Enable Others to Act
5. Encourage the Heart

We look forward to exploring ways to customize these practices to meet the needs of our Hands & Voices Leadership. You don’t want to miss this session!

Trainers: Terri Patterson (GA/HQ), Lisa Kovacs (HQ), Nancy Cebula (People in Charge LLC)
11:30 am - 1:00 pm LUNCH

Lunch is on your own. Check out the enclosed sheet for lunch options.

11:30-1:00 Woodlands Restaurant III

**FL3 NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOCUS GROUP – BY INVITATION ONLY**

This focus group session is by invitation only to Hands & Voices Chapter Leaders who have been identified in their state/territory as the designated Family-based Support organization for EHDI.

As part of the Family Leadership in Language and Learning (FL3) Cooperative Agreement, Hands & Voices Headquarters has contracted with the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM) to conduct a national Needs Assessment to gather information on family engagement within the EHDI systems. This information will be used to drive the content of the webinars, trainings, educational materials and resources that will be developed and distributed over the remaining period of the agreement. Discussion is confidential; no individual names will be tied to comments. IRB informed consent, permission to record, will be signed.

**CONCURRENT AFTERNOON PRE-SESSIONS**
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Requires separate registration)

**PRESESSION 1:** Eagle Ballroom II

**THE ART OF LEADERSHIP**

A great leader is like a skilled artist. They possess the natural talent combined with acquired skill to create something and bring out the best. They have the vision to see someone not just as they are, but as they could be. This workshop will help you (re) discover your passion in your leadership journey; expand your leadership toolkit, and enhance the fundamentals of H&V family engagement leadership skills to lead more effectively.

_Trainer: Djenne-amal Morris (HQ)_

**PRESESSION 2:** Galena IV

**WHY REINVENT THE WHEEL? TURN-KEY SYSTEMS FOR CHAPTERS**

Chapters have limited time, money, volunteers, and expertise. Plus, it can be challenging to mobilize a group of volunteers over long distances. Yet, there are ways to save time, recruit help, and create impact for your families, while strengthening family engagement in the systems overall. Michigan Hands & Voices shares turn-key strategies, lawyer-approved policies, and step-by-step instructions that have helped our chapter work like a well-oiled machine. We will provide systematic solutions that build family engagement - which ultimately strengthens your chapter. So pull out your roadmap - or your Google Map - and drive your chapter to the next destination. Don’t reinvent the wheel, just realign it!

_Trainers: Janel Frost (MI), Michelle Thomas (MI), Karen Wisinski (MI)_

**PRESESSION 3:** Galena V

**BUT HOW DO WE KNOW?**

GBYS Programs and Chapters face increasing demands from funders to show efficacy of our services. In this age of Internet connections, introducing parents to each other and providing resources is just the baseline. Where do we go from here? Using the article “Measuring Impact” from Courtney Malloy and the Parenting Framework from Sheila Moodie, et al, attendees will learn the “why” and some of the “what” of data collection. Through the presenters, they will explore some practical applications of data collection from a chapter’s beginning attempts to define quality over quantity in GBYS contacts and chapter events.

_Trainers: Vicki Hunting (HQ), Sara Kennedy (CO/HQ), Liesel Thomas (CO), Dr. Sheila Moodie (Western University)_
1:00 – 3:00 (Requires separate registration)  
**Eagle Ballroom III**

**H&V New Leaders Training**

This Pre-session is for new Chapter leaders AND new GBYS Coordinators - new in position within 1-2 years. This session will provide new H&V leaders with the opportunity to share with others in similar positions some of the challenges and successes they have experienced as a new H & V leader. Hands on technical assistance, resources, and supports will be provided by Hands & Voices HQ staff during this session. Bring your questions, ideas and energy!

*Trainers: Candace Lindow-Davies (HQ), Julie Seawright (MS)*

4:00 – 5:00 pm  
**Eagle Ballroom III**

**First Time H&V Leadership Conference Attendee Gathering (Requires separate registration)**

If this is your first time attending the Hands & Voices Leadership Conference, this is a session you don’t want to miss. This will be a fun and interactive session to welcome you to the Leadership Conference and share with you some tips to make the most out of your conference experience.

*Trainers: Molly Martzke (HQ), Djenne-amal Morris (HQ), Stephanie Olson (CO/HQ)*

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**Friday, September 15, 2017**

**General Conference Begins**

**NOTE:** We will not be printing PowerPoint’s this year. You can access them at:  
http://handsandvoices.org/2017presentations  — Or access via QR code at right.

**7:00 pm – 10:00 pm  Mixers, Updates & Poster Session**

Come kick off the conference with the mixer not to be missed. BINGO anyone? Never too old for a great game of BINGO. But that’s just for starters. Join us after bingo and be sure to bring your dancing shoes. You can stop by the bar on your way to our bonfire and grab a drink to go with your S’mores and enjoy the live sounds and signs of a local band.

*Moderators: Illinois Hands & Voices*
Saturday September 16, 2017

7:15 am – 4:30 pm  EXHIBITORS  Galena Room Lobby

Support our exhibitors and sponsors by stopping by and enjoying good conversation and learning something new to take back to our over 10,000 families and professionals across the globe!

7:15 am - 8:05 am  CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST  Eagle Ballroom Lobby/Galena Room Lobby

**H&V REGIONAL CHAPTER LEADERS’ BREAKFAST**

Meet-up Grab your Breakfast and come to your designated area (see below) to meet with the other Chapter/Program leaders in your region and connect!

Region 1, 2 & 3: VT, NY, RI, CT, MA, MD/DC, NH, NJ, PA, VA, WV  Eagle Ballroom III

*Tammy Breard (CT): tbreard@cthandsandvoices.org*

Region 4: AL, FL, GA, KY, NC, MS, NC, TN  Boardroom III

*Anita Dowd (KY): anita.dowd@ky.gov*

Region 5: IL, IN, MI, MN, WI  Eagle Ballroom II

*Tabby Belhorn (OH): Tabitha.belhorn@ohiohandsandvoices.org*

Region 6: AR, LA, NM, OK, TX  Galena IV

*Kellie Berger (TX) Kellie@txhandsandvoices.org*

Region 7 & 8: CO, IA, KS, MO, MT, NE, ND, SD, UT, WY  Galena V

*Wendy Hewitt (WY): wendy@wyhandsandvoices.org – contact at conference TBD*

Region 9a: HI, CNMI, Guam, Pacific Islands  Point Patio

*Terri Patterson (HQ): terri@handsandvoices.org*

Regions 9b & 10: AK, AZ, CA, ID, NV, OR, WA  Eagle Ballroom II

*Helen Cotton Leiser (OR/HQ): helen@handsandvoicesor.org*

Region Canadian Provinces: Alberta, British Columbia (BC), Manitoba, Ontario  Point Patio

*Kim Shauer (BC): KShauer@cw.bc.ca – contact at conference TBD*

8:15 - 8:45 am  Eagle Ballroom II/III

- **WELCOME FROM ILLINOIS HANDS & VOICES**
- **WELCOME FROM DJENNE-AmAL MORRIS BOARD PRESIDENT**
- **WELCOME FROM JANET DESGEORGES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, “WHAT IS COMMUNITY?”**
- **INTRODUCTION OF THE FAMILY LEADERSHIP LANGUAGE AND LEARNING (FL3) FROM MICHELLE KOPLITZ (HRSA)**
**PLENARY I:**

8:45 - 9:45 am  
Eagle Ballroom II/III

**WHO AM I? A DEAF IDENTITY CRISIS**

With 95% of all deaf and hard of hearing babies being born into hearing families, and over 75% being educated in a mainstream environment, it is almost certain that at some point or another they will ask themselves...“Who am I?”

Current trends in technology and federal laws allowing children with hearing loss to attend their local schools with little or no exposure to other deaf and hard of hearing children and adults, ensure that this question will linger.

We know that a positive self-identity is important to everyone, but what we can do to help deaf and hard of hearing children develop their identity?

*Trainer: Anita Dowd (KY)*

9:45 – 10:00 am  
BREAK - VISIT THE EXHIBITORS  
Galena Rooms Lobby

**BREAKOUT SESSION A**

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Note: Breakouts are broken into three tracks:

**TRACK ONE:** These sessions are basic courses designed for first timers to the conference, start up, provisional, and newer chapters. These courses are also good for leaders who want to present this information back in their home chapters and want to observe how to present the information in these courses.

**TRACK TWO:** These sessions are designed for chapters who may be ready for more advanced applications in different content areas.

**TRACK THREE:** These sessions are topical in nature and may be of interest to all participants.

Attendees may participate in any of the breakouts, and designations are meant for planning purposes and clarification for those attending.

**TRACK ONE:**  
Galena IV/V

We Are Hands & Voices; Intro to Programs

This session is one of the Hands & Voices basic trainings. It is a requirement of all new chapter board members, Guide By Your Side Guides, and ASTra Advocates. The session will cover the overall history, structure and current status of Hands & Voices. It also provides information about our two core programs, Guide By Your Side (GBYS) and Advocacy Support & Training (ASTra). Program values and goals will be shared as well as program components, training, structure, and the how to for program start-up.

*Trainers: Najwa Ghattas (AZ), Shelli Janning (NE), Lisa Kovacs (HQ),*

**TRACK TWO:**  
Eagle Ballroom II

Leading for Success: Enhancing Team Effectiveness

Whether you are working with volunteers, paid staff, or in the community managing teams of people can be one of the most challenging things you may encounter. How often do you hear leaders and managers say, “This job would be so easy if it weren’t for the people issues”?

It can be remarkably easy for teams and workgroups to drift away from productively working together. Patrick Lencioni, after
many years of studying team behavior, identified five ways that people derail team effectiveness. And we know that the better the team works together, the better the outcomes will be. In this session, we will explore the five team dysfunctions and develop strategies for dealing with them to enhance the effectiveness of your teams and workgroups.

_Trainer: Nancy Cebula (People in Charge LLC)_

**TRACK THREE:**

**DHH Infusion: Feasible First Steps**

Starting and maintaining a chapter can be daunting all by itself. But the benefits of DHH Adult Role Model infusion is so important to the success of a chapter that it just can’t wait. Come learn from two experienced women how to create a strong argument for why your chapter needs to start identifying, recruiting, and building a program. Participants will walk away with concrete “plug and play” ideas to put to use immediately and low cost. Tap your community, harness your social media, and get ready to reap the benefits!

_Trainer: Stephanie Olson (HQ), Karen Putz (HQ), Candace Lindow-Davies (HQ)_

**11:00 – 11:15 am BREAK - VISIT THE EXHIBITORS**

**Galena Room Lobby**

**PLENARY II:**

**11:15 am – 12:15pm**

**Eagle Ballroom II/III**

**CONFRONTING BIAS IN COLLABORATIVE TEAMS**

Collaboration among providers is a crucial component of a child’s success, especially as an increasing number of families are participating in services from multiple programs. However, our individual bias can interfere with our ability to effectively participate in such teams. This presentation will explore othering and group attribution bias. Participants will examine the unique and powerful way these kinds of bias create and maintain unnecessary divisions among professionals, particularly those from different programs or philosophies. Participants will explore why these types of bias are harmful and what individuals can do to confront bias and reduce its impact on professional relationships.

_Trainer: Louise Rollins (MD)_

**12:15 – 12:45 pm SEAKER VISION AWARD & CHAPTER AWARDS**

_Eagle Ballroom II/III_

**SPECIAL H&V TRIBUTE TO SHEILA CARGILE (MISSISSIPPI H&V)**

12:45 pm – 2:00 pm **LUNCH**

_Eagle Ballroom Lobby_

Sit with some new friends and discover what other chapters are doing all over the world, and/or attend one of these meetings listed below during your lunchtime. If you choose to attend one of the optional sessions make sure you grab your lunch before heading into one of these rooms.

**Spanish Support Forum**

_Are you a Spanish speaking H&V representative or a GBYS guide who is interested in collaborating with other Spanish speaking representatives who share an interest in providing more resources to our Spanish speaking DHH families? The Spanish speaking forum “meets” monthly through conference calls. If you are interested in joining our forum, please join us for our annual in-person meeting._

**How Adults who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Can Impact the Family Journey**

_Individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing (parents, professionals, board members, etc.) will have the opportunity to meet one another and share where DHH infusion/involvement in the family journey is going well and where it needs to be strengthened. Hands & Voices HQ representatives will share how the “Family Leadership in Language and Learning” (FL3) Cooperative Agreement can assist in this effort on a state and national level and how infusion will be measured._
Parents of DHH Plus Children/Adults

Parents of children/adults who are “Deaf/Hard of Hearing Plus” (children/adults with physical, mental health, cognitive, learning needs in addition to being deaf or hard of hearing) are warmly invited to join us for fellowship. No agenda, no stress, just bring your lunch and be ready to share your story, ask questions, and share successes and challenges. This session will be facilitated by two veteran parents who are in the trenches daily!

FL3 Needs Assessment Focus Group – By Invitation Only

This focus group session is by invitation only to Hands & Voices Chapter Leaders who have been identified in their state/territory as the designated Family-based Support organization for EHDI.

As part of the Family Leadership in Language and Learning (FL3) Cooperative Agreement, Hands & Voices Headquarters has contracted with the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM) to conduct a national Needs Assessment to gather information on family engagement within the EHDI systems. This information will be used to drive the content of the webinars, trainings, educational materials and resources that will be developed and distributed over the remaining period of the agreement. Discussion is confidential; no individual names will be tied to comments. IRB informed consent, permission to record, will be signed.

BREAKOUT SESSION B

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

TRACK ONE: Supporting Families without Bias

The vanguard, required training for everyone who’s just joining our group, or if you’re preparing to present this session in your own state and need more time with the topic. Extremely helpful for professionals and parents working with families even if you’re not part of Hands & Voices. Also required for GBYS start-ups.

Trainers: Helen Leiser (HQ), Tammy Breard (CT)

TRACK TWO: How To: Run a successful Fundraising Event in your State

To host a larger scale fundraiser is a daunting task. Will it work? Will we succeed? Will we fail? We’ve all asked these questions. Well, come and find out how Illinois hosts 2 very successful fundraisers. Learn step by step how to host a Fun Walk and a Charity Dinner/Silent Auction. Chapter leaders have held these events for 5 years biennially. Learn from their successes and their mistakes. It’s easier than starting from scratch with this in depth how to presentation.

Trainers: Andrea Marwah (IL), Carrie Balian (IL)

TRACK THREE: From Parent Advocacy to Student Advocacy

It’s never too early to begin considering how to support a child’s ability to advocate for her/himself. For many parents, it can feel as if they have just started to master advocating for their child and then it’s time to transition the advocacy from being parent led to being child/student led. During this session, participants will have the opportunity to explore some of the emotions parents may be experiencing as they consider transitioning advocacy to their children and what does self-advocacy look like at different developmental stages. Social-Emotional Learning and Self-Determination will be discussed as key components of a child/student’s ability to self-advocate. Participants will also learn about the new Hands & Voices online Post-Secondary Transition Module for Parents and the Ida Institute’s Transitions Management Interactive Platform. Participants will leave the session with a list of ideas and activities they might want to consider doing with their child or a child they work with to promote social-emotional learning, self-determination, and self-advocacy.

Trainer: Lisa Kovacs (HQ), Cheryl Johnson (HQ)

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm BREAK - VISIT THE EXHIBITORS
BREAKOUT SESSION C

3:15 pm – 4:15 pm

This year we are going to try something new for Breakout Session C! There will be five facilitated discussions on various topics. Choose one and go join the conversation! Room size is limited. If your first choice is full, please pick another topic.

A: Engaging with EHDI Coordinators

EHDI Coordinators are an important stakeholder in much of the work that Hands & Voices undertakes. This workshop will discuss ways to work together so that this partnership is beneficial for all parties involved. Come prepared to discuss and learn from others different ways to work together!

*Facilitator: Molly Martzke (HQ)*

B: Professionals Supporting H&V - A conversation with Rick Hauan

Although the Hands & Voices is a parent-driven organization, professionals are an integral part of our structure. This model of parent and professional collaboration has been proven successful throughout the country, but what does it mean and how does it look? This facilitated discussion for professionals will examine this unique relationship and what it means for those professionals who choose to be part of H&V.

*Facilitator: Rick Hauan (HQ)*

C: A Discussion on LEAD-K

Language Equality & Acquisition for Deaf Kids (LEAD-K) is a national campaign to promote language acquisition and kindergarten-readiness for Deaf and hard of hearing toddlers and youth aged 0-5. Efforts are under way in several states to pass "LEAD-K" legislation but what does it mean and how does it look? This facilitated discussion will explore this topic and how it might look in your state.

*Facilitator: Cheryl Johnson*

D: Zoho Workflow: Tracking & Managing Your Chapters Information

Everybody has different comfort levels working with our chosen on-line database program, Zoho Creator, but we all can learn from each others experiences. Bring your questions and let's discuss how you can track your membership or stay in compliance as a chapter with our Chapter Headquarters database.

*Facilitator: Joe DesGeorges (HQ)*

E: What to Say When Part 2: O.U.R. Children’s Safety

We know this topic can be hard to talk about. Join a hands-on practice roundtable discussion with partially scripted role plays facilitated by experienced trainers on typical questions you might receive at a Board meeting, an exhibit table, from a parent, at a Guide training, or through an advocacy question. Your Chapter’s leadership and professional partners need to know how to recognize the risk of child abuse and neglect for children who are deaf or hard of hearing, and what to do if they do have concerns. H&V has been working on O.U.R. (to Observe, Understand, and Respond) Children’s Safety with experts along with the latest traveling exhibit table (see it at this session) for H&V chapters. Learn how to effectively share this critical information. Yes, there's room for introverts, too. We welcome new and experienced parents who may or may not be directly involved with the O.U.R. project.

*Trainer: Harold Johnson, (HQ) Sara Kennedy, (CO/HQ), Janet DesGeorges (HQ)*
4:30 pm  “UP TIME”  Location: designated areas

Organizers: Illinois Hands & Voices

“We need more down time!” the survey says... Not a chance at the H&V Leadership conference! Now in its eighth year and an H&V tradition, Illinois H&V has many different Up-Time opportunities planned. This ‘mandated session’ continues with activities to choose from a variety of fantastic events to participate in to have some fun in only the way the ‘locals’ know how! Fasten your seat belts for some fun!!

Dinner – On Your Own

Use this open time to meet new people, invite others who have come on their own, and/or to have dinner with someone new. If you are on your own and would like to find some new friends to have dinner with, stop by the registration table to sign-up.

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**Sunday September 17, 2017**

7:30am -8:30 am CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST  Eagle Ballroom Lobby

7:30am -8:30 am ASTra Meeting  Boardroom III

This meeting is intended for Hands & Voices ASTra program leaders, advocates, and trainers. If you are a chapter interested in starting an ASTra program, you are welcome to attend. Agenda will include: update from Hands & Voices HQ including any new information to assist you with your advocacy efforts, discussion on challenging cases and/or programmatic challenges, and what's happening with LEAD-K in your state.

**Facilitator: Lisa Kovacs**

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**BREAKOUT SESSION D**

8:45 am – 9:45 am

**TRACK ONE: Taking Advantage of Multiple Opportunities**  Galena IV/V

As a deaf adult, I am so proud that I can use American Sign Language, Cued Speech, and spoken language. Being well versed in multiple communication modes has opened my world in a way that I never imagined and I want to share my story. Growing up, my parents made the choices that were right for us at that time. As I grew older, my family and I made new choices, based on my ever-changing needs. Come listen as I share how multiple communication modes has shaped who I am today as my world continues to grow and change.

**Trainer: Karla Giese (IL)**

**TRACK TWO: Transition: A lifelong journey that begins early**  Eagle Ballroom II

Have you ever wondered how the IEP process is designed to prepare children for success beyond high school? Transition is a journey that begins early in life and parent involvement is a key predictor for success. Through an interactive approach, participants will take an engaging trip through their own transition experiences and apply this awareness to present day challenges. Come and learn how parents and educators can work together through the IEP process to integrate transition awareness and skills.

**Trainers: Susan Elliott (HQ)**
Family Leadership Opportunities that Create Brighter Futures for Our Children

This session will highlight opportunities for involvement in systems at local, state and national levels. We will encourage parents and families to go beyond their IEP/IFSP to add their hands and voices to changes happening in their schools, district, community, state and/or nation. Discussion will include ways they can become informed of and involved with policy, best practice and legislative decisions affecting our DHH children at each of these levels. We will demonstrate step-by-step approaches of how relationships can be forged in a respectful and articulate way while keeping their child’s story in the forefront.

*Trainers: Kellie Berger (TX), Michaela Hamaker (TX)*

**BREAKOUT SESSION E**

10:00 am – 11:00 am

**TRACK ONE:**

Galena IV/V

Picking Up the Pieces: Rebuilding Chapters One Brick at a Time

Sometimes healthy chapters go through a period of failing health. Lack of leadership, lack of funding, and declining membership can lead to challenges that seem impossible to overcome. In some cases, a parent leader finds themselves trying to pick up the pieces before a chapter goes into the dis-authorization process. Vermont and Virginia are examples of chapters that were reborn with new leadership and vision.

In this presentation, participants will hear from Terese Urban, former president of Vermont Hands & Voices and newly appointed Chair of Virginia Hands & Voices. Terese will share the Top 10 Things she learned from rebuilding both chapters.

*Trainer: Terese Urban (VA)*

**TRACK TWO:**

Eagle Ballroom II

Crisis Communication Strategies

When a crisis happens, the necessity to communicate clearly, accurately, and appropriately is critical. Whether to the public at large, a specific audience of constituents, or to your chapter, at H&V there is a protocol to follow and strategies to support crisis communication. This session will cover the HQ-sanctioned process, and teach effective communication skills that will be as applicable to chapter management as to interpersonal relationships—especially when deafness and communication access is an issue.

*Trainers: Leeanne Seaver (HQ), Janet DesGeorges (HQ)*

**TRACK THREE:**

Eagle Ballroom III

Promoting Positive Behaviors in Children with Hearing Loss

During the presentation, participants will learn to use positive approaches to establish expectations and routines. Presenters will demonstrate the use of daily calendars, if-then charts, social stories, checklists, and behavior charts. Examples and ready to use items will be available to walk away with at the end of the presentation. Join Alison and Christen as they share their expertise as educators and moms of children with hearing loss.

*Trainer: Christen Nolfi (IL), Alison Rollins (IL)*

11:00am – 11:15am Break
AN H&V CONVERSATION: ENGAGING FAMILIES AND LEADERS IN A DIVERSE WORLD

“We need to give each other the space to grow, to be ourselves, to exercise our diversity. We need to give each other space so that we may both give and receive such beautiful things as ideas, openness, dignity, joy, healing, and inclusion.”— Max de Pree

How do we as leaders engage families that are different than us? What are the factors that need to be considered in addressing the unique needs of the multicultural families we serve?

This panel will offer the opportunity for open dialogue and facilitate the important discussion of diversity within our chapters. The panelists will share their experiences and perspectives on what has been effective within their communities.

We will also explore strategies and ideas to ensure that our leaders, chapters, activities and resources are accessible to communities of diverse racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds.

Panelists: Dr. Alejandra Ullauri (IL), Apryl Chauhan (CA), Rana Ottallah (LA), Yiesell Rayon (HQ/CA)
Facilitators: Janet DesGeorges (HQ), Djenne-amal Morris (HQ)

Hands & Voices Naming Circle
The one & only, the signature H&V closer

SAFE TRAVELS!