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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** March 2, 2023

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### **Hands & Voices adds Two New Deaf/Hard of Hearing Infusion Co-Coordinators**

Hands & Voices is pleased to announce two new individuals to support the work of Hands & Voices Headquarters and the H&V Family Leadership in Language and Learning (FL3) Center. Please help us welcome Elizabeth Shuler-Krause and Emily Burke.

Hands & Voices Executive Director Janet DesGeorges is thrilled to be adding this expertise to the organization. "Hands & Voices recognizes the importance of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) individuals with diverse languages, modes of communication, ages, education, and life experiences in all aspects of the organization. This diversity provides a valuable resource to families with Deaf and Hard of Hearing children, enabling them to interact with peers and adults who embrace the Hands & Voices philosophy of non-biased support. This position provides technical assistance for H&V chapters, FBO's and other stakeholders to support D/HH Infusion. Hands & Voices is committed to ensuring that all families and children are served according to their individual needs in an equitable manner, and that families receive the best possible resources and support to help them achieve their goals."

**Elizabeth Shuler-Krause** lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband, Eric and her two AMAZING children. Elizabeth was identified as hard of hearing at 3 years old. Her parents immediately sought out the local D/HH community so that Elizabeth would have early role models and visible examples of what her future could look like. These early connections played a vital role in Elizabeth's life and ignited her passion for connecting families with children who are D/HH with D/HH community leaders. She studied English Literature and Communication Sciences before graduating from the University of Oregon with a master's degree in Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education. She began her career as a preschool teacher in a "dual language" classroom for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children. Elizabeth completed a second master's program, this time in Deaf Education from the University of Northern Colorado. Elizabeth was a consultant at the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM), where she managed the DHH Adult Involvement project, facilitating





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workgroups to infuse DHH perspectives into EHDI systems and conducting research to paint a landscape of the existing opportunities for families to engage with DHH Leaders in their communities. She is currently the Interim Family Engagement Coordinator for the Oregon DeafBlind Project. Elizabeth's lived journey, work experience, and education, as well as her dedication to supporting families with children who are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing from all walks of life, make her extremely well suited to be a part of the Hands & Voices HQ team as our next D/HH Infusion Co-Coordinator.

**Emily Burke**, BA, MA, PsyS is a Deaf mom with a background in child development and school psychology specializing in D/HH. She was raised by a hearing family with sign language and was mainstreamed in school with ASL interpreters. Even though she is a Wisconsin native and a cheesehead, Emily is a proud alum of the University of Minnesota and Gallaudet University. Following her parents' steps being D/HH family advocates, Emily is currently on the board of Texas Hands & Voices and worked with Minnesota Hands & Voices. She previously served on the D/HH advisory board for Hands & Voices' FL3 project and the national EHDI family advisory committee. Emily also served as one of the co-leaders of Moms Matter, a local support group for moms raising Deaf/HH kids in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. Since Emily enjoys educating about all aspects of being Deaf through her social media platform *That Deaf Mom*, she is a sought-out speaker and workshop presenter. She volunteers with camps and church programs for D/HH kids, advocating for opportunities for D/HH kids and families to connect with the Deaf community. She and her Deaf husband are delightfully raising a Deaf/CI teen and a Kid of Deaf Adults (KODA). When not immersed in advocating for and sharing about wholesome connections with the Deaf community, Emily has her nose in historical fiction novels, being a lifelong learner (as a homeschooling mom), and bullet journaling!

### **About Hands & Voices and the H&V FL3 Center**

Hands & Voices began in 1996 to join families and professionals in the discovery of *"What works for your child is what makes the choice right."*™ The parent-led, non-profit organization is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing without bias around communication modes or methodology. Their model has been replicated nationwide and globally in 42 chapters. Programs include Guide By Your Side (parent-to-parent support and D/HH adult-to-parent support); O.U.R. Project (children's safety); ASTra (educational advocacy); Leadership-to-Leadership (parent leadership training); DeafEd.net; leadership conferences, workshops, chapter support, and a clearinghouse of information and resources. The FL3 Center serves as a technical resource center for parents and caregivers of children who are D/HH including those from underrepresented populations, family leaders, family-based organizations, and EHDI program recipients and stakeholders.

"This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number UJ1MC30748-04-00 for Family Leadership in Language and Learning. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government."

