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HLAA West Michigan Walk4Hearing

Sunday, October 9, 2011

[Applause]

>> I'm Juli Wiseman, and before we begin, I want to let everybody know we got something new this year, that is pretty exciting, which is why I have -- if you've noticed, I have a phone to my head and, no, it's not because I can't take the phone away.

We have something this year called [www.quickcaption.com](http://www.quickcaption.com). And if you have a smart phone, you can go to your smart phone and go to [www.quickcaption.com](http://www.quickcaption.com), and there is a place that will be captioning on this event throughout the day on here. So anytime we're on a microphone or I'm on the headset, they will caption it.

So I'm going to be walking out throughout the event to you to some of the walkers and we'll have it captioned. So we'll have a smart phone go there right now. It's very,



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very cool. You know, this is a great time -- I don't know if this is appropriate to say, but this is a great time to have hearing loss because of all the technology we have out there in our fingertips, it is an option and one more thing to have at our fingertips.

So go to [www.quickcaption.com](http://www.quickcaption.com), and you will see a video that tells you how to get started and get this captioning throughout the day at the event. And if you have any more questions, make sure you see anybody in the green hat or anyone in the Hearing Loss Association hat on, and we'll be able to help you out with that.

And before we begin, I just wanted to thank four of our national sponsors for showing up and make sure you visit their visit. We have CapTel and CaptionTEL, Cochlear Americas and Phonak is also a national sponsor and we also have lots and lots of goodies. WZZM 13 has brought out a lot of good things.



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So stop at the booth and pick up anything that you would like at their booth. I want to let everybody know we do have restrooms available. They are over here, to my right. They are available throughout the day. So make sure that if you have to use the facilities before or after, that you know that we have something available here as well.

And a big, big, big thank you to Bill Hops today, one of our board members for providing us this wonderful PA system that we can make announcements throughout the day. So if anybody has any questions, please feel free to ask any one of us and we'll be here. We're also going to be giving away raffle prizes later on and make sure to see us after the walk for that and then in a little bit we'll have Val Lego to go over all the details of today's event.

>> Hi, everyone. I just wanted to let everybody know on QuickCaption again. If you have a smart phone, make sure you go to [www.quickcaption.com](http://www.quickcaption.com) and QuickCaption is all



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one word and I know somebody was asking if they could -- if they needed a password. They don't.

You will see a blue button, click on that and it will take you right to the captions. So we'll caption everything from the event today and they're captioning it right now and I'll be walking throughout the event and getting -- I'll be asking about the walk -- if you have a smart phone, you'll be able to see that.

If you have any questions, make sure you come and see me.

>> Hello, it's me again. I just turned up the volume. I need you all to gather around. I mean, gather close. Come on. We're having a walk here today. Not a separation. Let's all get in. And I'm going to -- we have a lovely lady here. She's been so supportive of us throughout everything that the Hearing Loss Association of America has done.



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It's Val Lego. The anchor from WZZM 13, Channel 13, and she's going to be here today. She's going to be our wonderful emcee here today.

[Applause]

>> All right.

[Laughing]

>> I'm going to try to be a little ambidextrous today so that everybody who has a smart phone can see the live captioning. I think this is one of the most amazing things that technology has done for the hearing-impaired people in our community and I think it's outstanding that it can actually be done and everyone can take part in it who has a smart phone.

So I'd encourage you if you have one, to log on. I don't know the website, but Juli. It's called [www.quickcaption.com](http://www.quickcaption.com). You just have to log on to [www.quickcaption.com](http://www.quickcaption.com) and that's how you'll be able to see the close captioning streaming on your smart phone.



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All right. I want to thank you, Juli so much for introducing me and inviting me here. You know, this is my third year here and I have to say one reason why I do it every year, because you always have such beautiful weather, every single year it's been sunny and hot.

And so it's just been outstanding. And every year it grows and grows more and more. And such a wonderful group of people that got together to come out and help in this Walk4Hearing. So let's get started.

We are still tallying up the totals for our goal this year which was \$30,000. Are we close to getting close to that 30,000? But we might actually exceed our goal of 30,000 this year. Isn't that exciting?

[Applause]

>> So I also want to remind you to take a copy of the Grand Rapids chapter brochure because you're going to be able to see all the services that are being offered.



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You'll see all the information for educational programs. The next one is scheduled for Wednesday, November 9th in the Sneden Auditorium which is hearing looped on Davenport University in the W.A. Lettinga campus.

I would like to thank the Walk4Hearing committee Bill Waring because he does so much work to help in this committee so everybody involved in the committee and Bill Waring, please raise your hands so that we can give you a round of applause for putting this all together today.

[Applause]

>> All right. And then I also want to thank -- even though Frog Hollow Park isn't part of the Metro Health Campus, Metro itself has such a beautiful campus that they take part and it keeps growing and growing every single year and it's wonderful that Metro continues to help and support this walk and at this point in time I would like to thank them for being our major silver sponsor for \$2,500.

[Applause]



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>> And as honorary Co-chair Jamal Ghani executive vice president and his wife Dr. Ayubi and you have your children here today.

>> We so sure. Thank you very much. Wow, what a wonderful day. We couldn't have had a better day than this and we are so proud to be sponsoring such a great event and what a beautiful crowd out here.

It's so nice to see friends and family and I know my wife she's around here somewhere. But I think -- I want to welcome and thank you all for showing up and supporting such a great initiative. It's very close to us. Dear to us and all our family and we're here to support the walk and on behalf of the hospital board of managers and all members of the executive committee and employees, thank you for having and it will be a great walk. Thank you all.

[Applause]

>> Thank you, Jamal. I also want to thank the sponsors who contributed over \$8,000. Please raise your



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hand to be recognized and look for the sponsorship signs along the trail.

I'm not going to read them right now but if you were a sponsor who donated, if you could just raise your hand because I know it's very, very important that you take part in this as well.

And I also want to thank another group of girls who are here every single year raising money, getting together and helping our kids when it comes to camp, when it comes to learning and those are the girls from the Delta Zeta sorority sisters whose mission it is to provide a year-round life-changing environment with children with hearing loss and chronic life-threatening diseases. Raise your hands. WOO!

[Applause]

>> I want to thank the Northview Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program. They learned total communication skills



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from birth to age 12. I know a lot of you traveled many, many miles to get here today.

And so we want to be sure that we recognize you for all of your efforts to come here and make this walk such a success. I also want to recognize Shawnee Park - Grand Rapids Oral Deaf Program, who provides communication skills from birth to 12th grade so raise your hand so you can identify them as well.

And I would like to recognize the staff and students all the way from Sylvester elementary school in Berrien Springs.

Raise your hands. That was a long way to travel today.

[Applause]

>> On this absolutely gorgeous day and while I'm talking about the weather, I just want to remind you that there is water and there are snacks so if you think that you're a little bit thirsty or dehydrated, please go under



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the pavilion and grab a bottle of water or get some snacks before we start.

They're here till they're gone so they will be here before and after the race. Okay. Let's see. We are also going to be recognizing the following audiologists for participating in this Audiologist Cup Challenge to see which office could raise the most money.

I'm going to intake all of them off. Pam Keenan, McDonald Audiology, Susan Haveman Kruyf, hearing resources, Ed Szumowski, West Michigan Hearing Services, Karen Jacobs, Sharon Hickox, MetroHealth EMT, Katie Kozak, and Karen Van Doome, now, let me tell you I don't know that this race has ever been so tight for the battle of this cup because, boy, we were right down to the wire as to who was going to win, of course, McDonald Audiology has won in recent years and they want to keep the streak going.



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And the MetroHealth ENT, they want to try to take that away from them. I have the numbers which are so close, but by less than \$400, it is once again McDonald Audiology.

[Applause]

>> \$2,685, Metro ENT had 2,248. Come up and claim your cup. Come claim your cup.

[Applause]

>> Thank you so, so very much. It's fun to have that kind of competition, isn't it? And now you know -- you came close to losing it.

[Laughing]

>> All right. I also want to invite up the following team captain and walker who raised the most money this year.

The team that raised over \$6,500. We're still totaling how much they've raised but if you want to walk up, the captain of the Hearing2Help team. There she is. Thank you so very, very much.



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Over 6,500. That is outstanding. I also want to call the team member for Hearing2Help who raised over \$2,000.

[Applause]

>> So together both of those teams for Hearing2Help nearly \$2,000 which is outstanding. We got certificates for you and more than the adoration and the clapping you'll be able to enjoy something else for your hard work. Thank you.

And I also want take a moment before I call up Bill Waring to kind of close out the program, there is -- if you want to hold that for a second. Okay.

There's a family here -- all of the families that are here taking part are very, very special. And there's one family that has traveled a very, very far distance today to be part of this walk. And you're going to see them because they're all wearing super A's on their T-Shirts and you may have read the poem posted on their website and I looked at it and it touched me so much that I thought, what a



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wonderful way to kick off the walk and have some great inspiration so that we can walk the miles ahead and be grateful for the money that we raised here today that is nearly if not plus \$30,000.

Here's the poem. Alyssa Crane is for the poem is written for. They have other children there. And the MARANIC family who also traveled with them today to try to help out in this Walk4Hearing. So here they are. You can't miss them because they've got the beautiful T-Shirt. And I'm going to read their poem, called

Our "Super A"

She failed the test twice in one day,  
Dr.'s said that was normal, "she's probably ok".  
We were concerned, is this too much to bare?  
We had her tested and it didn't seem fair!  
The machine isn't working, we will try again later.  
To find out for sure, we had to sedate her.  
The results are in...we waited in fear,



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She can't hear out of her left ear.

Profound in the left, moderate in the right,

We have to look at this in a positive light!

Alyssa is strong, we couldn't walk in her shoes!

Come walk with us, or give money, if you so choose.

[Audio muffled]

>> Thank you again for inviting me. Have a wonderful walk on this gorgeous day and Bill is here to close out the program.

>> Thank you very much everybody being here on this beautiful day. We thank all the participants and the people who helped sponsor the Walk4Hearing. Now, if everybody would follow Juli down to the starting line, we'll cut the ribbon and get it going.

After you finish the race, come over to the shed and you'll see this laying out with your raffle tickets numbers



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on them. If your number is the same as on the list,  
declare it and there will be a prize.

>> Once again, if I could repeat that 'cause a lot of  
you are leaving now. I want to make sure you understand  
that we have raffle prizes that we are giving away.

And after the event, after you walked, make sure you  
come back to the pavilion and look and see if your raffle  
ticket number matches one of the prizes and you get to take  
that home with you. Now, if you could follow me over to  
the beginning of the walk, we'll head over there, cut the  
ribbon and we'll get this walk started.

>> Okay. We are now walking! We're going to get  
walking here on our fourth annual Walk4Hearing. We're  
actually getting started a little early. How are you  
doing? Hi there. How are you? Thanks for coming out.

[Please Stand By]



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>> Okay. If we can get everybody to line up on the walkway. And we would like to have a big picture shot as we go through. So if we could get Alice over there as well.

[Please Stand By]

>> We have a couple more minutes and we have a big, big crowd out there.

>> Over to the driveway you can see right behind me this way, we want a big walk going through it when we cut it. Let's get everybody lined up because we're going to cut the ribbon real soon. I love all the colors out here today. Thank you for everybody once again for walking on this beautiful day.

This is so awesome. Everything that you have done for hearing loss is so much appreciated. Okay. I'm going to get off the MIC and I'm going to go by the ribbon and cut



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it. Okay. Let's go! Let's go! You want to walk? And the walk has begun! Wow!

What a crowd out here today. This is awesome! Hi, Susan. So I've got somebody with me here today. I've got Jack, Jack, why are you out here today.

>> To help raise funds for the Hearing Loss Association of America.

>> Who are you?

>> I'm the audiologist for Shawnee Park. Am I done?

>> You're done. Thanks!

>> We got Leah here. Leah Porter from Northview, Northview Public Schools. You're just going to tell us why you're on the walk today. This is on QuickCaption. Come on!

>> I am with my team from Northview Hard of Hearing program. We have teachers and interpreters and teachers aides and parents and children all here to support the Walk4Hearing today.



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>> Thanks, Leah. And I want to bring somebody special to the MIC. This is Pam Keenan.

>> We had a big challenge on our hands this year. MetroHealth group was on our heels and we're super competitive in my office and we pulled it out in the end. \$2,000 or more in the end.

>> I think it's 26.

>> 26, yes, and we're still counting. We just got a last minute donation.

>> That's awesome. That's what this walk is all about. I think we have the most walkers we've ever had at this walk before. We've had from -- we have 125 walkers registered for today. They're all out here in their green and purple shirts bringing their families -- the kids that have gone to the school and their parents and teachers.

Everybody that's been helping out with these little kiddies from the time they've been diagnosed with hearing



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loss. And my daughter, Kendall, is one of them. Kendall,  
can you say hi?

>> Hi.

>> Tell us what you're doing today?

>> I'm going for a walk.

>> You're walking.

>> What do you hear with?

>> Cochlear implants.

>> That's my 9-year-old daughter with the help of  
newborn screening and with technology and advancements to  
our bilateral cochlear implants. And the dogs are here  
too, and they are just loving each other and wanting to  
play with each other.

So we've got Delta Zeta. Tell me what you guys -- how  
are you guys got involved with the Walk4Hearing?

>> Juli, we try to get involved with lots of different  
hearing events in the communities. It's good philanthropy.  
We're proud to do our fourth year.



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>> That's so awesome.

>> Yeah.

>> So how did you guys decide that hearing loss was going to be your program that you were going to work with?

>> Through the national philanthropy we work with Gallaudet University and with the camp we send a lot of girls there. The Zeta turtle camp there's children with lots of different hearing and visual impairments so it's a special camp to set up with people with those challenges.

>> That is awesome. Thanks for showing up today.

[Please Stand By]

So here we are with one of Kendall's teachers that she had at Shawnee Park Grand Rapids program and I'm walking backwards -- and with her daughter Nola. Tell me why you're out here today?

>> Oh, to support the Hearing Loss Association.



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>> Okay. And you got to tell us lilt more. Like what do you do? Come on?

>> Well, this year I'm a teacher consultant so I travel around and support kids who have been mainstreamed and I've been in classroom for 11 years, 12 years so we're just out here to support the cause.

>> And one thing that's awesome about Vicki that I found out just from being a parent that worked with her over the years she has married a man from France. Most of us would leave the United States for France in a moment. We wouldn't hesitate. But, Vicki is so dedicated to the cause of Shawnee Park and the kids that he needed to come back and live here with her!

[Please Stand By]

>> So I'm with the Hearing2Help to find out why they're here. Because this is the first time they have



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been here and they are awesome. And I'm going to have --  
is it mom? Mom involved today? So what's your name?

>> Erica.

>> Erica who came from Berrien Springs and this is the  
first time they've been with us and they helped raise so  
much money. It's awesome. Tell us why you're here today.

>> We're here to support my 3-year-old nephew, Owen.  
He was born with hearing disability and he wears hearing  
aids and we're here to support in honor of him.

>> That's so awesome. How did you hear about this  
program here today?

>> My sister actually is one of the Co-captains for  
the team and it's her little boy that's hearing-impaired.  
So that's why we're here with our family and friends with  
the team.

>> That's so awesome and that's how we find out about  
these things, whether it's a family or a friend that's been



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impacted by it, we're here to all help them here today.

Thank you.

[Please Stand By]

>> So here I'm with Katlin and Katlin used to go to Shawnee Park Oral Deaf School and now she's in the mainstream setting for the first time. And Katlin, can you talk about it and tell why you're here today?

>> No.

>> No. Well, then mom's going to talk about it.

>> We are here with Shawnee Park Walk to Talk. Katlin has mainstreamed in the first grade and just started this fall. We are here to raise awareness for hearing loss and help all others with hearing loss.

>> Thank you so much. And they've been so supportive over the years and it's so awesome to see these kids who have come in as little kids in school and now what they're



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doing to society. Thank you to all the teachers and the parents and their hard work here today.

[Please Stand By]

>> This is awesome. I have to tell you -- this is our fourth year of doing this. And we have been just so blessed by the weather that we've received here. Today, it's almost 80 degrees. Absolutely stunningly gorgeous on this Sunday, October 9th.

I am just -- in AWE as people are coming around this area that's by MetroHealth Hospital they're going to be in AWE of all the people out here walking. It's just amazing. I'm sure we have -- we have at least double the walkers this year than we had last year.

It's great. So we've Elizabeth Brink, who is a PTO president with Shawnee Park Oral Deaf Program. Tell us why you're here today, Elizabeth?



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>> It's for a wonderful cause for Walk4Hearing. To support families, teachers, educators and all the resources within the community. A wonderful day for a wonderful walk.

>> And tell us about why -- who you're involved with? Who you're representing today?

>> Sure, I'm with the Grand Rapids Oral Deaf Program. I'm president of the parent/teacher organization. And we have close to 200 individuals representing our school located at Shawnee Park. We're supporting our kids who are learning how to --

>> Tell us -- [Audio muffled]

>> Yes. My husband and I -- we have two children 6-year-old Trenton and a 3-year-old Allen. Allen was born with a moderate to severe hearing loss, recognized at birth.

And he's been wearing hearing aids since he's been 2 months old and the Grand Rapids oral deaf program, since



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that time, and has been doing phenomenally. It's wonderful as far as technology and getting children to talk and listen at such an early age.

>> Thanks, Elizabeth. And that's why the Hearing Loss Association of America is here, for parents and schools, that Elizabeth is here representing here today.

[Please Stand By]

>> I'm going to have Mary take say a little something. We're here with [www.quickcaption.com](http://www.quickcaption.com) and who are you with.

>> I'm Mary Kay Kolber. I'm the supervisor of the Grand Rapids Oral Deaf Program. And we are here to support the Hearing Loss Association of America. And share breath and words that hearing-impaired children can learn how to talk.

>> Just another wonderful example of who's out here today. Thanks, Mary Kay.



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[Please Stand By]

>> So I'm with the Metro ENT Ear Stars. They did awesome this year. They came so close to winning the audiologist challenge. I want to talk to one of you. Who wants to be the speaker?

>> Okay.

>> What are you doing out here today?

>> Sure. My name is Scott. I'm one of the audiologists with Metro Ear Nose and Throat, Sharon Hickox, the other audiologist and I have just been talking about wanting to be more involved in the community. And we heard about this through -- I heard about this through Sharon and so we just tried to round up the troops and participate as much as we possibly can.

>> You guys did awesome. Thank you so much.  
Everybody with hearing loss, you are awesome.



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>> How are you doing? Good. So, Jenny Carlson, is the team leader for -- excuse me, I was running. Is a teaching consultant with the school. This is so cool. They're the ones who have 125 walkers out here. You can tell because they're kind of mobbing the place with their green and purple T-Shirts and it's just awesome. So tell us a little bit about why you're out here today?

>> Well, we're out here today to get the word out about hearing loss and what our program does for kids, teaching them to learn to listen and speak. So we're very excited to be here as a group.

>> That's awesome, Jenny, thank you so much. And here's a new mom! New mom. Amanda and her daughter Mackenzie is in the program at Grand Rapids Oral Deaf but she's a new mom that just had a new baby. So she's here today. Tell us a little bit about why you're out here.



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>> I'm just here to support my daughter and her school and give back for what they've done for us and we love this program.

>> And tell us about --

>> Mackenzie wears bilateral cochlear implants and she has profound hearing loss and she has been in the program for about 3 years and she will be fully mainstreamed at the age of 4. So we're very happy. And I can't believe how clear her language is and we are just excited about that.

>> And the name of their team is Walk2Talk. Thanks, Amanda.

>> You see the kids running with the teachers. The parents out here. Hi, Judy. And another member of the metro ENT and a board member of the Hearing Loss Association of America, we have Marilyn Knoll. Tell us why you're here today.

>> Why I'm here. It's such a wonderful event and it's so fun to have friends and everybody come out and support



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the Walk4Hearing. It's just a great interaction with everyone and we appreciate all the community support.

>> And Marilyn has hearing loss and about two years ago received her cochlear implant. As a person that has watched go through this metamorphosis it's been amazing how much she can hear now. She even tells me. It's amazing. It's changed her life. Thanks, Marilyn. We're here with Alyssa's all-stars or the A stars.

>> Super A's.

>> And it's so cool -- [Audio muffled]

>> They have an A that makes them look like they're superhuman, superpowers and we're here with the mom. I want you to tell us why you're here today. You came a long way. They didn't just come from around Grand Rapids. They came about an hour and a half --

>> A little over an hour.

>> So tell us why you're here today.



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>> We're here today to support our daughter, finding out a little less than a year ago that she was hearing-impaired. And just felt that we would like to support her as much as we can, along with everybody else that has hearing loss in America.

>> Thank you so much. And what's so cool about this is they wrote a poem about it. It's been just such an inspiring event to hear all these stories from the parents and the professionals, and everybody, the kids that have all been impacted by hearing loss in one way or the other, whether they have hearing loss or whether they know of somebody with hearing loss.

And it's been AWE-inspiring today to have everybody come together like this. We want to thank all of our fine sponsors today. I just went by one of their signs. We have so many sponsors that have helped us -- being our major sponsor MetroHealth Hospital, \$2,500. It's just awesome.



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I think that -- it's just -- to have a child with a hearing loss or many family members with a hearing loss, it just makes you speechless. I'm going up to Kirsten Kramer who get to see many, many people as her busy job as an audiologist from spectrum health, I'll tell you what she does and while I do the duties of the wagon. This is for captioning.

>> Oh, okay. Okay. Thanks, Juli. I'm an audiologist as Juli said and I work for Spectrum Health as Juli said and I work with the cochlear implants and I deal with people who have a hearing loss and cochlear implants and it's an absolute joy to work with such great patients.

We also do the hearing testing on all the infants that are born at Spectrum Health. They get a screening before they go home from the hospital and if they don't pass that screening, they come back to see us. We are diagnosing hearing loss earlier than we have ever been before.



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Another rewarding of my part to provide intervention early in the lives of these kiddos so that they can get the intervention they need early and grow up in a much more normal fashion. I can't think of anything else to say. It's a great job. Thanks, Juli.

[Laughing]

>> Thanks, Kirsten, she's right. We've known Kirsten for 9 years now. Tammy as well, one of her other cohorts at Spectrum Audiology in the hospital. And I'll tell you, they're there for you from the get-go when you're a parent of a newborn diagnosed with hearing loss.

And going through all the ups and downs you might be going through on this journey. As we know, hearing loss is very challenging at times. One of our major senses. And we know how much we rely on it so it's awesome what the Hearing Loss Association is able to do to help those with hearing loss in whatever capacity they need help. What's awesome is you also hear a lot of people talking about



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talking with us but you can't forget the major component that a lot of people do like to sign and we support that as well. We support all types of hearing and (inaudible). And I'm here with Chris Jacques, and he is a board member with the Hearing Loss Association of America.

And Chris, how did you get involved in the hearing loss association and now you're actually the president of the -- [Audio muffled]

>> Of Michigan and tell us how you got involved in it.

>> Oh, this is Chris. I got involved about five, six years ago to help loop Grand Rapids and then it just snowballed from there and I got involved in the state organization and then the next thing I know I was president of the state organization which is what I'm doing but I'm really active in the Grand Rapids organization.

>> And why did you get involved?

>> I got involved because I do have a hearing loss and that I was a friend -- or still am a friend of Vic Kraus



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who originally recruited me to get me interested in the organization. And as a result, I have learned a great deal about hearing loss, a lot more than I ever knew there was to know. In fact, I've had my hearing loss for over 50 years, and I went all the way through graduate school without any kind of helping like hearing aids, and I wish I had now, but it's too late for that, although, I can spread the word to everybody else so that they can benefit from the mistakes of earlier people like me.

[Laughing]

>> Thanks, Chris. Just another wonderful story, a reminder of how hearing loss has impacted everyone's life and how it's never too late to join an organization. Chris is in his 50s and he joined it later in his 40s.

As you look at that, people think it's too late. It's never too late. We welcome everybody to our organization. Like I said, all hearing loss. So somebody choose to see



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sign in our meetings, we have the -- we always have somebody that does ASL.

We have captioning and today we have the QuickCaption for any of those that have smart phones who want to follow the walk as it's happening. It's been a tremendous journey today. A tremendous opportunity to do this with QuickCaption.

I love technology, like I said. My daughter has cochlear implants and some people here have cochlear implants aids and some rely on FM systems and some rely on captioning on their phones and other things and now we have these smart phones and we have pagers and technology and everything that makes it so much easier to become part of society where we don't feel like we're excluded.

And I think it's tremendously important that we all get involved one way or the other and take advantage of this wonderful, wonderful opportunity we've been given. And this is Juli Wiseman, and I'm going to sign off.



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I've done the entire walk. I'm going to talk to a couple of people and I'm not going to sign off, and the fun they've had and go from there. [Please Stand By]

>> We're going to talk to a couple of our national sponsors here before we sign off today. We've got CaptionCall that's been out here. They've been coming to the walk. Tell us why for a national sponsorship and tell us why you're here at today's walk?

>> We're here to support HLAA and all its endeavors and to share the good news of CaptionCall with everyone here at the walk. It has been a rewarding experience and a fun experience for us meeting everyone here at the walk. And meeting all the residents of Grand Rapids and Wyoming and Grandville. It's really been a wonderful time for us. Thank you so much for having us. And we hope to be back again next year. Thank you.



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>> Thank you. I have a couple more interviews. I have a gentleman here and he's wearing a McDonald audiology shirt. Tell me -- you work at McDonald?

>> You do not.

>> How did you get involved? I want you to tell we're on [www.quickcaption.com](http://www.quickcaption.com) so everybody can get on captioning on their smart phone will hear why you're involved today?

>> Well, I'm with the -- I'm with the owner of the McDonald audiology and I've been best friends with her husband for over the years and I'm part of the family and supporting the family.

>> You have hearing loss?

>> I do not

>> Do you know somebody who has hearing loss?

>> Yes I do.

>> Thank you so much for supporting us.

>> You're welcome.



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>> And I'm going to -- and I'm going to -- I'm going to talk to one of our board members as well as a walker here today. And Hannah was born with hearing loss and Hannah, why don't you tell us why you're out here today and how you got involved with hearing loss association?

>> I got involved because my mom got involved for me so I got involved. And I do face painting and I had sports out here to play with the kids. I make sure the kids have something to do and it's pretty fun. You should come out next year.

>> Thanks, Hannah. We're going to wrap up things today with CapTel. They've been out here today. They're one of the major sponsors and why don't you tell us a little bit about why you got involved in the program.

>> Hi. This is Carolyn Mathis. I represent caption telephone and Hamilton relay and we think the Walk4Hearings are wonderful events. They're happening all over the country and it is a great way to promote awareness of folks



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that have hearing issues and just to educate people and to raise money for a wonderful, wonderful cause.

>> Thank you. And I'm going to finish up with Cochlear America. They're another major sponsor that's been out here today. Can you tell us why you're a sponsor and why you're out here today at the event?

>> I'm a sponsor of Cochlear America. And I've had my Cochlear Implant since 2004 and that is why I came to represent cochlear America to advertise the new product that's recently out. And also to inform people that we are having a seminar here in Grand Rapids on November the 5th from 8:00 to 12:00.

>> Thank you, and this is Juli Wiseman. And Kristin, I'm going to sign off. Everybody is coming in from our walk. It's been an awesome day and thank you very much to QuickCaption, and all of our sponsors out here today and all of the walkers and especially the Hearing Loss



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Association of America. We want to thank everybody.

Thanks a lot.

[END OF EVENT]