

## **Top 10 Reasons to Join an HLAA Chapter**

Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) chapters open the world of communication for people with hearing loss through a unique blend of information, education, support, and advocacy. Chapters offer the inter-personal connection that simply cannot be replicated online. To find a chapter in your area, please go to [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).

### **1. Information**

Our chapter meetings are a powerful resource for learning how to live successfully with hearing loss.

### **2. Education**

The expert and experienced speakers at our regular chapter meetings will teach you how to best manage your hearing loss and improve your listening skills to live a more active lifestyle. You will learn coping skills and effective communication strategies.

### **3. Support**

Hearing loss presents daily challenges you can overcome. HLAA Chapters provide a community of people who understand hearing loss and the issues it presents. Through the experience of other members, you will learn how to get the best hearing healthcare, as well as the latest techniques that can improve your listening beyond what a hearing aid alone can offer. You will not feel stigmatized by your hearing loss, or that you must face hearing loss alone.

### **4. Mentoring**

Hearing loss affects everyone including your family, friends and co-workers, and we invite you to bring your partner(s) to a meeting or to arrange a one-on-one session with a chapter peer-mentor to help improve communications.

### **5. Latest Technologies**

You will learn about the latest developments in hearing aids, cochlear implants, other implantable devices, assistive devices, communication access, smartphone apps and much more that can help you hear better...even in challenging listening situations.

### **6. Access to the Community**

Learn about the movie theaters in your community which offer new captioning systems and other entertainment venues which offer a hearing loop or other assistive technology.

### **7. Social Connections**

In the chapters, you will meet many others like yourself, who either have hearing loss or are supporting someone with a loss. You will be empowered through the exchange of knowledge, encouragement, and shared experience. You will have fun!

### **8. Access to Other Resources**

We are your gateway to many resources, such as how to manage the cost of hearing aids, the state's relay phone program which offers free amplified and captioned phones and so much more.

### **9. Self-Help**

You do not have to hide your hearing loss. At HLAA, we learn to advocate for ourselves at home, work and in the community, by mastering the simple tools that can help us guide all the people we encounter on how to communicate more effectively with us. You will learn how to take maximize your access to effective communication in every area of your life.

### **10. Staying Tuned-in**

New technological advances in hearing devices, treatment procedures, support tools, preventive and curative developments are occurring at a more rapid rate than ever before. HLAA and your local HLAA Chapter remain your best source to keep pace, so you continue to get the most out of your residual hearing.