

What is the Hearing Loss Association of America?

The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) is the nation's leading organization representing people with hearing loss. The Hearing Loss Association of Washington (HLA-WA) shares the HLAA national Mission and is working locally for you!

The Mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing **information, education, support** and **advocacy**.

What kind of **information**?

- Technological and medical advances
- Coping strategies
- Assistive listening devices

Who do we **educate**?

- Families, friends, coworkers, teachers, hearing health care providers, industry, government, others
- You, for self-help

We support **Universal Access and Design** such as hearing loops promoted by **www.LoopSeattle.org** supporting the public access needs of people who do not hear well.

Where can I find a Meeting?

City	Location address
Bellevue 2nd Saturday 1:00 pm	Lk. Sammamish Foursquare Church, Chapel 14434 NE 8th St., Bellevue
East Jefferson County 4th Monday 1:00 pm	Port Townsend Community Ctr., 620 Tyler Street Port Townsend
Renton 2nd Friday 12:30 pm	Renton Senior Ctr. 211 Burnett Ave. N. Renton
Whatcom County 3rd Saturday 9:30 am	Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 2600 Lakeway Dr. Bellingham
Spokane 1st Saturday 9:30 am	Nexus Center 1206 N. Howard Spokane
Seattle 2 nd Tuesday 6:45 pm	Aljoia Conference Room 450 NE 100 th Street Seattle
Tacoma* 2nd Saturday 9:30 am	*Alternates w/CI Support Group TACID 6315 S. 19th St., Tacoma
Vancouver 1 st Monday 6:00 PM	SWCDHH 301 SE Hearthwood Blvd. Vancouver

Contact information:

www.hearingloss-wa.org
chapters@hearingloss-wa.org

Visitors are always welcome!



**IS
HEARING
LOSS
AFFECTING
YOUR LIFE?**



**Join us to HEAR
what you've been
missing!**

www.hearingloss-wa.org

For more information email:
info@hearingloss-wa.org

What is a Chapter?

Chapters are where we gather once a month.

Why do we meet?

- Friendship
- Support
- New information

What do we talk about?

- How to deal with hearing loss (coping skills)
- Hearing aids (what they will and won't do)
- Where to find resources
- Assistive listening devices (ALDs)
- Captioning and loop technology
- How to advocate (ask for what you need)
- Hearing service dogs
- New topics each month

Who Conducts the Meetings?

Meetings are run by those who use hearing aids and other assistive devices. All leaders are volunteers. We do not sell hearing products or hearing aids.



International Symbol of ACCESS for
Hearing Loss

Who attends our meetings?

We encourage anyone with hearing loss to attend as well as their families, friends and co-workers. Everyone with a professional or personal interest in hearing loss is welcome.

Why is Hearing Loss so important?

According to the National Center for Health Statistics:

- 17% of Americans have some degree of hearing loss;
- 18 % of adults 45-64
- 30 % of adults 65-74
- 47 % of adults 75 years old or older have hearing loss.
- Approximately 15 percent of working age Americans between the ages of 20 and 69 have high frequency hearing loss from exposure to noise.
- Nearly 3 out of every 1,000 children in the United States are born deaf or hard of hearing.

Only 1 out of 5 people who could benefit from a hearing aid actually wears one.

How do we support?

- Share coping skills
- Teach strategies for daily living
- Promote skills and self-confidence
- Provide accessible social activities
- Share communication tips with friends and families
- Invite professionals to give presentations
- Offer options to open doors
- Hold regular local meetings

Why do we advocate?

- To promote better communication in the workplace, hotels, schools, court systems, medical centers, and entertainment facilities
- To promote legislation for hearing aid insurance coverage and tax credits
- To promote research to improve hearing aids, assistive listening devices, and other technology needs of consumers with hearing loss
- To promote research on causes of hearing loss and development of new treatments

