**Listen Up**

**Special Recent Events**

The Towers of Jacksonville hosted a “Hear By The River Event” appreciation luncheon for Lend An Ear Outreach and OEI CapTel on October 1. In the past few months, LAE fit 27 residents with hearing aids at no cost to them, OEI CapTel provided new phone technology to 15 qualified residents for a better quality of life, and the Lions Club provided four pairs of glasses to residents of The Towers of Jacksonville!

In August, Lend An Ear Outreach and Lions Club Eye Center put the finishing touches on The Towers of Jacksonville by fitting recipients with brand new hearing aids! Here are some testimonies:

**Connie S.** “I’m speechless all I can say is God bless this organization Lend An Ear Outreach!”

**Ann S.** “I’m extremely grateful and my daughter will be so happy she will not have to constantly repeat herself. Thank you sooooo much!!

**Sharon M.** “The Oticon Hearing Aids met a great need for me. I needed hearing aids but could not afford them. I live at the Towers of Jacksonville and heard this good news - Hearing Aids at no cost to me with a great warranty - what a blessing from God. The Lend An Ear Outreach organization is great and the people are very nice!”

Shout out to Tammy who has volunteered driving residents to our facility just to help out residents!

An “After Care” program is in the works for The Towers of Jacksonville recipients which will be a follow-up for anyone that has questions or is having any issues.

**CapTel Corner...**

OEI, working on behalf of CapTel Outreach, gets the word out that if you or someone you know has difficulty hearing over the phone, there is a solution. Along with presenting other hearing health-related resources, we can help provide a CapTel Captioned Telephone at no cost to the user.

**Did You Know......**

That the CapTel Captioned telephone has the ability for the user to go back and review conversations? This feature is an excellent bonus and super helpful when recalling information. Forget what the Doctor told you? No problem, just go back and read it. Want to remember a recipe that was shared with you by your friend? No problem, just go back and take a look.

The possibilities with our phones are endless!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gn52L9mxBdI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gn52L9mxBdI)

**THE HUNTER’S MOON**

The Hunter’s Moon will reach peak illumination at 10:57 am EST on Wednesday, October 20th. It will be below the horizon at this time, so we will have to wait till sunset to see it’s place in the sky it will rise around the same time for several nights in a row, so begin looking for it on Tuesday October 19th. Click here for local times: [https://www.almanac.com/astronomy/moon-rise-and-set](https://www.almanac.com/astronomy/moon-rise-and-set)

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Recent Events...

8-24-2021 The Lend An Ear Outreach Team stopped in to the North East Florida Educational Consortium in Palatka to see Amy Lane. The Mission of NEFEC is to help districts cooperatively meet their educational goals and objectives by providing programs that individual districts would not be able to provide as effectively or as economically if acting alone. The Vision is to be the organization that leads districts via the relentless pursuit of achieving high-performing status. They provide these services to 15 school districts, 150 schools, 4,700 teachers and 75,000 students. NEFEC covers the following counties: Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Nassau, Putnam, and Suwannee.

8-4-2021 Arlington Lions Club Eyeglass and Hearing Center, in conjunction with LAE, keeps giving the gift of hearing to recipients in a atmosphere of compassion.

Lyudmila K. “Thank you with many blessings to all of you at Lend An Ear Outreach.”
Jay H. “We greatly appreciate Lend An Ear Outreach for being able to get me and my Dad Hearing Aids. Without Lend An Ear Outreach we would never be able to afford them. Thank you for all your help and for treating us so special!!”
Gina H. “Lend An Ear Outreach has enabled me to hear again! I’m 100 years old and now I can hear my son and daughter talk to me. Now I’ll be able to answer and hear my phone. Life is new for me again! Thank You!”

Ninety-nine percent of our testimonies are given by people who are very grateful to receive the gift of hearing. But once in awhile a challenge arises that tests are resources. After being tested, 8 year old Keemiah B. will need a Cochlear Implant. The partnership between the Arlington Lions Club and Lend An Ear Outreach is committed to use every possible means for a positive outcome for this young child. Charlie L. started calling Key Lions Club officers in the state of Florida to see if anyone has strategic contacts that can help Keemiah as we develop a action plan. This will be a ongoing story and we will update all of you on a timely basis.

In reflection of today and why I love volunteering for Lend An Ear…we helped a 100 year old woman and an 8 year old child that will, with all our resources, hopefully, get the gift of hearing in the future!

7-9-2021 Dr. Melisa Sharpe, Volunteer Audiologist for Lend An Ear Outreach…

A Testimony/Story: A testimony is given by an individual with special qualifications or credentials that enables him or her to provide information. A story is a means of transforming information, experience, attitude or point of view. Ladies and Gentlemen, below shows what Lend An Ear Outreach can do for our recipients!

As a Audiologist I do volunteer work for Lend An Ear Outreach and work for Clay County School systems. I was checking on a student one day and ran into the speech pathologist who asked if I knew of a way to get hearing aids for a 1st grader who is an immigrant (Jeimy M.), and therefore does not have insurance. I contacted Scott, the Executive Director at Lend An Ear Outreach, explained the situation and he said, “LETS HELP HER”!

The process began with ear mold impressions that I took at her home. She decided on sparkle molds and pink hearing aids. The hearing aids arrived in two weeks and we immediately got her on the schedule. On July 9 she arrived at the Arlington Eye and Hearing Clinic with her dad and brother. She was quiet and reserved, and very unsure of what was happening. But once I fitted her with the new hearing aids she lit up and started talking! I never heard her sweet voice before! I asked her if she picked out her dress to match with her dad and brother. She was quiet and reserved, and very unsure of what was happening. But once I fitted her with the new hearing aids and she said yes. She gave me the biggest smile and hug afterwards. I’m so excited to see how this beautiful child does in school this fall. I’m personally very thankful for Lend An Ear Outreach, and honored to be part of their team.

The Lend An Ear Outreach Team has great respect for all our Volunteer Audiologists that help in the process of giving the gift of hearing to all ages at no cost to them.

6-29-2021 Ability Housing Tour-Tanya Adams, Ability Director of Development and Engagement, gave LAE a very informative tour of three facilities within the Ability Housing portfolio.
- Mayfair Village (83 units) is Ability Housing’s first multifamily development, which was an extremely distressed property that suffered from high crime rates. Today it is an asset to the community and the merchants in the area an inclusive community where individuals and families grow together.
- Village at Hyde Park (80 units) are three-story garden style apartments that provide affordable housing to low-income individuals and families, residents have access to on-site supportive services. They provide units that are accessible to persons with mobility, hearing, and/or vision impairments.
- Village on Wiley (43 units) opened in August 2015 to serve Jacksonville’s most vulnerable citizens. Its residents were identified as the community’s highest utilizers of crisis services; more than 80% experienced chronic homelessness.

This tour and our conversations were priceless in understanding the homeless perplexity and the need for affordable housing.

Audiologist Corner / Spotlight...
Heather Kitchings, Office Manager

Heather has worked in billing and office management for 15 years. She lives with her husband and son in Savannah, GA and is trying to get back to Jacksonville with her family. If you call FCMA this is the face on the other end of the phone and you might get lucky and hear her little assistant in the background.

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