



Connecticut Guide By Your Side (GBYS) is a family support program that embodies the mission of Hands & Voices, which is to provide unbiased support to families with children who have been newly

identified as hard of hearing, deaf or deaf-blind by pairing them with trained and experienced "Parent Guides."

What is a Parent Guide?

GBYS Parent Guides are parents of children who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf-blind who have received special training that prepares them to function in this important capacity. Parent Guides are able to bring their experience, specialized knowledge, and personal compassion to their role while making the family's needs their primary focus. They have been where you are and are willing to listen and share their experience.

Parent Guides will provide:

- A supportive relationship with another parent of a child who is deaf, hard of hearing or deaf-blind.
- Unbiased information regarding communication, education and technology options.

- Connection to resources available locally, regionally and statewide in order to effectively link families to early intervention services.
- One-on-one consultation via phone, email or home visits.

Who is Eligible to Participate in the GBYS Program?

- Connecticut families who have a child who has recently been identified with a hearing loss.

How Much Does the GBYS Program Cost?

- This program is free to **All** eligible families interested in participating.

Contact Us if You Would Like To:

- Receive more information about the Program
- Be connected with a Parent Guide
- Find out how you can become a Parent Guide
- To refer a family to the Program
- Support the Program

Please contact:

Tammy Breard
GBYS Coordinator

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[Voice mail/text 860-255-8468](tel:860-255-8468)

Also visit the CT Hands & Voices website at www.cthandsandvoices.org for additional family support information.