

Nevada Chapter Bets on AG Bell Campaign

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ings, as well as quarterly social activities, provide key opportunities for parents, professionals and children to bond and share common experiences.

To keep everyone connected, we designed a Web site at www.agbellnv.com to serve as a resource for anyone who has questions about oral deaf education, local resources and upcoming events. We advertise our Web site with a sticker we put on all the campaign materials we distribute. We maintain a phone line for new parents, members and professionals so we can answer questions one on one. We also publish an electronic newsletter to keep members apprised of news and events.

Recently, our chapter produced a



Chase Janik, Nevada's first pediatric CI recipient, now 23 years old, speaks about the benefits of receiving oral deaf education.

video that we show in celebration of Nevada's newborn hearing screening legislation enacted in 2001. We filmed children who are profoundly deaf who have benefited from early detection and intervention. We often have to remind viewers

that the children on the video are deaf. Many people are surprised to learn that a child with profound deafness can learn to listen and talk. We must all continue to educate people that the possibilities are endless when the choice is made to listen and talk.

With newborn hearing screening in place, early detection has become the

norm. However, we continue to be challenged to close the gap between early detection and time of intervention. We have, however, decided that our challenges are our inspirations as well. So even with some of the obstacles that seem to get in the way, this is the time to build partnerships with passion and purpose.

In conclusion, throughout this campaign, we are making it our responsibility to raise awareness that spoken language is a realistic expectation for children who are deaf and hard of hearing. The AG Bell Nevada Chapter has high hopes for children with hearing loss who are identified at a young age, aided appropriately and enrolled in early intervention. We are betting that our efforts to educate the public about the option of spoken language will result in expanded opportunities and better outcomes for children with hearing loss in the mainstream. ♻



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