

## ABOUT HLAA-ROCHESTER

Rochester is home to one of 200 chapters of the Hearing Loss Association of America, which for the past three decades has provided a national voice and strong advocacy for people with hearing loss.

Our chapter focuses on three vital missions:

**Support**—helping people with hearing loss improve the quality of their lives.

**Education**—encouraging those who experience hearing loss to become involved in chapter meetings. Activities include education about hearing loss, its detection, management, and possibilities for prevention of further loss. Members also learn how assistive devices may improve communication and safety.

People with hearing loss wait an average of seven years before seeking help.

**Advocacy**—fostering a climate in which people with hearing loss can gain access to alternative communication at airports, in public buildings, theaters, shopping malls, and wherever people meet. The Rochester Chapter conducts workshops to educate people with hearing loss and the community about the rights, responsibilities, and opportunities granted to them under the Americans with Disabilities Act.



## HLAA-ROCHESTER MONTHLY MEETINGS

We invite you to learn more about hearing loss, coping strategies, and the latest information about assistive technology at our monthly meetings. Hear from guest speakers, as well as other members, at either our daytime or evening meeting. Bring your spouse, family members, and friends.

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month from September\* through June at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 25 Westminster Road at East Avenue, Rochester, New York.

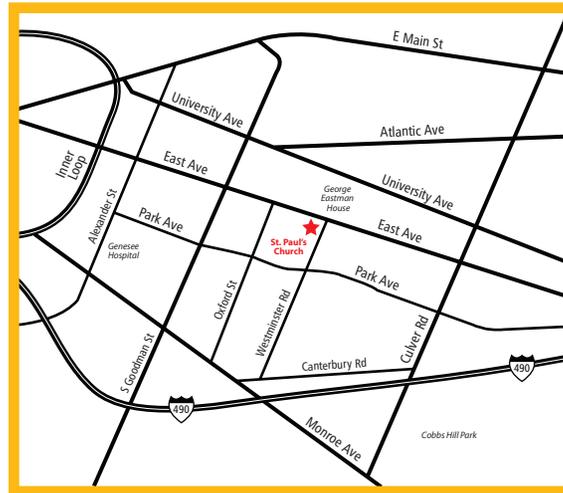
**Daytime meeting:** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
(brown bag lunch)

**Evening meeting:** 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
(refreshments provided)

Meetings are hearing accessible:

- Induction loop
- Captioning (evening only)
- Interpreter upon request (evening only)

\*In September, because of Labor Day, we meet on the second Tuesday.



 **Hearing Loss Association**  
of America  
Rochester Chapter  
(585) 266-7890  
[hlaa.rochester@yahoo.com](mailto:hlaa.rochester@yahoo.com)  
[www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org)

# HEARING LOSS

The silent disability  
has a strong and powerful voice.



38 MILLION AMERICANS HAVE HEARING LOSS

Learn what HLAA can offer you.

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## HEARING LOSS AFFECTS EVERYONE

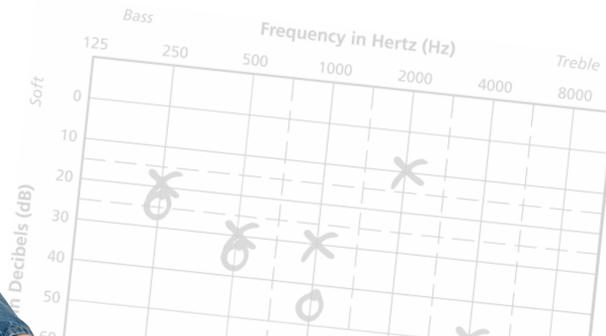
### Did you know that one in six people in the United States has some degree of hearing loss?

75% of people who could benefit from the use of hearing aids are not wearing them.

That's a big percentage, but it doesn't begin to tell the full story. This silent, invisible disability affects virtually everyone, from those who endure hearing loss to all those who want to communicate with them. It's likely that anyone reading this brochure knows someone with hearing loss.

The good news is that a strong and powerful organization exists that addresses hearing loss—and all the issues surrounding it—through education and advocacy.

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Every day in the US, three out of 1,000 children are born with some form of hearing loss. With the inception of **newborn hearing screening**, the hearing of babies is now tested within the first weeks of life. Early identification of hearing loss is important because children begin to develop their speech and language skills in infancy. Establishing effective communication with your child early on can offset a delay in language development, which will foster his/her social and educational development.

## HAAA-ROCHESTER'S RESOURCES

Here is a sampling of programs, publications, and projects available through HAAA-Rochester:

- Information and community resource services
- Education and outreach programs
- Advocates for legislative issues
- Monthly programs for people with hearing loss, their family and friends
- Technical guidance on assistive devices
- Accessibility for healthcare facilities, restaurants, theatres, and houses of worship
- Opportunities to attend national conventions, held in a different city every year
- Professional advisory committee
- Cochlear implant group
- Monthly chapter newsletter
- Special events...and more

More than 100 theaters, places of worship and public buildings in Rochester, New York, are equipped with assistive listening systems.

3% of school-age children have a hearing loss.



Hearing loss occurs in people of all ages, cultures, educational backgrounds and income levels.

## HOW CAN I BECOME INVOLVED?

HAAA-Rochester is supported by donations and annual membership dues of \$10. Individuals may also become members of HAAA's national organization by paying annual dues of \$35.

Members of HAAA-Rochester receive the chapter's monthly newsletter, while members of the national organization receive the award-winning publication Hearing Loss Magazine, plus the HAAA-NYS Reporter newsletter.

For more information, visit our website at [www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org](http://www.hlaa-rochester-ny.org).

60% of people with hearing loss are between the working ages of 21 and 65.

