



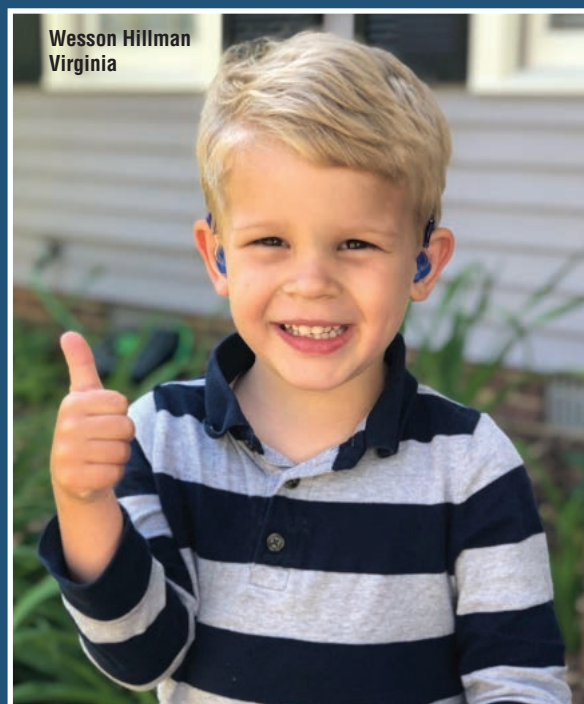
SOUNDS OF ST. LOUIS



Korina Crowder
Nebraska



Amyla Jones
South Carolina



Wesson Hillman
Virginia

Why is Sounds of St. Louis Important?

This may seem like a ridiculous question for those who can hear normally, but imagine if your hearing was taken away. Imagine trying to go to school without being able to hear the teacher. Imagine crossing the street and not hearing cars and other people. Imagine your friends calling out to you but only being able to see their lips moving. Imagine not being able to hear your mother say, “I love you.”



According to Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) roughly twenty percent (20%) of Americans—48 million—experience some degree of hearing loss. At age 65, one out of three people will be affected by hearing loss. Approximately two to three of every 1,000 children in the United States are born with detectable hearing loss in one or both ears. Almost fifteen percent (15%) of school-age children (ages 6-19) have some degree of hearing loss. Enter TPA Hearing Trust.

There are many organizations that bring awareness to the deaf and hard of hearing community, but TPA Hearing Trust is unique. TPA, (Travelers Protective Association) is the only fraternal benefit society domiciled in the state of Missouri and it has made St. Louis the hub of assistance for those who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Hearing Trust was created by officers and members of TPA in 1975. Feeling called to make an impact nationally, TPA canvassed the United States to determine an area of great need. Hearing loss rose to the top as a critical issue facing many Americans that was not being addressed by other organizations.

TPA has made St. Louis the hub of helping people who are hard of hearing.

TPA's drive to help children and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing is the heart of who we are as an organization. Our generous members have banded together to ensure Americans have access to the services and technology they need to hear the sounds of life. TPA has made St. Louis the hub of supporting people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Thank you for joining us in this effort; we can't do this without you!

Albert M. Shoemaker, Jr.
TPA Chief Administrative Officer

Hearing Trust Timeline

1882



Travelers Protective Association (TPA) formed

1889



TPA plays major role in passing the Sherman Anti-Trust Act

1903



TPA helps create U.S. Department of Commerce & Labor

1906



TPA has law passed mandating sheets changed in all hotels

Hearing Trust's Impact for 45 years: Faces & Stories

Hearing is a critical part of human language, social development and the ability to work. People who experience hearing loss or deafness can be thrown into loneliness, despair, depression and isolation. For employees who are otherwise healthy, loss of hearing causes a substantial economic toll in terms of their ability to find and maintain growing careers.

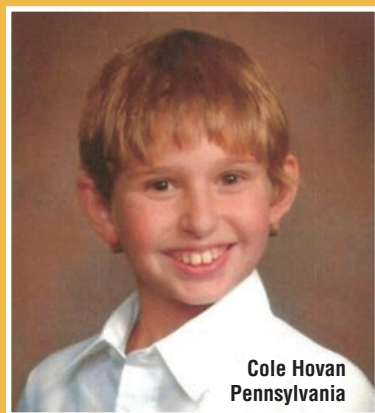
TPA Hearing Trust provides grants to people struggling with hearing loss. Hearing Trust grants provide funding for surgeries, medical devices, hearing aids, educational resources and service dogs. Because of TPA Hearing Trust, children can hear and experience life to the fullest!



Riley Sherwood
Missouri



Kaysen O'Brien
Nebraska



Cole Hovan
Pennsylvania

Cole Hovan

Cole had hearing problems from a young age, needing his first cochlear implant at just 18 months. The second implant came when he was just four years old. Without these implants, Cole would have faced developmental and social problems such as delayed language, detachment from his parents, and exclusion at school.

A Hearing Trust grant helped Cole get the surgery he needed when he was 10 years old and is helping him live the life of any typical boy. Cole now goes to school and plays sports with his friends. Both of Cole's surgeries were done at the Children's Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. "I'm going to school and I get to play sports with my friends. Thank you again for helping me do the things most 10 year-olds take for granted," said Cole in a thank you letter.



Michael Smith
Illinois

Hearing Trust Timeline

1946



TPA inaugurates
National Child Accident
Prevention Week

1947



Gerald Ford joins TPA
and remains member
until death in 2006

1960



TPA has Absentee Voter
Act passed nationally

1975



TPA Hearing Trust
established to help the
hard of hearing

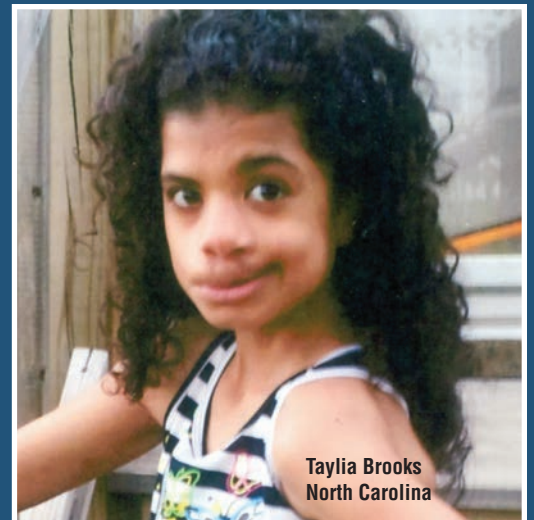
Taylia Brooks

“Because of the Hearing Trust, we are not alone.”

Sometimes, it takes only a few resources to beat the odds...and a lot of spirit. Meet Taylia. Taylia has CHARGE Syndrome, a chromosome disorder that affects one in ten-thousand children. As a result of this disorder, Taylia needed surgery to fix a cleft palate and has a severe loss of vision and hearing. The disorder has also affected the development of her heart. Despite her condition, she is loving and determined. Like most 11 year-olds, she has a strong personality. “Taylia doesn’t say any words, she only uses sign language. But she’ll let you know what she wants. She’s very independent,” says April, her mother. “She can be very vocal without speaking.”

Taylia attends Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf where she receives speech, occupational and physical therapies. Taylia loves school and her school community. The routine and structure of the school, and being around other deaf children at the school, provide excellent support for her. Due to her heart condition, she is not able to play sports, but she did recently learn to swim and she loves it!

The funds the Brooks family received will help with the cost of the doctors and specialists that Taylia needs. The family lives in Elizabeth City, North Carolina and some of her doctors are an hour away, each direction. The grant will help offset the cost of traveling to the appointments. Taylia’s parents, April and Melvin, offered their appreciation. “We are so thankful for the Hearing Trust and the connections you have helped us make. We now know other people are struggling with similar situations, and it helps us feel like we are not alone.”



Hearing Trust Timeline

1995



Heather Whitestone,
Hearing Trust grant
recipient, crowned
Miss America

2003



Sharon Gallusser
elected as first female
TPA President

2005



In its first 30 years, TPA
awarded more than
\$1 million in grants

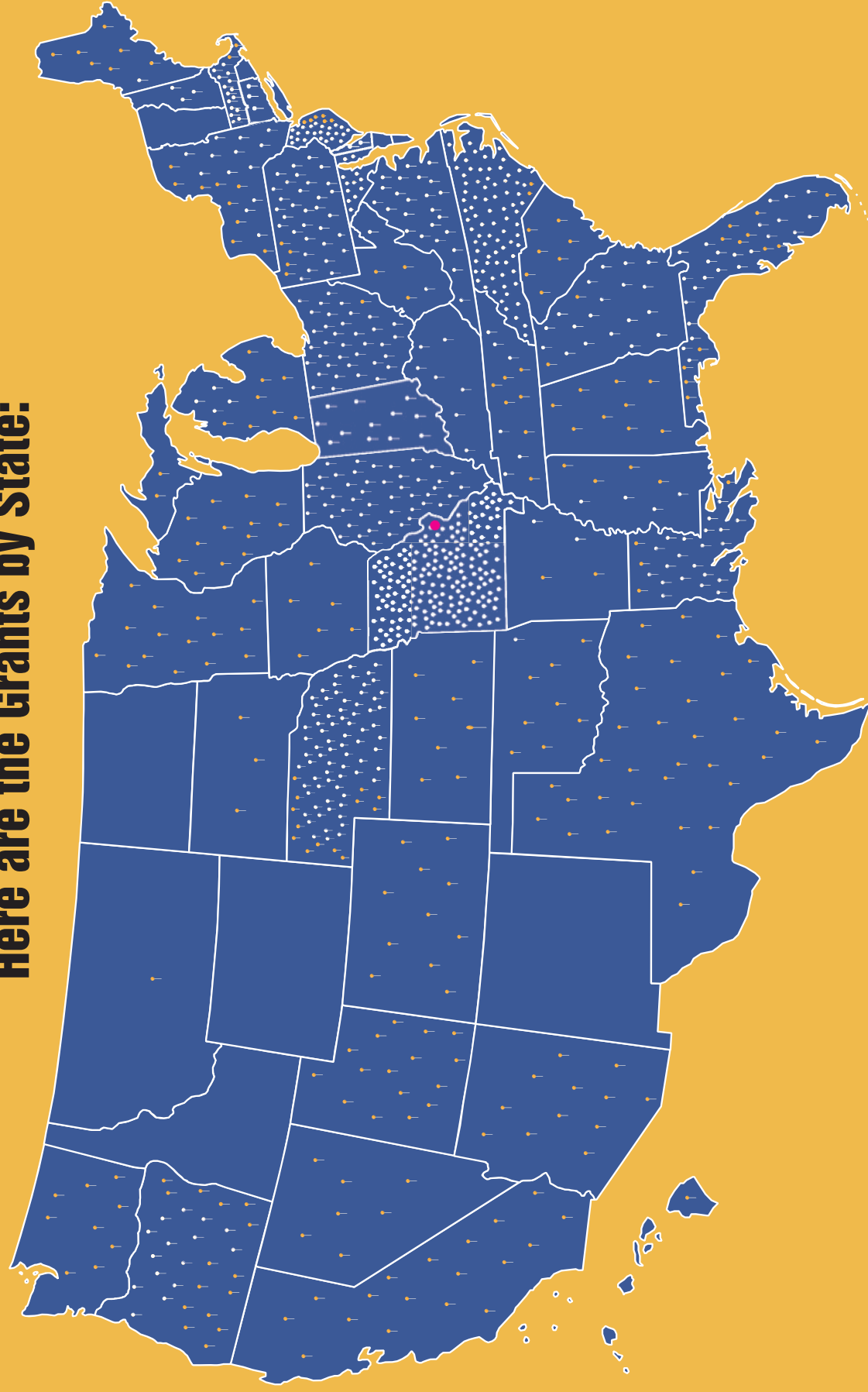
2020



The Hearing Trust
celebrates 45 years of
supporting those with
hearing loss

The Hearing Trust Awarded 856 Grants Over the Last Five Years!

Here are the Grants by State:



Alabama.....9	Florida.....36	Kentucky.....7	Missouri111	New Mexico0	Rhode Island.....0	Washington.....9
Alaska.....0	Georgia.....21	Louisiana.....25	Montana.....1	New York.....22	South Carolina.....7	West Virginia.....5
Arizona.....12	Hawaii.....1	Maine.....8	Nebraska.....87	North Carolina.....81	South Dakota.....3	Wisconsin.....13
Arkansas.....4	Idaho.....0	Maryland.....12	Nevada.....7	North Dakota.....0	Tennessee.....13	Wyoming.....0
California.....18	Illinois.....30	Massachusetts.....17	New Hampshire.....3	Ohio.....37	Texas.....33	
Colorado.....11	Indiana.....12	Michigan.....14	New Jersey.....30	Oklahoma.....9	Utah.....16	
Connecticut.....3	Iowa.....6	Minnesota.....15		Oregon.....30	Vermont.....0	
Delaware.....2	Kansas.....8	Mississippi.....8		Pennsylvania.....36	Virginia.....24	

Numbers are approximate



SOUNDS OF ST. LOUIS CAMPAIGN

Our \$2 Million Goal = HEARING FOR THOUSANDS!

The Sounds of St. Louis Campaign significantly increases TPA Hearing Trust's ability to help more families in the St. Louis area, in Missouri and throughout the United States. By providing more equipment, services and education, the Hearing Trust is enabling people who are hard of hearing to have the tools and resources they need.

To receive funding, families complete a rigorous application and a committee of TPA officials review applications and make awards based on established criteria. Special consideration is given to individuals with the greatest financial need. Families submit receipts for expenditures to document how the money was used and this makes them eligible to receive funding during the following year.

TPA Hearing Trust makes a difference by serving economically disadvantaged United States residents who are deaf or hard of hearing by providing grants for education, medical use, specialized treatment, or mechanical devices. Since the inception of the 501(c)(3) TPA Hearing Trust, we have assisted more than 5,900 individuals by awarding more than \$2.2 million dollars in financial aid.

TPA Hearing Trust helps people obtain:

- hearing aids
- medical or specialized treatment
- specialized education
- speech classes
- note takers
- interpreters
- cochlear implants
- service dogs

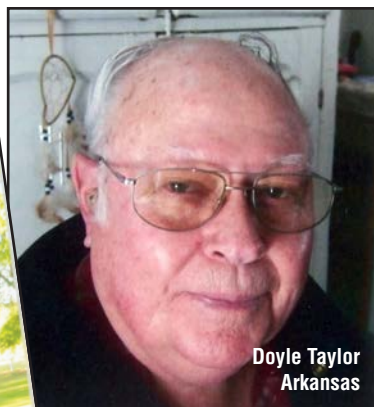
The Hearing Trust is also establishing an endowment for planned giving opportunities. The Sounds of St. Louis Endowment will provide assistance for generations!

Now, more than ever, people who are hard of hearing need your assistance. Thank you for your caring generosity!

TPA Hearing Trust has assisted more than 5,900 families over the last 45 years.



Micah "Alex" Brock
Louisiana



Doyle Taylor
Arkansas



Kayla Johnson
South Carolina



Nathan Kline
New York



Kayden Washington
Missouri



SOUNDS OF ST. LOUIS CAMPAIGN

2021

2022

2023

Hearing Aids & Batteries	\$136,800	\$149,800	\$164,000
Tuition & Books	\$ 66,675	\$ 73,675	\$ 80,750
Cochlear Implant Assistance	\$ 28,050	\$ 33,050	\$ 41,500
Quality of Life & Safety Equipment	\$ 28,050	\$ 33,050	\$ 41,500
Speech Therapy, Travel, Other	\$ 42,075	\$ 45,075	\$ 49,750
Service Dogs	\$ 5,900	\$ 7,900	\$ 11,200
Totals	\$309,571	\$344,572	\$390,723

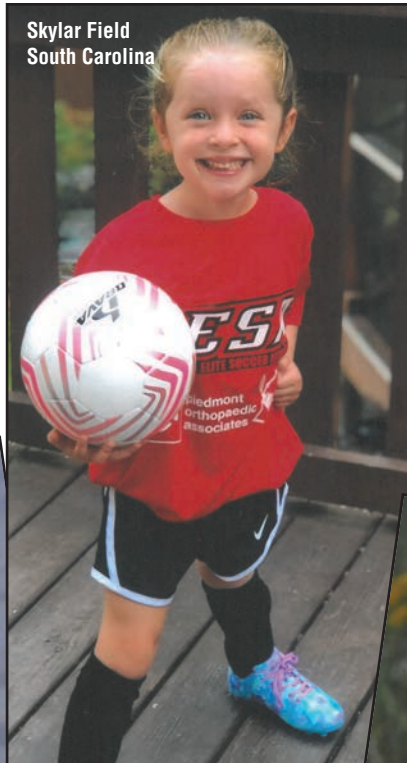
Total Hearing Grants **\$1,044,866**

Total Planned Giving **\$1,000,000**

SOUNDS OF ST. LOUIS CAMPAIGN TOTAL **\$2,044,866**

“We are so thankful for assistance the Hearing Trust provided to help my mother, who is 95, purchase hearing aids!”

Skylar Field
South Carolina



Arlene Zarrow
New Jersey



Trenton Harrison
Indiana



Calleigh Edgell
Ohio





SOUNDS OF ST. LOUIS HOST COMMITTEE

Nick Benedick

Black Twig Marketing

Sandy Brooks

St. Louis Arts Chamber of Commerce

Jan Berchelmann

Bexis, LLC

Phil Capps

Kerber, Eck & Braekel, LLP

Brandon Dempsey

goBRANDgo

Lauren Freinberg

Black Twig Marketing

Tom Gatti

Black Twig Marketing

Timothy Haggard

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Commerce Bank

Robin Mueller

Stivers Staffing Services

Joanie Ohlms

Saint Charles Convention & Visitors Bureau

Denyail Potter

Acropolis Technology Group

Albert Shoemaker

Travelers Protective Association

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Calvary Church

Steve Shedelbower

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Duane Thomas

Stifel

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