



Hear Fayette Program
St. Vincent de Paul
Uniontown Conference
PO Box 195
Uniontown PA 15401
724-439-9188

www.stvincentdepauluniontown.org

<https://www.facebook.com/HearFayetteSVdP>

January/February 2018

We're here for you!

Help is available for persons with hearing loss--those in need of phones, listening devices, hearing aid batteries, Highway Hearing Safety visor cards, information, advice, or other services. Almost all of our volunteers are persons who have hearing loss. We understand how it feels, the problems that are caused, and how to overcome the bad feelings that arrive when you can hardly hear. We are at St. Vincent de Paul Samaritan's Well each Thursday from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. All are welcome!



This photo shows the front of our Highway Hearing Safety visor card. It's a special card for drivers who cannot hear when stopped by a police officer. It attaches to the underside of the sun visor and can be turned to the side window so the officer can read that the driver cannot hear. You can pick one up at Hear Fayette on Thursdays from 10 till 1 p.m.

Hearing Aids: The Good, the Bad, and the Annoying

Hearing aids are not similar to eyeglasses. With a hearing aid, a person's ability to hear is aided but not perfect. And it takes some time to get accustomed to hearing with an aid. Depending on how long your hearing has been lost, your hearing aid may annoy you.

You may have gotten used to not hearing others and may not really be crazy about listening to an entire conversation again. It takes time. It can be tiring. Take it slow. Be patient with the aid and ask your family to be patient as well. Hopefully, you will be happier with your hearing aids, and your family may notice that you are not asking them to repeat as often as in the past.

If you are in need of hearing aids but realize they may be too costly, Starkey Foundation has a program called Hear Now. You may qualify for hearing aids for only a \$125 application fee per aid. Here's the toll free number. 1.800.328.8602 Call or ask someone to make the call for you. Or visit their Web site <https://www.starkeyhearingfoundation.org/hear-now>

If you are a working person or in need of a job and need hearing aids, please contact the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation to help with your aids and job search. <http://www.dli.pa.gov/individuals/disability-services/ovr/pages/OVR-office-directory.aspx>

The Washington PA OVR office number is 724-223-4430 Voice
724-223-4443 TTY
800-442-6367* Voice
866-752-6163* TTY

If you are a US Military Veteran and use the VA medical system, the Audiology Department at Pittsburgh VA will help you with hearing aids and special devices for TV listening.

Sign Language Class Announcement!

After a two-week delay due to cold and snowy weather, we began our classes at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 20, 2018. Welcome our 14 new students!

Beginner's Class is full. Jeff Martz is again teaching basic sign language each Saturday till May 6 (with March 31 off for Easter).

New class for continuing education in sign

For students who completed Basic ASL University lessons with Jeff, we are happy to announce that several students want to continue. Ten eager students showed up for the first session.

We asked Steve Kovscek if he would use his great background and knowledge to teach, and he said yes!

The class is from 9:30 till 11 in the Samaritan Well conference room each Saturday from Jan. 20 till May 6. Email hearfayette@gmail.com if you want to attend or get more info!

Thanks, Steve, for accepting the teaching position.

Saturday Signers Practice group meets from 11 a.m. till 12:30. p.m.

Wednesday Classes

Betsy Kipila teaches American Sign Language (ASL) Structure class from 5 till 6 p.m. each Wednesday. If you feel you have a good knowledge of ASL and want to learn more, please join us in the red brick building, Samaritan's Well at the St. Vincent de Paul site.

Hamilton Relay, contracted service provider for Pennsylvania, is currently seeking nominations for the 2018 Better Hearing and Speech Month Recognition Award. Nominations are due April 2nd. Please see the attached nomination letter and questionnaire for more details and feel free to forward this message on to others.

***Cheryl Deitz | PA Captioned Telephone Relay Service (CTRS) Outreach Coordinator |
Hamilton Relay***

***O: (717) 255-0240 C: +1 (610)209.3207
cheryl.deitz@hamiltonrelay.com | www.hamiltonrelay.com***

We thank God for our friends and supporters!

In honor of her 80th birthday, we received a memorial gift to honor **Teddy (Theodora Koshar) Brooky** from her loving husband, Ron. And the December Birthday Ladies have again donated their birthday gift as they have for the past four years. Thanks and bless you!

Starkey Foundation shipped a box of hearing aid batteries! We are making them available this year to visitors at no cost! Stop and visit us on Thursday from 10 till 1 in the Samaritan's Well (that's in the red brick building) beside the St. Vincent de Paul Store, 90 N. Mt. Vernon Ave. Uniontown, Pa. Thanks and God bless Starkey Foundation.

Perryopolis Moose and manager, Bob Teets, hosted a Christmas Gathering for our friends who have hearing loss, our Deaf Community, and just a lot of people who love sign language. There were 40 of us! Thanks to the great volunteers, Bonny, Jeff, Lyric, Suz, Randy for the games and prizes. And a great big thanks to **Big Barn Country Store, Caporella's Trattoria, and Randall's Restaurant** who donated prizes for Christmas Gathering.

INTERPRETING FOR THE DEAF

When an important news announcement must be made. as for emergency situations, a certified sign language interpreter is absolutely needed in order to protect the Deaf Community and others who rely on sign language for communication. In Pennsylvania, a qualified interpreter can be found at this Web site:

<http://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Disability-Services/odhh/interpreters/Pages/default.aspx#.VyjuPVzD-01>

When love is spoken, I listen.
When hate is spoken, I am deaf.
D. Williams

Plans for 2018

Hear Fayette Program of St. Vincent de Paul Uniontown has plans for the next year that include introducing more education about hearing loss, technology days, sign language classes and practice, a plant sale, and more.

We (our volunteers are deaf, Deaf, hardly hearing, and hearing people) welcome visitors on Thursday from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. in the Samaritan's Well (the red brick building beside the St. Vincent de Paul Store 90 N. Mt. Vernon Ave. Uniontown PA.

All are welcome to visit and learn about ways to "get along" when our hearing is gone or going!

Look for us at the Sign-a-Thon.



SATURDAY, April 7, 2018

**Mall at Robinson
100 Robinson Centre Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
Noon – 4pm**

Sharon Hughes-Morris
Center for Hearing & Deaf Services, Inc.
1945 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
[412-281-1375](tel:412-281-1375)
[412-281-6564](tel:412-281-6564) Fax
smorris@hdscenter.org

Signed and Captioned Mass

When you have hearing difficulties, listening in a huge church, synagogue, mosque, or other meeting place can be frustrating. Even sitting in front is not always effective if you cannot read lips, or if the celebrant moves during the sermon.

We found several sites on youtube that have Roman Catholic Mass, some signed and others captioned and are including some here.

To find, search under the words “Holy Mass captioned” (and include the Sunday’s date). There will be many such sites in different languages, so you may have to choose a favorite. Here are three.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StKhGL2rIcM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PabV2sCquho>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxXJexyywxw>

**Signed Mass takes place at Our Lady of Grace RC Church,
Mt. Pleasant Rd. Greensburg Sundays 10:30 a.m.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VlyadxMk1Cc>

Hands & Voices is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing without a bias around communication modes or methodology.

<HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HANDSVOICESOFPENNSYLVANIA/?FREF=HOVERCARD>

Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing. This is the place to find all sorts of services: <http://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Disability-Services/odhh/Pages/default.aspx>

Discover assistive technology through PIAT TDDP—devices that can help you hear, speak, and more. Learn how you can borrow, try, and keep them and how to finance purchase if necessary.

<http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/assistive/tddp/equipment.shtml>

For helpful information, please contact John Flaherty in Washington, PA at TRPIL 724-223-5115 Voice 724-228-4028 TTY

One great source for persons who are Deaf or have hearing loss is **healthbridges**. Take a look. All videos are signed and captioned. <http://healthbridges.info>

Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) has a chapter that is active in Pittsburgh. Here's the link to their Web site!

<http://hlaa-pa.org/index.php/chapters/pittsburgh>

Noisy Planet: How to help save your hearing and your children's precious ability to hear. <https://www.noisyplanet.nidcd.nih.gov>

SayWhatClub can be described as online friends with hearing loss. You are welcomed to join in and communicate and commiserate with people who have similar problems: Deaf, hearing loss, Meniere's, balance difficulties, cochlear implants and more. Check them out. They are a great group. <http://www.saywhatclub.com>

Free Captioned phones and captioning for iPad check out <https://captioncall.com> CaptionCall trainers deliver and install the phone and train you in its use. It requires a landline phone line, high speed Internet, and a hearing loss.

There are phones available that are captioned through Captel that do not require Internet. Check with John Flaherty at TRPIL 724-223-5115 Voice 724-228-4028 TTY

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Uniontown Area Conference

The Uniontown and, in fact, the Fayette County community recognizes SVdP as a warm and welcoming place to be when someone is in need. What exactly might be needed? Certainly, food and clothing, household goods, and information about resources. The needs are varied, and help and hope are provided as best possible to fit each unique personal or family situation.

A "thrift" store on N. Mt. Vernon Avenue, Uniontown is the base for the Society, and in another building, there is a dismantling crew, testing area for electronic and small appliances, Samaritan's Quilters group that creates and donates child-size quilts to kids in local shelters and hospitals, computer lab, Hear Fayette hearing loss program, mat-making group for homeless, and Handsful of Mercy ladies who visit homebound or persons in long-term living arrangements.

The red brick building houses the emergency food pantry where food is donated and accepted from generous persons and where food is distributed to people whose circumstances in life have created a need for a few bags of groceries.

Outside of our store, a giving tree stands. Clothing (coats, jackets, gloves, hats, socks etc.) for cold weather is attached to this tree, and anyone may come and take what is needed.

At St. Vincent de Paul, amazing yet humble people, inspired by the message of Jesus, create ways to serve others.

St. Vincent de Paul is powered by dedicated people who freely give their time, talents, intelligence, goodness as volunteers, and devoted and generous friends and neighbors who donate furniture, clothing, and household goods in order to sustain its service to others.

Call 724-439-9188 to volunteer or ask for information on any of these services.

You may see what's up at

<https://www.facebook.com/stvincentdepauluniontown/>

<https://www.facebook.com/SVdPChristmasShoppe/>

https://www.facebook.com/pg/National-Council-of-the-United-States-Society-of-St-Vincent-de-Paul-186921794657204/about/?ref=page_internal

Seeking: DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS - Uniontown St Vincent DePaul; Responsible for the coordination and oversight of thrift store, furniture store, food pantry, and other associated conference services. Must also recruit and coach compassionate volunteers to advance the mission of the conference while also managing and mentoring paid staff. Also responsible to work within the organization and community to raise funds and awareness for the mission. Bachelor's degree in business, human services, or related field and five years non-profit management experience required. Strong managerial, communication, and organizational skills preferred. This is a salaried, full time position for a Catholic based organization. Please send cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to: St Vincent DePaul (Director Application), PO Box 195, Uniontown PA 15401. EOE

We send our news every other month. We are updating the contact list. If you wish to be REMOVED please hit Reply and type in Remove in the subject line. Thanks

(NOTE: The links in some of the articles are intended to take you to websites for a specific story, page, function or program. We do not accept responsibility for, or grant approval of peripheral advertising or stories that may be on those Web sites. Mention of goods, services, or articles in our newsletter does not mean endorsement, nor should exclusion suggest disapproval.)

