

## **HLA-NJ News and Views**

### **A Monthly Column from The Hearing Loss Association of NJ**

By Peter Yerkes, Trustee, HLA-NJ

WALK4HEARING--Walk To Help Others

The Walk4Hearing – to be held this year on October 15 – is important for two reasons. It's a chance to gather with others who care about hearing loss, to learn and to have fun. The Walk also is the chief fundraiser of the year for the Hearing Loss of New Jersey (HLA-NJ) and its parent organization, the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA). That means it is the best way possible for you to support programs that matter, to raise awareness of the growing problem of hearing loss...and to help people of all ages who are deaf and hard of hearing.

Every dollar raised will go to programs that provide education, advocacy or support. There are many ways to participate. Although many people come every year because they enjoy the Walk, you don't have to walk to become involved and raise funds for this worthy cause. To learn how to start a Walk team, join one, or make a donation, visit [www.walk4hearing.org](http://www.walk4hearing.org).

In New Jersey, HLA-NJ supports programs such as college scholarships that help students with hearing loss meet the cost of college tuition. HLA-NJ is funding the new Assistive Listening Device Demonstration Center at Montclair State University, which will offer hands-on lessons on technology such as captioned and amplified phones, personal FM systems that can help in classrooms or business settings and devices to alert you when the fire alarm, phone or doorbell is triggered. HLA-NJ advocacy supports captioned performances at movie theaters and live theaters across the state, and advocates with TV stations and cable companies to do the same. HLA-NJ advocates on behalf of people with hearing loss on state advisory boards, and also provides outreach to veterans. Walk funds support local chapters in Bergen, Middlesex and Monmouth counties, and statewide meetings, providing Assistive Listening Systems, and CART captioning when needed.

Money raised by the Walk also goes to programs of the Hearing Loss Association of America, the voice for people with hearing loss on the national level. In addition to supporting a network of 200 chapters and state associations, HLAA offers information through [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org), the Hearing Loss Magazine, the annual HLAA Convention, and the HLAA electronic newsletter. Also funded are live Webinars about hearing loss topics at [www.hearingloss.org/community/schedule.asp](http://www.hearingloss.org/community/schedule.asp) and support and information for parents of children with hearing loss at [www.kidsandhearingloss.org](http://www.kidsandhearingloss.org),

The Walk4Hearing, which draws people every year to beautiful Mercer County State Park in West Windsor, NJ, is a chance to renew friendships or to meet new people, and to enjoy activities for everyone from young children to senior citizens. This year, we will be streaming live CART captioning to web-enabled smart phones, so bring your iPhone, Blackberry\* or Droid.

So by all means plan to walk, form a team, or join someone else's team. But you don't have to walk to contribute in some way. It's your chance to show how much you value the programs that help thousands of people with hearing loss across the state and the nation.

## **SAVE THE DATES**

August 28, 2011  
Garden State-NJ  
Walk4Hearing  
Kickoff Event  
Montclair State University  
Bloomfield, NJ

October 15, 2011  
Garden State-NJ

Walk4Hearing  
Mercer County Park West  
West Windsor, NJ.  
Information at  
[www.walk4hearing.org](http://www.walk4hearing.org)

Become Active in HLA-NJ.

The Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey (HLA-NJ) has three chapters, serving Bergen, Middlesex and Ocean/Monmouth counties.

Information is available from

[info@hearingloss-nj.org](mailto:info@hearingloss-nj.org)

or at our website,

[www.hearingloss-nj.org](http://www.hearingloss-nj.org).

To receive informative updates, ask to be put on our email contact list.

Or contact HLA-NJ President

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