

# TALKING TIMES

a publication of the CID Parents Organization

## DEBUT OF CID PARENTS NEWSLETTER

August 2008

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CID Parents share a lot of common experiences. We can offer one another (and our kids) support, resources and ideas. The CID Parents organization newsletter "Talking Times" is one vehicle for us to connect. The following sections of the newsletter have been developed to communicate around a variety of relevant issues.

#### **Did you know?**

Trends, issues and other resources and topics relevant for parents of kids with hearing loss

#### **CID connect**

A list of upcoming dates of CID school and parent events

#### **Recommended reading**

Books or other print resources related to hearing loss to consider on your list to read

#### **CID Family updates**

Find out about new CID families and exciting developments for CID kids and their families

#### **Supporting CID**

Updates on fundraising events, sales, and other opportunities for you and your friends/family to support CID

#### **Introducing...**

Put a name and face together of a CID staff member and hear about why they enjoy working at CID

The newsletter will be distributed four times per academic year: August, November, January and April. Please feel free to submit any content ideas or information for "Talking Times" to Leanna Fenneberg at [fennebel@slu.edu](mailto:fennebel@slu.edu).

While the first edition of the newsletter has been printed, it is intended to be an electronically distributed communication. If you did not receive this newsletter electronically, and would like to be added to the distribution list, please email the above address as well.

### The Entertainment Book Fundraiser is back!

For only \$25, you can buy an entertainment book, which will save you hundreds of dollars. As a parent, selling these books to your friends and family will help raise money for the CID Parents Organization. Details will be distributed during the CID Ice Cream Social Aug. 17. The CID Parents Organization relies on fundraising to sponsor events including the annual Back to School Ice Cream Social and CID Staff appreciation, as well as other parent outreach initiatives.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Parent Resources

#### AG BELL

In the end of June, 25 CID staff and 1 CID family, went to the AG Bell convention in Milwaukee, WI. The 4-day conference addressed issues related to hearing loss for professionals, adults who are deaf or hard of hearing, and parents of children with hearing loss. The conference also provided opportunities for families and staff from around the world to connect with one another around common interests and concerns. The next international AG Bell convention will be in 2010. Mark your calendars and consider attending:

AG Bell Biennial International Conference June 25-28, 2010  
Hilton Bonnet Creek Hotel Orlando, FL

"The Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing helps families, health care providers and education professional understand childhood hearing loss and the importance of early diagnosis and intervention. Through advocacy, education, research and financial aid, AG Bell helps to ensure that every child and adult with hearing loss has the opportunity to listen, talk and thrive in mainstream society" ([www.agbell.org](http://www.agbell.org)).

#### CI CIRCLE

Does your child have a cochlear implant, or you're considering a cochlear implant? The C.I. Circle offers a supportive community of individuals related to hearing loss, and specifically cochlear implants. Parents of kids with hearing loss and kids with cochlear implants, as well as other adults with cochlear implants and professionals use this electronic forum to share ideas, concerns, resources and support related to deafness and implantation. Connect with people around the world on this on-line forum by visiting <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cicircle/>. Warning: The volume of emails can be a little overwhelming, so if you don't have a lot of time to spend on it, you might want to consider choosing the 'digest' version of membership.

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#### Some helpful websites

[www.agbell.org](http://www.agbell.org)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cicircle/>

<http://www.hearingexchange.com/>

<http://www.johntracyclinic.org/>

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## CID CONNECT....UPCOMING DATES

#### August

Sunday, August 17 2pm-4pm Family Ice Cream Social

Wednesday, August 20 First Day of Classes for 08-09 academic year

*There will be 2 parent information meeting with their specifically enrolled department.*

*Please try to attend one of the following:*

*Sunday, August 17 during Ice Cream Social at approximately 3pm*

*Wednesday, August 20 directly following child drop-off in the morning*

#### September

Monday, September 1 Labor Day CID Holiday, No school

#### October

Friday, October 17 CID Fall Break – No School

Thursday, October 23 6pm CID All Parent Potluck and Meeting

#### Upcoming dates next semester....

Saturday, February 7 6:30pm CID annual Trivia Night

Thursday, April 16 6pm CID Pizza and Movie Night

Saturday, May 2 CID Ultimate Picnic

Visit [www.cid.edu](http://www.cid.edu) for the school calendar and other upcoming dates!

## DID YOU KNOW? (CONT.)

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*Recommended  
reading*

*The Unheard  
Josh Swiller*

*"A young man's  
quest to come to  
terms with his  
deafness leads to  
a remarkable  
sojourn in a  
remote African  
village that  
pulsates with  
beauty and  
violence.*

### HEALTHCARE GRANTS FOR CHILDREN AVAILABLE NOW

The United Healthcare Children's Foundation has announced that new grants are available to help children who need critical health care treatment, services, or equipment not covered or not fully covered by their parents' health benefit plans. UHCCF provides grants to families such as speech therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy sessions, prescriptions, and medical equipment such as wheelchairs, orthotics, and eyeglasses. For more information please go to <http://uhccf.org/>.

### SWIMMING

Several parents have voiced a desire for more information and resources related to teaching their child with a hearing impairment how to swim. If you have had a swim instructor that you would recommend, or have other success tips that you'd like to share with other parents, please email Leanna at [fennebel@slu.edu](mailto:fennebel@slu.edu), and we will include any information and ideas received in the next newsletter.

### ALL WAKING HOURS

How many hours a day does your child wear his/her hearing devices? How much time does he/she have them off?

"A normally hearing toddler or preschooler listens about 12 hours per day 365 days per year. That adds up to 3,650 listening hours per year". In order for our children to gain equal listening experience as their hearing counterparts, it's important for them to wear devices/amplification every hour they are awake.

Find out more information about effective use of hearing devices, visit <http://www.cms-kids.com/IHFamily.htm>. Click on [hearing technology](#).

### LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

You know your child is learning speech and language skills in the classroom at CID, but do you struggle with ideas to reinforce that learning at home? I know I've received notes or heard teachers or speech therapists talking in what seems like another language at times, sharing words such as "suprasegmentals, fricatives, plosives and alveolar". While I know I'll never be an expert in speech development, I did often find myself wondering what these things meant and how I could be more understanding and supportive. We came across this interesting and useful website link called "Speech Sounds: A guide for parents and professionals" (<http://www.cochlearamericas.com/Support/2294.asp>). It's a really interesting outline of speech development, with practical applications.

### BATTERY-POWERED

If you're looking for inexpensive batteries for hearing aids or cochlear implants, a website that has been recommended is [www.microbattery.com](http://www.microbattery.com). With a wide selection and competitive prices, it may be worth checking out and comparing to what you're using presently. They have research that shows that their 'generic' brand, Zenipower, for cochlear implant (675 high power for implants) are comparable to the Power One cochlear implant batteries.

## SUPPORTING CID

Support for CID doesn't have to require a big check or donation. There are simple ways you, or others, can support CID that don't cost a thing!

### E-scrips

If you shop at Schnucks, sign up for E-scrips at the customer service counter. E-scrips provides a donation for a percentage of your regular purchases to a local school. Designate CID, and benefit your child's education in a simple way.

### Good search

If you frequent [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) (or any other search engine) on a daily basis, consider switching to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com). Set it as your home page or direct search browser, default your charitable organization as CID, and each web search you do will send money to CID.

### BenefitBar

For one-click access to CID's website download the CID Benefit Bar <http://www.benefitbar.com/benefitbar/subscribe/toolbar.php?toolbarId=397>  
As an extra benefit, every time you use the Yahoo search engine conveniently located on the CID toolbar and then click on a sponsored result, CID will receive a payment. This need not replace your existing toolbar and there is no cost to you. There are no popups, adware, spyware or tracking.

### Box Tops for Education

Maybe you've seen the 'box tops' square on various General Mills, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury and other food products (complete list at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com)) and wondered what they were about? Cut these little squares off your products, and drop them off in the box outside the main CID office.

## Introducing...

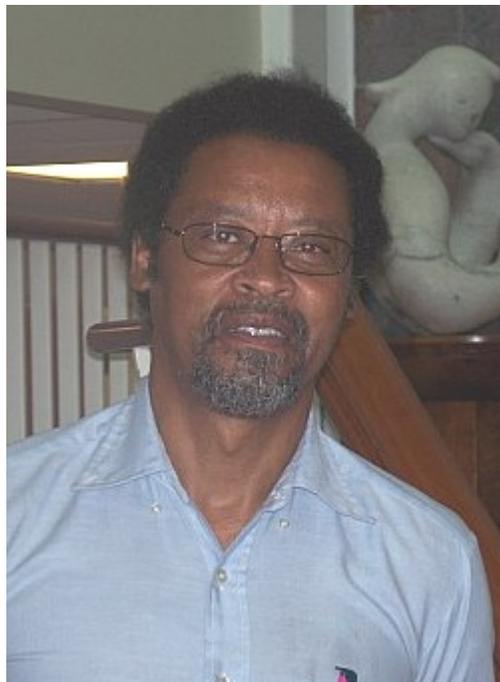
**Name** Aaron Morgan

**Position** Maintenance & Setup

**How Long** 5 Years

### What do you like about working at CID?

"I like working at CID because of their mission of helping children who are deaf learn to talk. I like working around the kids and setting up for the different functions that the kids enjoy. I like the atmosphere and enjoy working with my co-workers.




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## CID Family updates

*CID Welcomes the following new families*

*Monica & Jeffrey Warren; Landon (Pre-K)*

*Kara Murphy; Eve (Primary)*

*Geeta & Vijay Shandilya; Avani (Primary)*

*Tracie & Tray Ferguson; Travion (Pre-K)*

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