

Alexander Graham Bell

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL

ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

**Alexander
Graham Bell
Association for
the Deaf and
Hard of Hearing**



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*Advocating
Independence
through
Listening and
Talking!*

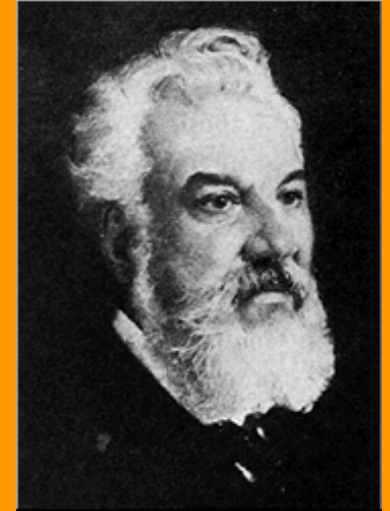


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Founded in 1890 by Dr.
Alexander Graham Bell who
invented the telephone as a
result of his work
developing techniques for
people with hearing loss to
communicate through
spoken language.



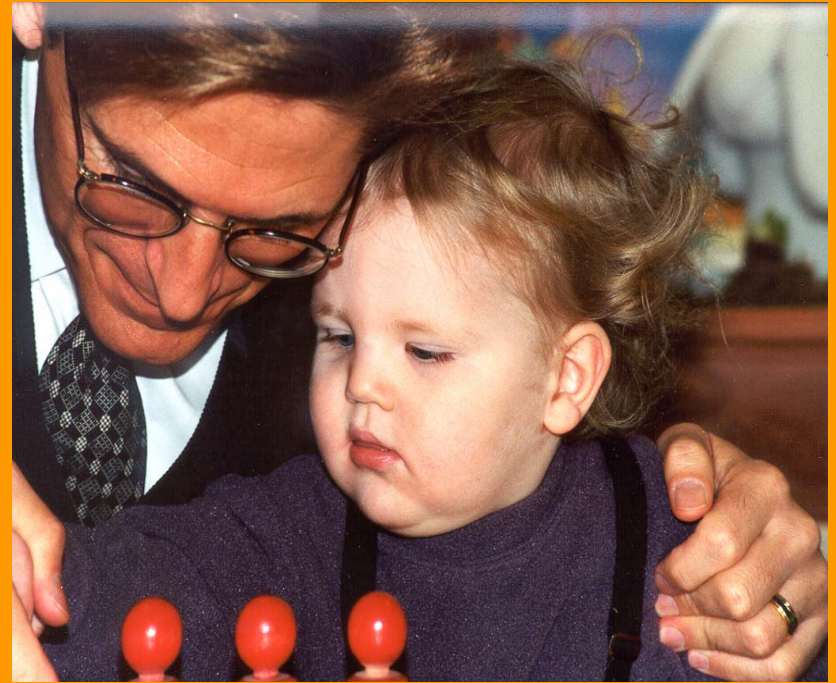
Currently, the World Health Organization estimates that there are 278 million people with hearing loss worldwide.



Hearing loss affects 1-3 infants in every 1,000 births. In the United States, 12,000 infants are born with hearing loss each year, making it the most common birth defect.



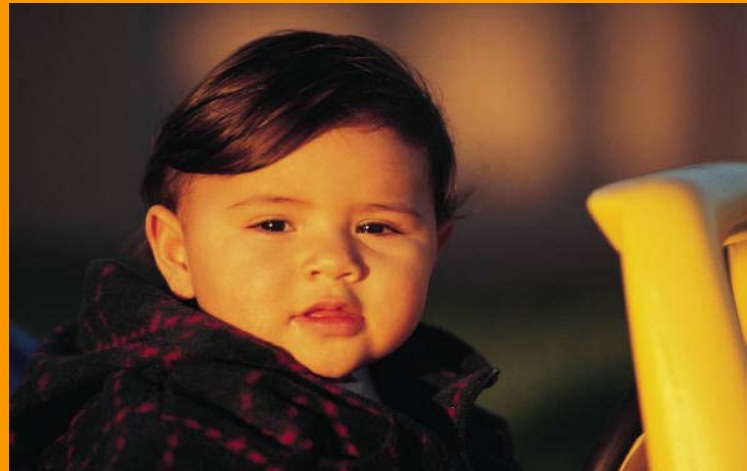
With appropriate interventions, almost all children diagnosed with hearing loss at birth can learn to listen and talk.



In spite of this, AG Bell found that 70% of new and expectant mothers know little about hearing loss – or that spoken language is one of the options for addressing it.

What We Do

Raise awareness that children who are deaf or hard of hearing can learn to listen and talk



What We Do

Ensure that every child with a hearing loss has access to highly qualified professionals trained to facilitate hearing and spoken language communication



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AG Bell Campaign 2010

**Hear from the Start,
Talk for a Lifetime**

Objectives



- Link families of children with hearing loss to a network of parents, professionals and adults with hearing loss

Objectives

- **Develop professional training and educational programs**
- **Establish professional certification and standards of excellence through the AG Bell Academy for Listening and Spoken Language®**

Audiences

- **Parents and Expectant Parents**
- **Healthcare Providers**
- **Early Interventionists**
- **Policy Makers at Federal, State and Local Levels**

AG Bell Information & Resources

- What to do when your baby fails the Newborn Hearing Screening?
- Your baby passed the Newborn Hearing Screening. Now what?
- Physician Checklist
- Hospital Staff Checklist



AG Bell Information & Resources

- *Volta Voices* - Bimonthly magazine that explores issues related to hearing health and education



- *The Volta Review* - A peer-reviewed, scholarly journal with research from leading experts



AG Bell Information & Resources

- ***AG Bell Update*** – Biweekly e-newsletter featuring the latest news from AG Bell and the industry (8,500+ subscribers)
- **Web Site** - Covers hearing health, education and advocacy, job listings and exclusive content for members (40,000 visitors each month)

Family Support

- **Parent Advocacy Training** through negotiation skills and legal information
- **Children's Legal Advocacy** safeguards and expands legal protection for children
- **Financial Aid and Scholarships** for students of all ages pursuing spoken language education.

Educational Programs

- **2007 Talk for a Lifetime Summer Conference** – Professional conference focused on applying neurodevelopmental research to current practice



Educational Programs

- **2008 Convention** - Nearly 2,000 attendees (families, professionals and adults with hearing loss) and 75 exhibitors anticipated in Milwaukee, Wis.
- **E-seminars** - A series of eight online seminars on topics related to auditory and spoken language development

Grassroots Network

- **30 Chapters** in the United States and **53 International Affiliates** dedicated to helping families and the professionals who serve them get the facts about hearing loss and spoken language.

Grassroots Activities

- May 19 **Talk.Walk.Run.**

Events in 10 States

- Meetings with parent groups, hospital staff and physicians.

- Conferences and networking events.



We believe that most children who are deaf or hard of hearing can arrive in mainstream classrooms with spoken language and literacy skills on a par with their hearing peers.



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