



**MELISSA A. WILLIS**  
Executive Director

## #HEARINNEWYORK CAMPAIGN Initiatives

### CONTINUING EDUCATION PLATFORM

- CHI funds a comprehensive portfolio of workshops and conferences to provide the required continuing education credits to over 1500 professionals that serve the deaf and hard of hearing population including physicians, audiologists, speech & language therapists, teachers of the deaf, social workers and administrators.
- CHI is an accredited provider of continuing education by the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA), the American Academy Audiology (AAA) and the AG Bell Academy for Listening and Spoken Language Specialists (LSLS).

### STRATEGIC ALLIANCES

- As a leader in the hearing loss community, CHI continues to expand strategic alliances with more medical and educational institutions in the tri-state area.
- Affiliations with exemplary organizations enhances our ability to advance CHI's mission to provide essential resources and referrals to infants and children in need.
- A trusted funding resource for over three decades, CHI's vision is to provide support to clinical and program services to help enhance their research capabilities, expand educational outreach, and develop innovative treatments for children and adults with hearing loss.

### KIDS KONNECT

- Our Social Mentoring & Advocacy Resource Training (SMART) program will bring together teens/tweens with hearing loss to develop leadership, self-advocacy and teamwork skills.
- Social skills program to connect kids with hearing loss with peers and mentors
- Marvel Partnership: Sapheara and Blue Ear
- Free family workshops to network and discuss relevant topics and share common questions and concerns.

### PUBLIC ADVOCACY/HEARING LOSS AWARENESS

- Parent Advocacy support to educate parents of children with hearing loss about the local, state and federal programs/mandates that apply to their children
- Educational Advocacy and resource assistance to help parents and professionals understand a child's hearing loss, the proper educational placement, the necessary educational modifications and each child's technology (hearing aid, cochlear implant, and/or FM Systems)
- Lead-K - New York Legislation (children born deaf should be required to learn ASL)
- Public services for children with a disability (hearing loss, hearing tests public schools)