

WISCONSIN FAMILIES



FOR HANDS & VOICES

## Wisconsin Families for Hands & Voices

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## Family Empowerment Micro-Grant – Announcement

### ***Mission Statement***

Wisconsin Families for Hands & Voices is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deafblind without bias around communication modes or methodology. We are a parent-driven, non-profit organization providing families with the resources, networks, and information they need to improve communication access and educational outcomes for their children. Our outreach activities, parent/professional collaboration, and advocacy efforts are focused on enabling Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind children to reach their highest potential.

### ***Micro-Grant Criteria***

WI Families for Hands & Voices is dedicated to empowering its members to meet their leadership, advocacy, communication and networking goals for Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind youth. Opportunities for enrichment and support are often centered near larger metropolitan areas. Opportunities may also be unavailable due to costs. With this in mind, we offer a general mini-grant to our members to help them attain these goals within their local communities.

WI Families for Hands & Voices will award micro-grants of up to \$500 each. Deadlines for Micro-grant applications are March 30<sup>th</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> of each calendar year. Micro-grant applications will be voted on by the board of directors. Notification will be given to scholarship applicants within 30 days after the closest biannual deadline. There is no specified limit on the number of micro-grants awarded each calendar year and said amount of micro-grants will be based on board discretion. Individuals and organizations can only be awarded one micro-grant per calendar year.

A WI Families for Hands & Voices board member will contact micro-grant recipients to ensure that they have the resources and knowledge to be successful in their activity or project. Our board members are parents of, and professionals that serve, Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind children. We encourage grant recipients to utilize our combined experience and networks, as well as the wealth of information available from our parent organization, Hands & Voices.

Micro-grant applicants must be current members of WI Families for Hands & Voices. If the activity or project is open to Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafblind individuals in the state, we ask that it be advertised through WI Families for Hands & Voices' media platforms, in addition to other outlets. Micro-grant recipients are required to submit a short, written summary of their project to WI Families for H&V within 30 days of completion

activity/event of the micro-grant. This will be shared in *The Wisconsin Communicator*, WI Families for Hands & Voices' quarterly newsletter, as well as our website and all social media platforms.

***Examples of Possible Activities Eligible for Micro-Grants (this is NOT an extensive list)***

- To attend a Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Deafblind Youth Leadership Conference - using micro-grant funds for registration fees and travel expenses.
- To organize and coordinate a bowling party for local Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind children and their families - using micro-grant funds to pay for bowling, shoe rental, and snacks.
- To organize and coordinate a local parent training on the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and its impacts on their Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deafblind children - using micro-grant funds to rent a location, pay for a trainer, and provide refreshments.
- To host a regular ASL playgroup for young Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind children - using scholarship funds to cover location rental fees.
- To enroll in and purchases class materials to participate in an accredited local or online ASL class.
- To work with local movie theatres to provide open closed-captioned showings of family films - using micro-grant funds to purchase movie tickets and popcorn for your group.
- To purchase an assisted listening device for your child to use while watching television or listening to music.