

## AWARDS

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence  
Prevention & Education Meritorious Award

Health Care Provider Award

*(Awarded to Laura Lekowicz by Mayor's Advisory  
Committee for People with Disabilities)*

## PARTNERS

- Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church
- Bridges
- Metro Nashville Public Schools
- Youth Opportunity Center

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact [dhh@starsnashville.org](mailto:dhh@starsnashville.org)

[www.stars-dhh.org](http://www.stars-dhh.org)



# stars

innovative. proven. compassionate.

1704 CHARLOTTE AVENUE | SUITE 200 • NASHVILLE, TN 37203

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



### THE MISSION OF STARS

To support young people in overcoming social and emotional barriers through creative and innovative programs centering on prevention, intervention, treatment, training and compassion.

STARS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, culture, religion or creed, socioeconomic status, language, age, sexual orientation, or national origin. No one shall be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any of STARS' programs or activities. STARS is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

This agency is funded, in part, by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the Tennessee Department of Education. This agency is funded, in part, under an agreement with the state of Tennessee.



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**Services for Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing** (DHH) is a program of **STARS** designed to prevent the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs among deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals from kindergarten through early adulthood.

These students are naturally at a higher risk for drug and alcohol abuse because of their increased difficulties with communication, isolation, depression, learning and family connections.

## SCHOOL SUPPORT

Weekly classes are offered in Metro Nashville Public Schools, grades K-8. Classes are taught visually using American Sign Language. Topics include:

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Drugs
- Self-esteem
- Conflict resolution
- Anger management
- Problem solving
- Decision making
- Identifying feelings

## FAMILY SUPPORT

DHH offers one-on-one in-home family services, including:

- Teaching American Sign Language
- Counseling
- Resources
- Educational support

*Days and frequency of services vary. There are no fees associated with these services for students and families.*

## AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

DHH offers services at two after-school programs for deaf or hard-of-hearing students grades K-12:

- Bridges-Mary McKinney Youth Center
- Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church

## ALCOHOL AND DRUG DEPENDENCE

HEARING INDIVIDUALS

**1 IN 10**

DEAF OR HARD-OF-HEARING INDIVIDUALS

**1 IN 7**

## CAMPS

**CAMP RISE AND SIGN:** This three-day Bridges camp is held every May for youth who are deaf or hard-of-hearing and their siblings, ages 6 to 18.

**CAMP SUMMER SIGN:** This eight-week Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church camp is for deaf or hard-of-hearing children and their siblings, ages 6 to 16.

## TRANSITION SUPPORT

### COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS RETREAT:

This three-day, all-inclusive retreat guides students through the college and job application process. Students are introduced to professionals and college admission counselors who offer programs specifically for students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Activities and informational workshops include:

- Interest Testing
- College Options
- How To Pay for College
- Understanding Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Understanding Your Rights
- Interview Skills
- Understanding SSI and the Benefit of Working

### INDIVIDUAL CAREER PLANNING SERVICES:

Counselor works one-on-one with graduating high school seniors for a transition plan out of high school. Services include interest testing, researching and applying to colleges, completing the FAFSA, and setting up vocational rehabilitation services.

**80%** OF CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING ARE BORN TO PARENTS WHO CAN HEAR

**ONLY 23%** OF THOSE PARENTS LEARN TO COMMUNICATE THROUGH AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE