



GBYS popcorn goody basket

Popping In On Providers!

Over the past few months our Parent Guides have been reaching out! They have been visiting local providers within their regions and delivering a GBYS popcorn goody basket filled with snacks, giveaways and brochures.

This has given them the chance to start new conversations with providers sharing the mission of GBYS and how we can work together to support families with children who have a hearing loss.

If you would like to meet the Parent Guide in your region, obtain GBYS information to share with families or if you would like to refer a family to our program then please contact the Program Coordinator, Carrie Balian, at 866.655.4588 or email her at GBYS@choicesforparents.org.

Our Mission:

Guide By Your Side provides unbiased, emotional support and resources by trained Parent Guides to families with children who have a hearing loss.

Through the generosity of private grants, personal donations and funding through the Illinois Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program and CHOICES for Parents, Guide By Your Side is able to provide free services to families. Families can be referred to the program from providers or call directly to participate.

If you would like to refer a family, request brochures/posters or make a donation please contact the GBYS Program Coordinator, Carrie Balian.

Program Information:

- 1 Program Coordinator
- 12 Parent Guides (PG)
 - Located throughout the state
 - Backgrounds vary in communication opportunities and amplification opportunities
 - 2 PGs who are native Spanish speakers
 - PG who is Deaf
 - PG who is Hard of Hearing



Stay up to date on events and resources by becoming a fan of Illinois Guide By Your Side!

Did you know?

We hold meetings for families called “Conference Calls for All” several times a year? These meetings allow families to dial in after the kids are in bed, connect with other families throughout the state, get updates about state events/resources and learn more from guest speakers? We have two calls coming up. Please feel free to share this information with others!

Participants call: 1.877.402.9753 enter guest code: 7087114

- Lisa Kovacs will be discussing her journey with Auditory Neuropathy (AN) on August 29th at 8:30pm.
- Andrea Marwah will be sharing about IEP basics on Sept 26th at 8:30pm.
- Nancy Scott will be sharing about music and rhythm for kids with hearing loss Oct. 24 at 8:30pm.

Comparison of ages of children enrolled in GBYS from Jan – Mar 2011 and Apr – June 2011

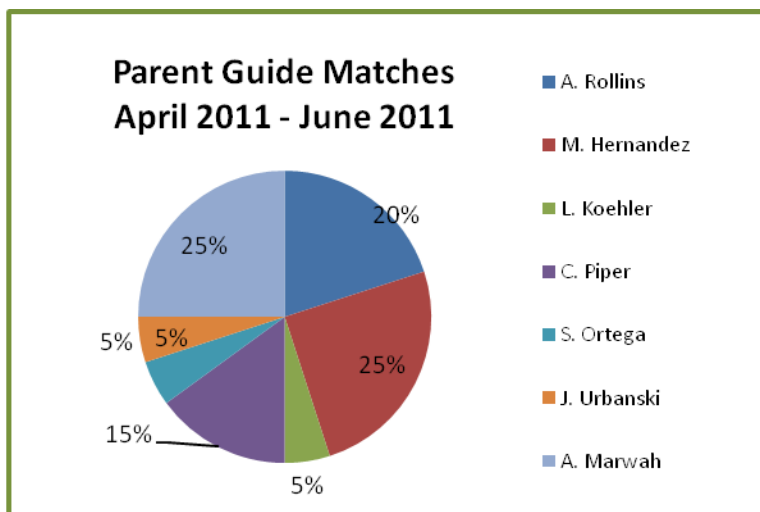
	Jan-Mar 2011	Apr-June 2011
Birth-1 year old	18%	30%
1-2 years old	11%	20%
2-3 years old	15%	5%
3-6 years old	13%	20%
6 years and older	43%	25%



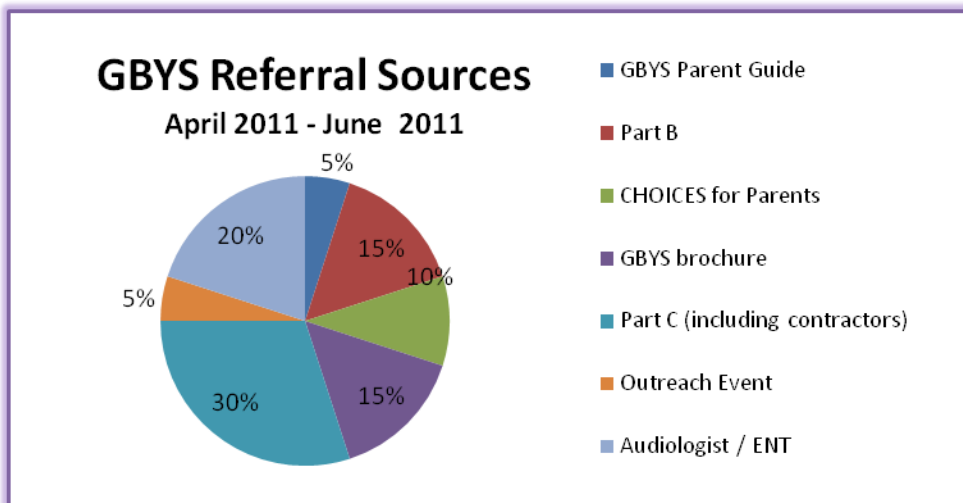
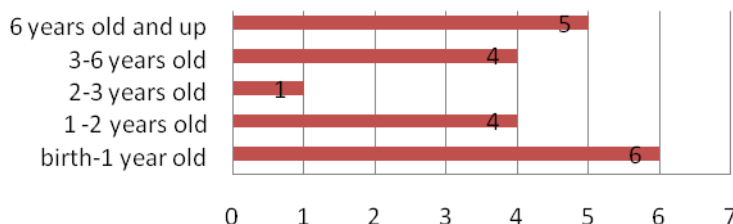
Quarter Reporting for Apr. 2011 – June 2011:

- 20 Families referred , 20 Families matched
- **Ethnicity** of the families referred:
 - 35% Latino (7 families)
 - 40% Caucasian (8 families)
 - 15% African American (3 families)
 - 5% Multiracial (1 family)
 - 5% Pacific Islander (1 family)
- **Age** of children enrolled in GBYS:
 - 30% Birth-1 year old
 - 20% 1-2 years old
 - 5% 2-3 years old
 - 20% 3-6 years old
 - 25% 6 years and older
- **Primary Language** in the home:
 - English – 12 families
 - Spanish – 6 families
 - Other – 2 families
- **Insurance** information of enrolled families:
 - ALL Kids – 14 families
 - Private – 6 families
- **Newborn Hearing Screening** results as reported by the parent:
 - Did Not Pass – 11 children
 - Passed – 3 children
 - One pass/one DNP – 2 children
 - Not Screened – 4 children
- **Unilateral vs. Bilateral** hearing loss:
 - Bilateral – 17 children
 - Unilateral – 1 child
 - Auditory Neuropathy – 2 children
- **Gender** of children enrolled in GBYS:
 - 14 male, 6 female

- **Medical History** suggestive of:
 - Syndrome associated with a hearing loss – 1 child
 - No known syndrome or etiology – 15 children
 - Hearing loss and additional needs – 4 children



Ages of children when enrolled in GBYS



Guide By Your Side (GBYS) is a collaborative program of Illinois Hands & Voices, the Illinois Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Program and CHOICES for Parents.

