United in Service Committee

Sound Field Amplification Systems - Guidelines.

"LISTENING TO LEARN"

Why your Club needs to participate:

Problems Learning in Classrooms

- Auditory learning accounts for as much as 75% of a child's school day
- Poor acoustics and distance from the teacher significantly reduce the effectiveness of teaching. Students are missing 25-30% of what the teacher is saying
- Immature Auditory Abilities…..children's hearing capabilities are not fully developed until age 15. Children's brains process information slower than adults.
- Approximately 14.9% of school age children have some degree of temporary or permanent hearing loss
- 37% of children with minimal hearing loss fail at least one grade compared to a 3% failure rate for hearing students
- On any given day 43% of students had minimal hearing loss (ear infections, etc.)
- The inability to hear (clearly) causes ALL children, even those with the BEST intentions to pay attention, to disengage themselves from auditory learning.

Benefits of Sound Field Amplification Systems for Teachers/ Students:

- Research showed that ALL students, regardless of hearing ability, taught in sound enhanced rooms showed SIGNIFICANT gains in academic achievement, and were noted to achieve in reading and language arts at a faster rate, to a higher level, and at one-tenth the cost of students taken from regular classes to resources room instruction.
- Even distribution of the teachers voice essentially gives every child a "front row seat"
- Recent studies reported an average increase of 10-15% in test scores across all subjects and types of students, with a higher increase in ELL population (English Language Learners).
- Students are more attentive, more on-task, and better behaved
- Teachers benefit from increased mobility in the classroom (moving and kids hearing), increased physical energy, and reduced absenteeism from vocal fatigue (teachers can be talking for 6 hours a day!)
- Research has shown a significant decrease in Special Education referrals.

Please let Quota International know you are participating in this project.

Please send an e-mail to staff@quota.org.

Every child deserves to hear the teacher, and every teacher is important enough to be heard!

1.	Appoint a Club Coordinator	To report on cost (estimate $2000) per unit; if a fund raiser is required or grant submission to be prepared.
2.	Contact Schools in Area who require this system	Contact schools in the area who require this system. May also want to contact Hearing, Special Needs Advisors, and/or audiologists who visit the schools to find out their needs. **<u>Tips from Australia that may apply to other areas</u>** "MySchool" website www.myschool.edu.au (an easy website to navigate) has data listing: • Low Socio Economic schools; • The ICSEA rating for each school. This is a list of schools rated on the -LIKELIHOOD OF EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS – • Rating is 1000 Average
3.	Meet with School Principal regarding requirements, viability.	Approach schools and educational institutions to explain the benefits of SFAS and why you want to donate the system. Don't assume they are aware of the systems and its benefits to education. Suggest 2-3 Quotarians attend; if more than 1 school have this on an application-based system where schools apply for the system and chosen on this.
4.	Submit a grant if required or hold a fundraising event	If you are interested in writing a grant, look for a local foundation that education and assisting the disadvantaged are part of their mission statement. Your project proposal needs to be specific when applying for a grant. For example; applying for a $20,000 grant for 10 amplification units to install in XYZ school or school district. Foundations are specific as to what needs to be in the grant application (often posted on their web site). It is information you already have. It is just a matter of putting it together and applying. **<u>Tips from Australia that may apply to other areas</u>** Local Government; Sporting Grants; Foundations; Gambling Grants etc. Proposal needs to be specific in requirements; (Help will be provided in submitting these)
5.	Purchase of Sound Field Amplification System	SFAS/ Classroom Amplification suppliers contact information: ○ Phonak Hearing Systems (International distribution) Roger Dynamic SoundField

		4520 Weaver Parkway, Warrenville, IL 60555 Phone: 1-800-679-4871 FAX: 1-630-393-7400 E-mail: info@phonak.com www.phonak.com ○ Lightspeed Technologies, Inc. (United States distribution) Redcat Access System 11509 SW Herman Rd., Tualatin, OR 97062 Phone: 1-800-732-8999 www.lightspeed-tek.com ○ Hearing Loop Australia. (Australia distribution) Jim Russell, Educational Audiology Specialist Business Development Manager MEAA, MACAud, Dip HDPE, SoAA, Cert IV. Aud, Provider # 4026661 PO Box 310, Vermont 3133 Email: jrussell@hearingloop.com.au; info@hearingloop.com.au Phone: 1300 669 721 www.hearingloop.com.au **Tips from Australia that may apply to other areas** A partnership has been established with Hearing Loop Australia the suppliers of the Phonak Sound Field System (details above). Jim Russell has access to comprehensive lisst of Private an Public Schools. A discounted price has been obtained also the purchase of this System does not attract GST as covered by the NDS **Tips from New Zealand that may apply to other areas** • It is usually better if the school system purchases the system through Phonak which provides supportive discounts and back up later if necessary. • The club may want to provide 80-90% of the funds and the school system the 20-10% so the school assumes some responsibility.
6.	Public Awareness/Advertising	Partnership with Supplier; Marketing campaign with QUOTA INTERNATIONAL working in your community; Links with Supplier, School websites; Photo opportunities; Quota Gift Plate on each system; School Newsletter and website promote Quota International of …… Partnership with School.
7.	Congratulations	Your Club has now given the gift of Hearing to some very special children – OUR FUTURE.