

LEIGHANN WATTS

DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY,
BENEFICIAL HEARING AID CENTER

DID YOU KNOW THAT IT'S NATIONAL BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH? THIS MAY, BENEFICIAL HEARING AID CENTER IS FOCUSING THEIR EFFORTS ON ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO GET THEIR HEARING CHECKED EARLY SO THEY CAN BETTER MANAGE THE QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES THAT OFTEN RESULT FROM UNADDRESSED HEARING LOSS.

What habits do you encourage for proper hearing health?

It is important to practice good hearing hygiene and use proper hearing protection when exposed to loud levels. Skip the cotton swabs because they may end up pushing wax deeper into the canal, which leads to a wax impaction causing hearing loss, tinnitus and/or pain. Instead, have a properly trained certified audiologist provide safe, sterilized wax removal to keep your ear canals clear and healthy. You should have an initial comprehensive diagnostic audiological evaluation by a certified audiologist and annual screenings to ensure that you are always hearing your best!

Who is at risk for hearing loss?

Many people associate hearing loss with advanced age but it is also associated with ear infections, childhood diseases, genetics, exposure to loud noise, accidents, head trauma, stroke, even medications to name a few. Two out of three people with hearing loss are below retirement age.

What are the signs of hearing loss?

The symptoms of hearing loss include you hear but don't always understand, people seem to mumble, you frequently ask your spouse or friends to repeat and you have difficulty hearing in a crowd or restaurant. If you see yourself in these statements, you should have a hearing test by a certified audiologist.

What can you say to encourage others to seek treatment?

Too many people cling to the old, stubborn belief that wearing a hearing aid won't help fix their hearing problem. The good news is that hearing loss can be easily diagnosed, and for most people, there are solutions in the form of digitally programmable hearing instruments, many of which are so small and discreet they are invisible. I hope people understand that hearing instruments work better than ever due to continuing advancements in technology and can dramatically improve the quality of their lives.

How is Beneficial Hearing Aid Center participating in National Better Hearing and Speech Month?

We are offering a free hearing screening, consultation and demonstration during the month of May. We welcome the opportunity to show you the "beneficial difference" through better hearing.

