

CELEBRATE MAY WITH *FREE* HEARING SCREENINGS

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month, a month dedicated to educating Americans about the need to have their hearing checked. This year, Laurie DeWine and Stefanie Godbey, audiologists at The Place for Better Hearing, are working with the Better Hearing Institute (BHI) to offer education about hearing loss and what can be done to improve it. “As part of the ‘Across America Hearing Check Challenge,’ we want spouses, Baby Boomers, their aging parents, and anyone else to get their hearing checked,” explained Stefanie Godbey. BHI offers a simple screening at www.hearingcheck.org. The Place for Better Hearing is offering **FREE** hearing screenings in their sound treated booth during the month of May.

Baby Boomers - those born between 1947 and 1964 - may be particularly susceptible to hearing loss due to exposure to loud music and other loud noises. Studies show that two-thirds of people with hearing loss are below retirement age. Many of these people are unaware of their hearing loss.

Symptoms of hearing loss include not hearing well in a crowded room or restaurant, asking friends to repeat what they are saying, ringing or buzzing in the ears, or not hearing sounds that others hear better. Research shows that when people cannot hear properly, their hearing problem disrupts family life and causes them to withdraw from social situations.

Dr. Laurie DeWine explained, “We want people to realize that hearing loss is a major health problem in the United States. Hearing loss can be easily diagnosed by an audiologist. When patients with hearing loss are appropriately fitted with hearing aids,

they derive significant benefit. Many people associate hearing loss with the normal aging process, however, hearing loss can occur at any age.”

According to Sergei Kochkin, Ph.D., Executive Director of BHI, “Too many people cling to the old belief that wearing hearing aids won’t improve their hearing problem. We hope people, especially baby boomers, understand that hearing aids work better than ever, and can dramatically improve their quality of life.” Starkey’s Destiny and Zōn hearing aids are now the gold standard when it comes to hearing aids. They work so well and automatically, that many patients forget they’re wearing hearing aids.

The Place for Better Hearing works hard to ensure that every patient hears all of life’s important sounds: the telephone ringing, birds singing, Sunday’s services, and the precious sound of children’s voices. **Call 922-0123 to make an appointment for a FREE hearing screening or to schedule Dr. DeWine to speak to your community group or club about the impact of hearing loss.**