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Wayne's 'King's Speech' Experience

February 10, 2011 – Movie-goers and critics agree that 'The King's Speech' is an extraordinary film, deserving of the recognition and awards it has earned. But for some Columbus Speech & Hearing Center clients, the movie is more than quality entertainment – it's reality!

Like King George VI, Wayne avoided conversation because of challenges he faced with his speech along with hearing issues. The frustration and embarrassment led to an overall lack of self-confidence, making it tough to get through day-to-day tasks.

About a year ago, Wayne began individual speech therapy at Columbus Speech & Hearing Center. "The movie echoes my experience in so many ways," says Wayne. "As I developed a relationship with my therapist, just like King George & Lionel did, I began to see a great deal of improvement!"

The movie, 'The King's Speech,' has brought light to a staggering statistic that nearly 8 million people in the United States have some form of a speech impairment. The good news is people are also learning that solutions are available. By addressing the issue early, the struggles that Wayne and King George faced can be reduced.

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Available Resources:

Wayne Somerfeldt, CSHC client, and Mimi Gelacek, Speech-Language Pathologist, are both available for interviews by contacting Susan Slater at 614-261-5417 or sslater@columbusspeech.org

Columbus Speech & Hearing Center, founded in 1923, is a non-profit United Way organization serving over 10,000 people annually. Services include hearing evaluations, hearing aids, speech therapy for children and adults, occupational therapy and treatment, and vocational services for the Hard-of-Hearing, Deaf and Deaf-Blind through the Comprehensive Program for the Deaf and Ohio Deaf-Blind Outreach Program. Generous charitable giving from the community helps offset the cost of the Center's valued services. For more information, www.columbusspeech.org.