



FACTS ABOUT . . . HEARING LOSS IN CHILDREN

- ✓ Approximately 1 in 1,000 newborns (or 33 babies every day) are born profoundly deaf with another 2-3 out of 1,000 born with partial hearing loss, making hearing loss the #1 birth defect in America.
- ✓ Newborn hearing loss is 20 times more prevalent than phenylketonuria (PKU), a condition for which all newborns are currently screened.
- ✓ 14.9% of children ages six to 19 have a measurable hearing loss in one or both ears.
- ✓ When children are not identified and do not receive early intervention, special education for a child with hearing loss costs schools an additional \$420,000, and has a lifetime cost of approximately \$1 million per person.
- ✓ 37% of children with only minimal hearing loss fail at least one grade.
- ✓ The cost of identifying a newborn with hearing loss is less than one-tenth the cost of identifying newborns with PKU, hypothyroidism, or sickle cell anemia, which are screened for in nearly every state.
- ✓ Infants identified with hearing loss can be fit with amplification by as young as 4 weeks of age.

For more information about hearing loss in children or to schedule a hearing evaluation, call 614.261.5452 or visit www.columbusspeech.org.