

HARP (Hearing Aid Repurposing Program)

A Program Offered Through the Parish Health Ministry of Church Street United Methodist Church



Over 48 million adults in the United States suffer from hearing loss. One third of adults ages 65-75 have disabling hearing loss and half of adults over 75. Many of these could benefit from hearing aids but cannot afford them. CSUMC Parish Health Ministry has a program to provide assistance. We have identified audiology professionals who will refurbish donated hearing aids and fit them to individuals who cannot afford them. Applications for hearing aids are received and reviewed by members of the Parish Health Team. Once approved, the applicant is scheduled with the audiologist to be fitted with devices to meet their needs.

There are a number of ways you may participate in this program.

1. Donate

An ongoing supply of hearing aids, batteries, and financial aid are needed.

- Hearing Aids

If you have unused hearing aids or know of someone with hearing aids that are not being used you may donate a single or a pair by placing them in a zip-lock bag and bringing them to the church office. Please include the name, address, and phone number of the donor so we can provide appropriate documentation for tax purposes.

- Batteries for Hearing Aids

Unused batteries may be donated using the same process described above.

- Financial Aid

Out of pocket expenses for the applicant may occur since a more detailed exam is necessary to fit the device and follow-up visits may be needed. These fees are kept to a minimum and based on the applicant's ability to pay; but our team would like to maintain a fund to help offset these expenses. You may make donations through any of the usual methods for CSUMC contributions designating that the donation is for: HARP.

2. Apply for Hearing Aids

You may submit an application for yourself or someone you know that is doing without hearing aids due to limited financial resources.

- Download application from the Parish Health Ministry section of the CSUMC website, complete it, and return to Dawn Chesser by dropping off in the church office or mail to Church Street UMC PO Box 1303, Knoxville, TN 37901. If you have questions you may call Dawn at 865-521-0279 or email her at dchesser@churchstreetumc.org.

- Application will be reviewed by members of the Parish Health Team. Applicant will be informed of the decision by phone.

- If approved, a member of the team will work with the applicant to facilitate the process. An additional application will then be required to determine applicant's out of pocket expense. The team member will also ask whether assistance is needed with transportation to and from the audiologist's office.

3. Volunteer

There may also be a need to help our team by taking an applicant for their appointment with the audiologist. Contact Dawn Chesser if you are available to help if needed.

The Parish Health Ministry has already witnessed the blessings that come to those served through this program and look forward to enriching the lives of many more individuals!