# "Pay It Forward"

By Vicki Hauser MSC

Many of you already know about our Pay It Forward program, but just in case you don't or maybe it has slipped your mind, we'd like to explain it again.

"Pay It Forward" is a term that basically means to give without expecting return. Our offices have taken that term and turned it into a program that accepts used hearing aids, refurbishes them, and passes them on to individuals who cannot afford new aids. Most of the time, this is totally free of charge. However, if we do not have hearing aids that fit the need of the person, we can also purchase used, remanufactured hearing aids from our suppliers. In that case, we would charge the individual whatever it cost us. Usually between \$100 - \$200.

Another facet of the program is re-fitting hearing aids that have been passed down from parent to child, grandparent to grandchild, etc. If the hearing aid that is being passed down was purchased at The Hearing Place, there is no charge for the service. If the hearing aid was not purchased in one of our offices, we will first have to check the serial number with the manufacturer to assure it has not been reported as lost or stolen. If all is free and clear, we can re-fit the aid for a nominal fee.

If you or someone you know has hearing instruments that are no longer being used, please feel free to drop them by one of our offices or service centers. If you know someone who needs hearing help, but just can't afford it right now, refer them to our program. Together we CAN make a difference in someone's life today.



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### **SERVICE CENTERS IN YOUR AREA**

### January

Jan 5Conrad Pondera Medical	10-noon
Jan 10Havre Northern Mt. Hospital	10-noon
Jan 11Deer Lodge Medical Center	.10-noon
Jan 12Cut Bank Northern Hospital	.10-noon
Jan 16Great Falls Eagles Manor	.10-noon
Jan 17Lewistown COA	10-noon
Jan 19 Townsend Dr. Campbell's Office	10-noon
Jan 24Chinook Senior Center	10-noon
Jan 25Havre Northern Mt. Hospital	10-noon

## **February**

Feb 2Conrad Pondera Medical	10-noon
Feb 9Cut Bank Northern Hospital	. 10-noon
Feb 14Havre Northern Mt. Hospital	.10-noon
Feb 15Chester Sweet Grass Lodge	10-noon
Feb 16Townsend Dr. Campbell's Office	.10-noon
Feb 20Great Falls Eagles Manor	.10-noon
Feb 23Deer Lodge Medical Center	10-noon
Feb 28Chinook Senior Center	. 10-noon

## March

Mar 2Conrad Pondera Medical	10-noon
Mar 9Cut Bank Northern Hospital	.10-noon
Mar 14Havre Northern Mt. Hospital	.10-noon
Mar 16 Townsend Dr. Campbell's Office	10-noon
Mar 21Lewistown COA	.10-noon
Mar 23Deer Lodge Medical Center	10-noon
Mar 28Chinook Senior Center	.10-noon
Mar 29 Havre Northern Mt. Hospital	.10-noon

Two Locations to Serve You

1301 11th Ave. So. 2646 Winne Ave.

**Great Falls. MT** 406-452-2437

Helena MT 406-502-2021

www.hearingplacemt.com

Due to winter road conditions service centers maybe canceled





In 1989 I lost hearing in my left ear due to an unchecked sinus infection. The infection left a large hole in my left ear drum, which was the reason I lost my hearing. I tried several

different methods of grafts, including paper, tissue from under my arm, tissue from the back of my neck and tissue from behind my ear, in the hopes of being able to close the hole so that I might hear again. Unfortunately, not one of the grafts took or worked to close the hole. For the next 27 years, I lived being totally deaf in my left ear. The struggle of living in a fast-paced world when you can't hear is a difficult one and known only to those who suffer the same problem. Conversations are difficult, TV must be so loud for vou to hear it that it becomes unbearable for others. You miss whispered words of love, outdoor sounds that you took for granted and a host of other issues that arise when you can't hear.

I was fortunate enough that in the spring of 2016 my doctor told me about an ENT in Missoula. He had developed a new procedure to close eardrum holes, and my doctor thought I would be a good candidate for the procedure. After seeing the ENT, he assured me that the procedure would work for me and I went ahead with the surgery.

It did indeed work and I was pleasantly surprised to be able to hear a little out of that ear again.

To my good luck, I was hired by THE HEARING PLACE in the summer of 2016. It didn't take long for the staff to become aware of my hearing loss. They sat me down with my hearing records from the Missoula doctor and showed me exactly how much hearing loss I really had and how hearing aids could help me. I was excited to think of the possibility of being able to truly hear once again! Pat walked me through the options and differences of each technology. I was so surprised by the technological advancements. I am now a very happy camper that can once again hear all the sounds I had been missing! I can hear the TV without having it maxed out on the volume! I can hear conversations in a crowded room! I can hear birds (haven't heard them in years) and I can even hear what my dogs are barking about!

My hearing aids are a true blessing and have made my life so much more enjoyable. I'd forgotten so many sounds and am so happy to be able to participate in life once more. A huge THANK YOU goes to THE HEARING PLACE for showing me how much my life could be improved by the technology of hearing aids!!!

#### Keith from Great Falls, Montana

The thing that impressed me the most was being able to hear my grandchildren and sounds of nature such as birds. The staff was friendly and made me feel very comfortable and at ease."

#### **David from Great Falls, Montana**

The hearing aid has turned my life around 100%. I heard my daughter's voice and understood what she was saying. I knew I was missing out but didn't realize how much. We were happy we chose you folks for our hearing aids.

#### Pat from Chester, Montana

Hi Pat and Sue, thanks for the extra time and effort you extended to us for our unscheduled appointment last Monday. You are both great, and your service is unbeatable.

## Ken from Ft. Shaw, Montana

I couldn't ask for better service. I've been treated marvelously by Pat and Sue. I bought a pair of hearing aids from someone else but was unable to get them programmed properly until I came to Pat.

## Gerry from Great Falls, Montana

I would recommend The Hearing Place and Pat 100%. I appreciated that they came to my home when I wasn't able to get out. I've been to 3 different places, and this was the first time I really got good service."