

Rilyn

Because with your gift, hearing impaired children like Rilyn will improve dramatically in school and their self-confidence will blossom.

Rilyn was diagnosed at the age of 10 with moderate, permanent hearing loss in both ears. Her mother always sensed that something wasn't quite right with her quiet middle daughter, but was never given any real answers or solutions until she was referred to the Columbus Speech & Hearing Center Audiology department. Her hearing loss made her isolated and unwilling to go to school. Even when she went, she interacted very little with other kids and often sat alone on the playground. After Rilyn's diagnosis, she was fitted for hearing aids, and her whole world changed. Suddenly, Rilyn could hear - everything from dinnertime conversations to what her teacher was saying in the classroom. Her grades, always a struggle before, went from Ds and Fs to As and Bs. And last month she won the Good Student Award - chosen by the school board for those students who exemplify academic achievement, citizenship and attendance. Her self-esteem now soaring and her grades dramatically improved, Rilyn is beginning to make friends and try new activities both in and out of the classroom. She has discovered that she loves music (all kinds - everything from New Age to Country) and that she likes to sing and has joined the basketball team at school. She has also become empathetic to her peers who have learning differences, and has started helping her siblings do chores around the house. According to her mother -



“ it has changed every aspect of my 11 year old's life. We are so grateful to Columbus Speech & Hearing Center. ”