

## Sunrise, Sunset, Swiftly flow the days...

Any one remember the song from Fiddler's on the Roof? In some ways starting a business is like raising children. Seasons following another, laden with happiness and tears. This August we celebrate 15 years since the opening of Elkhart Audiology Rehab. Some days have been very long but yes, the years have gone quickly! I am ever thankful for the support of my family.

2010 by the numbers: 800 sq feet on Bristol Street; 1 employee- me! and 14 hearing devices fit by year end... all using real ear verification. I was definitely small but committed to building a practice dedicated to best practices and giving back to my community by partnering with Elkhart General/Beacon Medical for educational seminars and with 2 senior centers for quarterly hearing aid cleanings and screening.

Growth has allowed for adding team members and services. The largest team was 5; the average is three.

We have served over 3000 clients! We excel in maximizing our clients hearing outcomes; minimizing the perception of tinnitus; keeping hearing devices in your ears and not in a repair lab; cerumen removal; and collaborative care.

#### **Our pillars:**

**Best Audiologic Practices**- based on reseach and clinical practice

**Client Centered Care**- meaningful and measurable improvements

**Community Commitment**- giving back locally and globally.

#### **Our Mission: We want you to Love Your Hearing!**

Our Vision: To provide client focused products and services that maximize hearing abilities and reduce the barriers to meaningful communication.

Our Accomplishments: 11 Continuous Awards since 2013 for our Hearing Services in the Elkhart County Contest – this demonstrates *consistent, trusted care matters* to our community and we are thankful for your votes!

### **More Achievements**





Ribbon Cutting for our new location with the **Elkhart Chamber of Commerce.** 2015



Loop The Lerner project with the **Elkhart Lions Club**-2016

Loop the Matterhorn conference room with the **Elkhart Rotary Club** 2018

Serving during the pandemic-2020





First international Humanitarian trip to Mexico -September 2023

First local give back with **Hearing the Call Michiana** – November 2023

#### We won't rest on past success!

We will strive to be your trusted resource that is easy to do business with and evolve with new technological options to deliver you with cutting edge options.



This year Sharon was recognized by the Academy of Audiology for her dedication to continuing education on topics like reducing the perception of tinnitus and decreasing listening effort...over 50 hours!

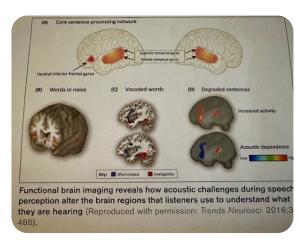


### **Best Practices – Continuous Improvement-Provide Results!**

We believe in Best Practices and that means utilizing speech in noise assessments as part of our initial evaluation of your communication. Understanding your individual degree of listening effort is more than identifying soft sounds, how well you process speech in noise helps to identify options that might improve your success in different listening environments. If you plummet when noise is a factor, there are options to stabilize or decrease your struggle. Options to reduce listening effort may include:

- advanced adjustments like time and compression characteristics in your software settings
- selection of new AI assisted sound-flow processors
- the implementation of a remote microphone or use of a live- listening feature on a smartphone
- the incorporation of auditory rehab sessions

Why do we work at reducing listening effort in addition to verifying audibility with real ear measures? Evidence exists from multiple sources which show increased cognitive demand when listening to speech impacts communication effectiveness and memory. Our goal at EAR is to improve your ability to process speech easier in multiple listening situations to free up other areas of your brain for filing away details of a conversation better.



Our brains are the most powerful natural processor of information. When it comes to hearing and understanding conversation, your ability to focus, your intuition, your experience with language/reading and music are all factors which empower you to be successful in a variety of listening environments. However, we live in a noisy world and don't have control over the different sounds around us; the amount of reverberation, echo and these characteristics interfere with what matters to us. *Computer processing of sound to enhance speech or music and minimize the annoyance or the background clutter continues to evolve.* 

Several manufacturers have incorporated the use of *deep neural networks and AI* to provide a sound quality that can be measured as "better than normal hearing" listeners. Auditory rehab lessons powered by AI can use the voices or situations that are most difficult for you to understand conversation to be used for practice.

# Full-Service Office... yes, Elkhart Audiology Rehab Has It!

**Cerumen Removal**. Three methods; Manual; Suction and Earrigator.

Innovative Hearing Products with Intelligence Augmented!

Happy to complete demonstrations and help you make the right choice





Lace Al Pro

### **Tinnitus Perception**

Did you know there is more than one type of tinnitus?

Did you know ringing in the ears is treatable?

Find out more about your options. Schedule a comprehensive hearing and tinnitus assessment. Treatment options that include: pharmalogic; sound based; psychological (CBT); relaxation; alternative medicine and multi-sensory approaches like Lenire.

We can help change the pathways to give you more peace...



### **Cochlear Implant Success Stories!**

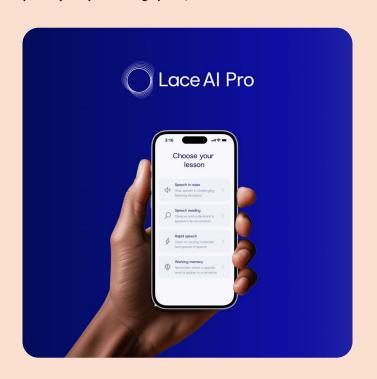
Rediscovering Sound is what we hear most often. It is a rewarding journey. It does not happen overnight. Our partners at Advanced Bionics take the journey to better hearing seriously and offer a full array of support for any place you might be getting started. Discovery? Decision? Delivery? Follow up. If you are not getting good benefit from your hearing aids and have questions about if a cochlear implant might be right for you, we can start with a test battery here or set you up with a video chat or inperson visit from an AB specialist. Once you have been implanted Remote Support, Hearing Success, and Hearing Journey will help you to re-train your brain and we have the joy of hearing just how much more fulfilling your life is.

## Ekhart Audiology Rehab Is Your LACE Al Pro Certified Clinic

You now have a hand-held solution to help you practice and IMPROVE your specific listening challenges with the specific voice most important to you. This program is available on a mobile app or desktop computer. It lets you take action to address issues like:

- Training your brain to filter background noise so speech in noisy restaurants is more easily understood.
- Training with a small specific voice sample (maybe your grandchild's) and improve the processing of varied speech patterns, including fast talkers.
- The cognitive aspects of Lace training will help with memory challenges noticed during conversations.

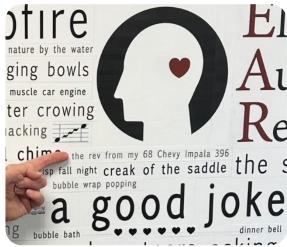
Results are noted in the first 4 weeks. Get started now to improve your processing speed, recall and retention!



Why Practice? So you can Enjoy your favorite Conversations!

### Some of our staff picks!









## 15 years of Favorite Sounds ~ Tommie Freeman~

We are pleased to present a collection of Favorite Sounds shared by you, over the last 15 years. Tommie used her talents to bring character, amusement and life to a list of over 100 sounds from our clients! Tommie is an Elkhart native with a variety of talents and an instructor with the Elkhart Art League. If you get a chance to sign up for an alcohol-ink class, I encourage you to do it! You can see more of her wall art around town (Antonio's to name one); ink art is on display at Juxtapose or her Etsy site @ TommieJArt.



But FIRST stop in to see this fun collection at our office and find your favorite sound or give us a new one!

With much GRATITUDE, we will be serving Root Beer Floats or our traditional Dilly Bars August 11-14th to celebrate our 15-year milestone with you. So come get a cool treat, and enter to win a hearing aid dryer; TV Streamer or the new LACE AI rehab package (\$350 value)





We would love to enjoy a smile, maybe grab a picture and say Cheers to the future!

Sharon, Jill and Barb

