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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The board members of Communication Access, Inc., (CAI) celebrated their one-year anniversary on September 26, 2008. CAI is a newly formed charitable organization that serves the needs of people with hearing loss by providing Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) services, rehabilitation counseling, mental health counseling, education, and advocacy.

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### **Accomplishments – Our First Year**

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#### **Provided Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) Services for the following organizations:**

**Hearing Loss Association of Clearwater** – monthly support groups  
**Hearing Loss Association of Sun City Center** – monthly support group  
**Hearing Loss Association of Tampa** – monthly support group  
**Association of Late-Deafened Adults** – monthly support group  
**National Association of the Deaf** – annual convention  
**Florida Association of the Deaf** – annual convention  
**Hearing Loss Association of America** – annual convention  
**Hearing Loss Association of Florida** – Board Meeting – Sarasota

#### **Deaf and Hearing Connection for Tampa Bay:**

Gala – fundraising event  
Living with Hearing Loss – weekly classes  
Speechreading – weekly classes  
Lunch & Learn workshop

#### **Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for Manatee & Sarasota Counties**

Support Group/workshops – monthly  
Mental Health Counseling – as needed

#### **Self-Reliance – Center for Independent Living**

Voter Registration Workshop for People with Disabilities

#### **Hillsborough County Alliance for Citizens with Disabilities**

Disability Awareness Day Celebration

#### **Louise Graham Center** – fundraising event

**DeafSun** – (Program for victims of domestic violence who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing) – fundraising event

#### **Counseling Services:**

**Family Center on Deafness** – Terri Pendleton, LMHC  
**Blossom School for the Deaf** – Lois Maroney, LMHC

**Outreach & Education:**

Guest speaker for the following organizations:

**Rotary Club**  
**Association of Late-Deafened Adults**  
**Hearing Loss Association of Tampa**  
**Hearing Loss Association of Clearwater**  
**Hearing Loss Association of Sun City Center**

**Financial Support:**

Participated in and donated to the **Walk4Hearing – HLAA**  
Financial donation to the **Deaf and Hearing Connection**

**CAI Board:**

**CAI Fundraiser** – Caring for Our Community – Cocktail & Dinner Reception – Gourmet Dinner, Comedy Competition, Music, Dancing

**Board Meetings** – September, November, March, June

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For more information about Communication Access, Inc., please visit [www.CommunicationAccess.org](http://www.CommunicationAccess.org).

Tess Crowder, Executive Director  
Communication Access, Inc.

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