

Heidi Corce is a Teacher for the Deaf who currently resides in Eugene, Oregon. She spent most of her childhood on Whidbey Island, Washington and attended an oral mainstream program in Seattle. When she was twelve, she became one of the first recipients in the United States to receive a cochlear implant. She later learned American Sign Language when she entered college. This was a life changing experience and shaped Heidi's career path in teaching others like her.

Heidi earned a BA degree from the University of Washington and received her Masters Degree in Deaf Education from Lewis and Clark College in 1997. She spent the next eight years teaching Deaf and Hard of Hearing children in mainstream public schools in Edmonds, Washington. Heidi is driven by the constant challenges of removing barriers in mainstream schools which limit inclusion of DHH children.

During the summer of 1999, Heidi traveled to Kenya to teach deaf children. It was on this trip that Heidi discovered a newfound passion for deaf education in developing countries. This led her to Malawi, Africa where she provided teacher training in Deaf Education. When she returned to the states one year later, she realized her work abroad was unfinished. Heidi became the first deaf person to be awarded a two-year grant from New Voices Foundation, a subsidiary of Africa Education Development. This grant allowed her to work as a Program Director for Global Deaf Connection. Over the next two years, Heidi developed and implemented educational programs for deaf children and adults in Malawi, Kenya and Jamaica.

Heidi returned to the classroom and for the past seven years has been teaching Deaf and Hard of Hearing children at a mainstreamed elementary school in Eugene, Oregon. She also taught at the University of Oregon for eight years. Gina Oliva's book, "Alone in the Mainstream", was the source of inspiration in designing this unique course. It became a popular core requirement for students pursuing careers working directly or indirectly with Deaf and Hard of Hearing students or adults in educational or clinical settings.

Heidi was nominated by the Bill Gates Foundation to attend the Elevating and Celebrating Effective Teachers (ECET2) national conference in 2016 and later became a presenter at the first ECET2 Oregon Conference. At the state level, Heidi is actively involved in the efforts to pass the LEAD-K bill in the state of Oregon and also serves as a member of the Advisory Council to Western Oregon University's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education Program.

During her free time, Heidi enjoys spending time with her husband and two young children. She is an avid runner and loves being in the outdoors hiking, biking, and camping with friends and family.