

Born Deaf to Deaf parents, Avonne attended Gallaudet University and graduated with BA in Psychology, followed with her Master's degree in Deaf Education at McDaniel College. She concluded her work at Gallaudet Leadership Institute with an Education Specialist degree in 2005. Avonne has 25 years of experience in Deaf Education as a classroom teacher and an administrator; she is currently enjoying her 9th year as an Outreach Program Specialist at Educational Resource Center on Deafness in Austin, Texas. Her current focus of work is to providing consultation to community, families and professionals on advocating Deaf and Hard of Hearing children. Avonne was mainstreamed in a public school without a certified interpreter for five years and she could relate well to students who were mainstreamed. Avonne is on the American Society of Deaf Children board as a Past President. Avonne is also a proud mother of two children (Deaf in college and CODA in high school) residing in Austin with her husband and furry babies.