



# John Lui

- John Lui is the National Manager of Hear For You. He was born profoundly deaf and received a CI in his left ear at 10 years old.
- He went through 6 different schools across 2 different countries and graduated from Macquarie University with a double degree in Social Sciences and Law.
- He was the first CI recipient to obtain Tennis Australia Club Professional Coach qualifications and has represented Australia in deaf tennis since 2005.



**CIICA**

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2022



HEAR FOR YOU

**What do we do?**

**We run mentoring programs for deaf & hard of hearing teenagers who are in high school.**

**All our volunteer mentors are deaf or hard of hearing too.**



## THAT DEAF GUY



HEAR FOR YOU

## We know what it's really like

All our lives, we have dealt with misconceptions and misinformation surrounding deafness/hearing loss.

We are in a position to offer advice and empower our teenagers on how to best deal with it.




HEAR FOR YOU

## Why was Hear For You started?

**90% + of deaf/hard of hearing teenagers:**

- **Come from hearing families,**
- **Learn to speak and hear with devices,**
- **Have hearing friends**
- **Go to mainstream schools & engage in mainstream activities**

**HOWEVER,**

- **May be only one in their school with a hearing loss**
  - **Not met another deaf person since EI years**
  - **Unsure if they are ‘deaf’ or not**
  - **In the ‘support bubble’**
  - **No specific community of their own**
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HEAR FOR YOU

## What is our message?

We may be adults and we may have been through it before but...



### **We offer advice**

We are not here to tell them what they have/must/need to do as a deaf/hard of hearing person



### **This is your place**

We want them to feel comfortable sharing experiences



### **Thrive, not survive**

We want them to start thriving, instead of just surviving



### **Your life, your journey**

We want them to take control!

**Essentially, life lessons are important and they need to learn them earlier than their hearing peers because of their deafness/hearing loss!**



HEAR FOR YOU

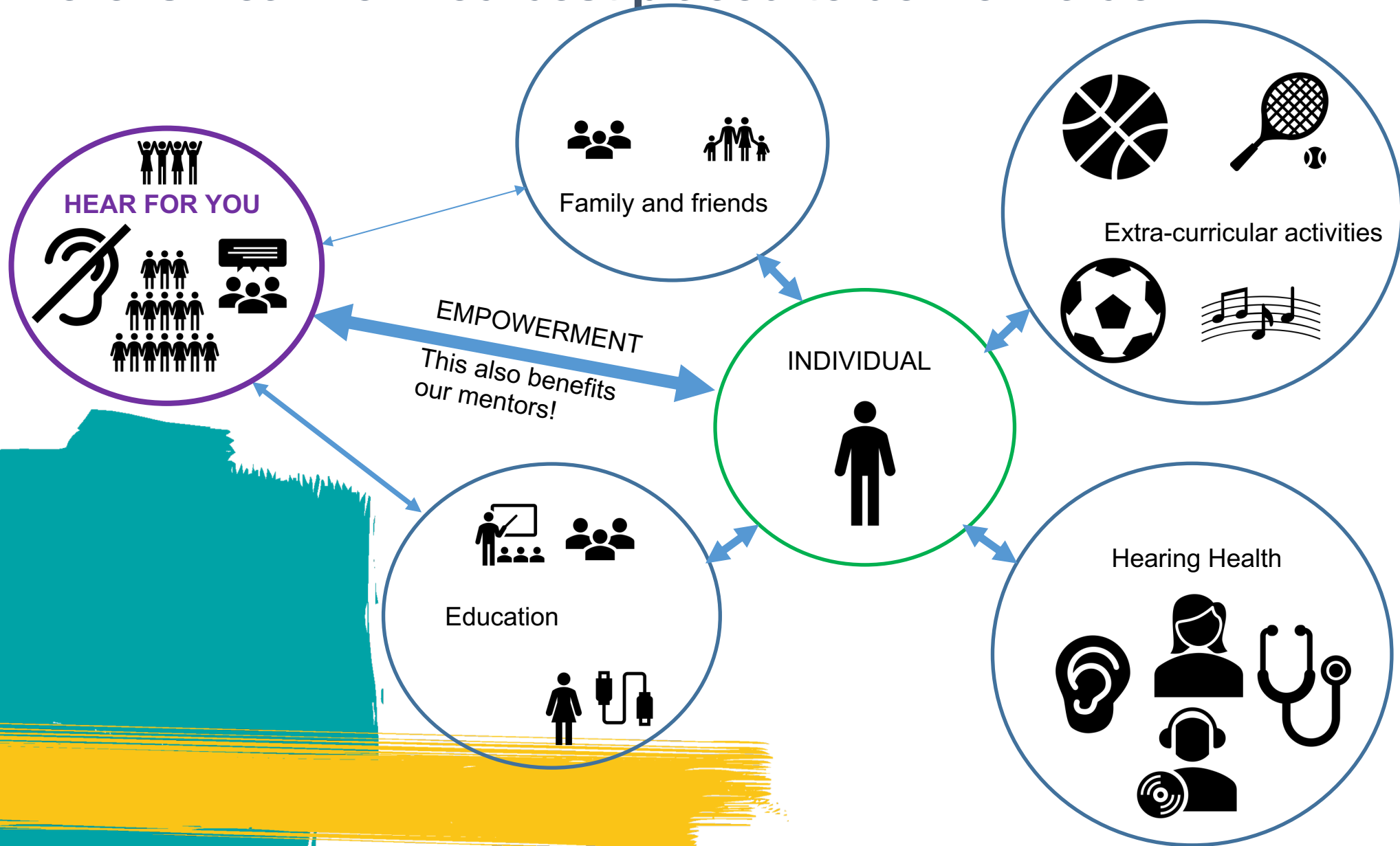
**We address the actual elephant in the room**

“It is one of the very few environments where I as a deaf teenager get our deaf or hearing impaired concerns off our shoulders.....”

NSW Participant 2014

# HEAR FOR YOU

## So where is Hear For You best placed to deliver value?







HEAR FOR YOU

## **Spanner in the works!**

**I would not have attended Hear For You in high school! Why???**

**Consider the metrics of ‘success’ in primary/high school**

- **Academics**
- **Sports**
- **Friends**
- **Social life**
- **‘Normal’**

**So why should I go??**






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## **What's in it for them?**

**There are always technology, services and support available for deaf/hard of hearing teens/young adults.....**

**Why should teens/young adults engage?**

**It depends on their priority as a deaf person**

- **Is it to fit in and become even more invisible?**
  - or
  - **Are they coming to terms with their deaf identity and the practical realities of it?**
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HEAR FOR YOU

## When might the penny drop?

When they leave the ‘support bubble’ and life hits!

- Workforce
- Tertiary education
- Increased interaction with strangers
- Their life, their journey

That’s when they start to see the value of

- Connecting with others like them
- Shared experiences
- Using their assistive tech
- Asking/advocating for help!

