Hearing Loss Support Groups

Why participate in a hearing loss support group? You will feel less isolated being with others who experience the same issues you do, and will be able to talk openly and honestly about those issues. You will gain better strategies for communication and self-advocacy with practical advice from those who’ve been there and done that. Learn about technology; what to expect from hearing devices, assistive listening technology and other accommodations available to the hard of hearing such as live captioning.

The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)  
[www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)  This is a nationwide support group which has an annual convention in different parts of the country. Their convention focuses on education and technology. The website has a lot of resources including free captioned webinars on a variety of hearing loss related subjects. You don’t have to be a member but membership includes a bi-monthly magazine. Membership is $35.

The Hearing Loss Association of America-Salt Lake City Chapter (HLAA-SLC)  
[www.hearinglossutah.com](http://www.hearinglossutah.com)  HLAA-SLC meetings every third Saturday from 10 AM to Noon at the Sanderson Center, unless attending an event as a group such as the theatre. There’s a variety of meeting topics and events: technology, communication challenges, potluck socials, open captioned movies, advocacy and community help projects.

The SayWhatClub (SWC)  
[www.saywhatclub.org](http://www.saywhatclub.org)  The SWC creates an online community for hearing loss support through email lists and Facebook groups. There are a variety of emails lists to choose from with each list having its own personality. There’s a Facebook for everyone and one for 18-40 yrs of age. SWC holds an annual convention in different parts of the county. No membership fees.

Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA)  
[www.alda.org](http://www.alda.org)  There isn’t an ALDA chapter in Salt Lake City but it is an active, nationwide support group. They hold annual conventions and their focus is more social with a variety of ways to communicate. Their motto is “Whatever works!” They publish a quarterly newsletter in which hard of hearing and deaf people write about their experiences. Membership is $30.