

Give Little Ones a Little Time



Washington State Center for Childhood
Deafness & Hearing Loss (CDHL)

~
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Information Shared with Parents

Language, Communication and Social Development

- * Understanding your baby's audiogram and hearing ability
- * Importance of bonding & early relationships
- * Details of language & auditory developmental milestones for D/HH children
- * Need for exploring communication modalities
- * Developing a communication plan to be reviewed every 6 months
- * Families priorities/language experiences – utilizing community resources



Information Shared with Parents



Parents need time to digest information from professionals!

Communication Modalities (In WA)

- * Visual American Sign Language (ASL)
- * Spoken English
- * Written English
- * Signed Exact English (SEE)

Resources

- ❖ Hands & Voices, state and HQ
- ❖ Guide By Your Side program
- ❖ Future Deaf Guide program
- ❖ Connect parent with teachers of the deaf, SKI-HI Coach
- ❖ Washington Outreach Network
- ❖ Local community playgroups, daycare programs

Collaborating with professionals across modalities offers full support to children and their families

Communication Opportunities



Locate the baby so she can be involved in what's happening, “part of the conversation” and can take in what's going on around her.

- * Natural interactions
- * Typical development
- * Eye gaze & reach
- * Observe/respond
- * Use ongoing assessment



Initial IFSP Outcomes

- * Help the baby who is deaf or hard of hearing learn to communicate effectively
- * Encourage your baby to become a fully participating member of the family



Developing the IFSP



- * Family concerns/desires for their baby
- * Areas: Communication, Cognitive, Social-Emotional
- * Goals: Write goals exploring communication modes
 - * Materials explaining modalities
- * Models/Resources: DHH Adult, GBYS

Optimal Language Acquisition for DHH children

Interactions

- * Good eye contact
- * Bonding - developing trust and secure relationship with baby
- * Taking care of baby - gentle touches and physical care
- * Love and cuddling
- * Facial expressions
- * Learning what different cries mean

Daily Routines

- * Diapering
- * Bath-time
- * Meal time
- * Getting dressed
- * Bed-time
- * Errands



Recognizing Teachable Moments

Infants:

- * Quiet and Alert Phase
- * Respond to their needs



*Teachable moments can happen
anywhere and at any time*

Toddlers and Pre-schoolers:

- * Asking questions about what you see
- * Pointing out colors and shapes in the supermarket
- * Comparing something familiar with something that is not

Recognizing Teachable Moments

- * Instill a love of learning
- * Take advantage of learning opportunities
- * Encourage child-directed active play
Turn off the tv, put away the iPad
- * Physical play
- * Discovery play
- * Pretend play



Setting up a Learning Environment in Your Home



- * Lighting
- * Placement
- * Acoustics
- * Rotation

Consider opportunities for language acquisition

Families need opportunities to explore & experience different communication modalities!

- * Children must actively participate in figuring out the meanings, rules and structures of language
- * Visually maximize the interactive process for deaf children especially if hearing technology doesn't benefit them



“Cognitive and social experiences aligned with meaningful linguistic data are required in large doses and natural contexts for all children.”

-Margaret Finnegan, Ph.D., parent & educator

Coaching parents

Building Foundational Communication Skills

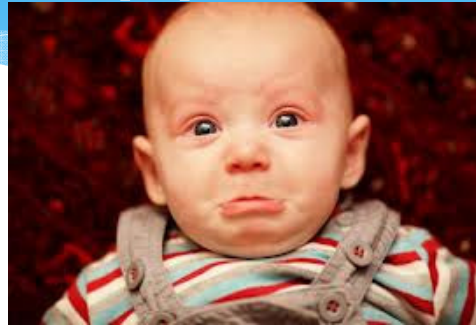
- * Be a narrator
- * Facial expression/body language/gestures
- * Eye contact/eye gaze
- * Attention
- * Turn-taking

Instilling Confidence

- * Prepare questions
- * Role-playing
- * Advocacy skills



Real life situations – how to problem solve & support the family



- * Parents are overwhelmed
- * Parents in denial about baby's hearing loss
- * Hearing technology is not used consistently
- * Team members locate all resources, help family access
- * Family resources, family members, friends to help
- * GBYS
- * Is child benefitting? Info about access to language and learning
- * Delicate balance of supports

How Long Do We Wait?



- * Age 0-5 years: 6 month IFSP reviews
 - * Progression/closing the gaps
- * Age 5-21 years: Annual IEP meetings
 - * One year's growth in one year's time





Parents need time to bond with their baby!

“Some parents have said that they felt under a lot of pressure to make choices about communication. It is important to remember that you do not have to make a choice for life. You may want to change your approach as you learn more about your child’s needs and preferences. The right choice is the one that works best for you and your child.”

<http://www.aussiedeafkids.org.au/making-choices-about-communication.html>

How to get ahold of us:

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Center for Childhood
Deafness & Hearing Loss (CDHL)

WA State System

Pathway to Services: Infants & Toddlers who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing

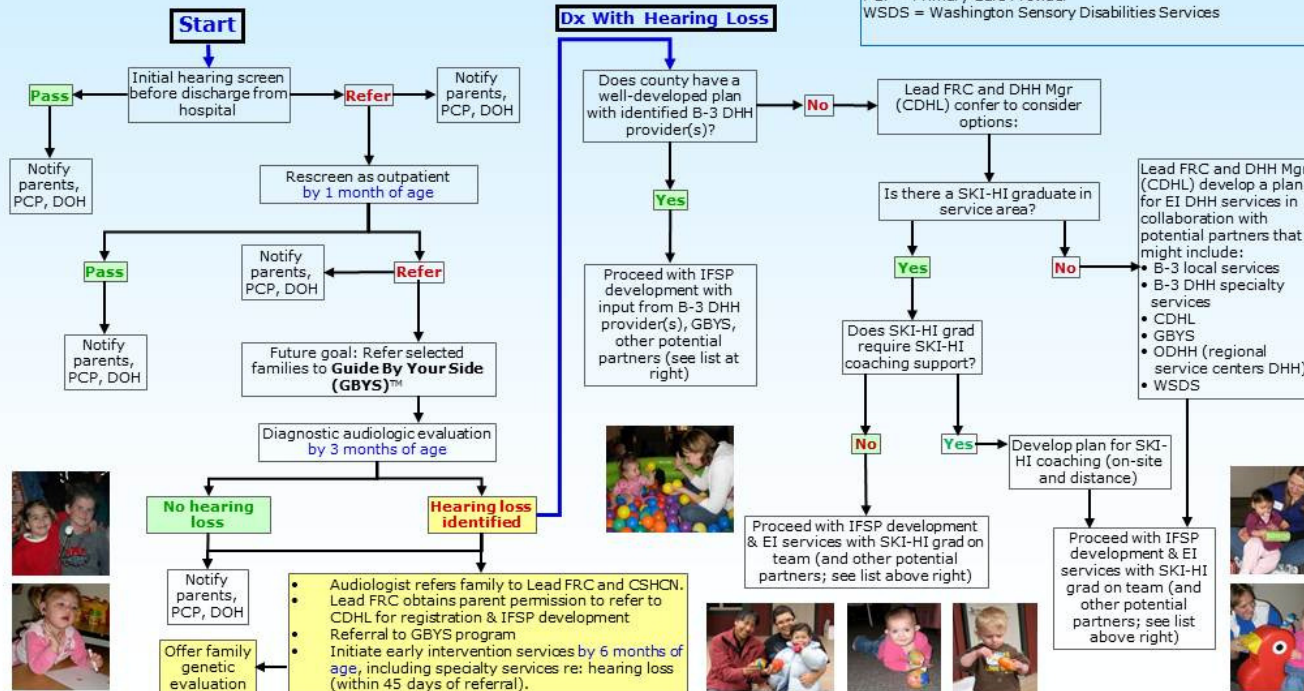


A flow chart developed for the state of Washington by a multi-agency team including:

- Center for Childhood Deafness and Hearing Loss (CDHL)**
www.cdhl.wa.gov CDHL Outreach: 855-342-1670
- Department of Health (DOH)**
www.doh.wa.gov EHDDI program: 206-418-5613 Genetics: 253-395-6742
- Early Support for Infants and Toddlers Program (ESIT)**
www.del.wa.gov/esit/ Family Health Hotline at 1-800-322-2588
- Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH)**
www.dshs.wa.gov/hrsa/odhh/ 800-422-7930
- Washington Sensory Disabilities Services (WSDS)**
www.wsdsonline.org 800-572-7000

Abbreviations

- B-3 = Birth to three years of age
- CDHL = Center for Childhood Deafness and Hearing Loss
- CSHCN = Children with Special Health Care Needs
- DHH = Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- DOH = Department of Health
- EI = Early Intervention
- FRC = Family Resources Coordinator
- GBYS = Guide By Your Side™
- IFSP = Individualized Family Service Plan
- ODHH = Office of Deaf/Hard of Hearing
- PCP = Primary Care Provider
- WSDS = Washington Sensory Disabilities Services



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Washington Outreach Network

A multi-agency effort to provide services to deaf and hard of hearing students from birth to age 21.

- * Audiologist
- * Behavioral Specialist
- * Bilingual (ASL/English) Specialist
- * Birth-to-Five Specialist
- * Certified Listening & Spoken Language Specialist
- * Certified Educational Interpreter
- * Counselor
- * Curriculum & Assessment Specialist
- * Combined Vision & Hearing Loss Specialist
- * DHH Program Administrator
- * Multiple Disabilities Specialist
- * School Psychologist
- * Speech Language Pathologist
- * Teacher of the Deaf/Literacy Specialist



Center for Childhood
Deafness & Hearing Loss (CDHL)