

LISTENING TO FAMILIES:

VIEWS FROM A VIRTUAL LANGUAGE MENTORING PROGRAM



JODEE CRACE

**ASL Connect | Families
Resource Coordinator**



SUZANNE MATTOX

SE-REAL Director



REAL

Learning Outcomes

- Identify several strategies of **how families learn and engage** in learning ASL virtually
- Gain a better understanding of **parents' perceptions of learning ASL**



ASLCONNECT | FAMILIES

START UP



ESTABLISHED IN 2019



TO ADDRESS
A LACK OF
FOCUS ON
ACCESSIBLE
LANGUAGE



COLLABORATE WITH
ALABAMA INSTITUTE
FOR DEAF AND
BLIND AND CLERC
CENTER



PROVIDES TRAINING,
RESOURCES AND
TOOLS TO HELP
FAMILIES AND EI
PROFESSIONALS



SOUTHEASTERN USA

ABOUT ASLCONNECT™

ASL Connect, which is under the auspices of the Chief Bilingual Officer at Gallaudet University, provides a variety of credit and non-credit virtual ASL learning opportunities for anyone, anytime and anywhere. Within ASL Connect is our Families unit, which provides language mentoring for birth to three families with trained Deaf language mentors, (“Connectors”) who specialize in early language learning and family support.

REAL



ASLCONNECT | FAMILIES





What we do together for the families

WE ONLY OFFER THE SERVICE YOU DESERVE.



STRATEGIES TO LEARN & ENGAGE IN LEARNING ASL VIRTUALLY



EXCITEMENT

Share a flyer about the opportunity to learn ASL through a virtual platform



CREATIVITY

Find a way that works best with parents (text, email, call, FT, social media, etc.)
Each family is unique



FUN

Send a Care Package with iPad and learning materials



FLEXIBILITY

Schedule the weekly lessons that work best for them

WAYS PARENTS LEARN, OUR FINDINGS



THEIR OWN PACE



VARIED LEARNING
MATERIALS



RESOURCES



WAYS PARENTS LEARN, OUR FINDINGS CONTINUED



SIGNED LANGUAGE
INSTRUCTION



PRE & POST CYCLE SURVEY



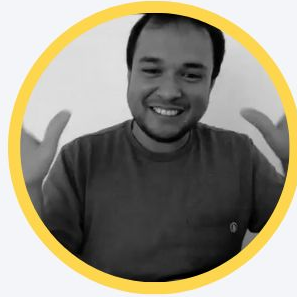
FOUR FULL LEARNING
CYCLES, 100 FAMILIES
SERVED SINCE MARCH 2020





FAMILY #1

“There are honestly no words that can describe just how blown away me and my husband are by this program.”



FAMILY #2

“I cannot thank you enough for teaching me so much in ASL and your kindness. You have been very caring and compassionate.”



FAMILY #3

“The connector made me feel very comfortable with learning ASL and always was willing to go the extra mile. It has opened my world with new possibilities and I’m grateful for that.”



WHAT OUR FAMILIES SAY



ASLCONNECT | FAMILIES



100%

of families would
recommend this
program



100%

of families enjoyed
the experience



93%

of families felt the
length was right

Take-away Points



COLLABORATION



SUPPORT



FLEXIBILITY



PASSION



DEDICATION

WE ARE IN THIS

Together!

REAL



ASLCONNECT | FAMILIES



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



THANK YOU!



LAURENT CLERC
NATIONAL DEAF EDUCATION CENTER



www.gallaudet.eu/asl-connect | aslconnect.families@gallaudet.edu | www.aidb.org/real | sereal@aidb.org