# A Statewide Speech and Auditory Program

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# The Program





#### The Need

Advances in technology

Newborn screening

Lack of adequate providers



#### Rationale

To develop a model training program

To reach the rural areas

To train providers in all areas of the state



# The Design A Speech/Language and Auditory Program

Focus: Listening and Spoken Language

Application: Any child with language delay

 All concepts can be applied to children using sign language or total communication



# **Training Concept**

- Small group
- Participant selection
- Schedule
  - 9 days of on-site training
  - Field visit/observation
- Variety of presentation formats
- Variety of topics
- Cost
- Planned follow-up



### Small Group

8 participants

Allowed for hands-on in groups of 2

Opportunity for participation in discussion



#### Participant Selection

- Early Intervention Providers
  - DT, specialized DT, special instructors, SLP
- Geographic areas served
- Interview to verify commitment
- At least one child on caseload with hearing loss



#### Schedule

- 2007-2008 7 day workshop
  - Spread out over 3 sessions
- 2010
  - 5 days in January
  - 2 days in February
  - Field observation/site visit (in March/April)
  - 2 days in May
  - E-mail communication throughout
- Intention for follow-up
  - Distance learning
  - Face-to-face



#### **Presentation Formats**

Didactic lecture for conveying information

Interactive discussion

Video demonstrations

Hands-on practice



## **Topics**

- Overview of opportunities and possibilities
- Audiology
  - Impact on development of spoken language
  - Assistive technology
- Language development
- Working with parents/primary caregivers
- Teaching strategies/techniques
- Discussion
- Hands-on experiences



#### Cost/Budget

- Awarded a state grant
  - Included days of instruction and mentoring visit
- State reimbursed participants for expenses
- State provided stipend for participants



#### Planned Follow-Up

- Distance coaching/observation
  - Anticipate 8 times during the follow-up year
- E-mail contact
  - ongoing, as needed
- Phone contact
  - ongoing, as needed
- Face-to-face meeting
  - Anticipate two 2-day meetings



#### Summary

- Participant comments suggest that workshop highlights include:
  - Hands-on
    - With children, direct instruction
    - With parents, coaching
  - Coaching
    - During direct child service activities
    - During parent coaching sessions
  - Interactive discussions
    - Immediate feedback of hands-on activities
    - Sharing of personal experiences
  - E-mail communication



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