



An Unlikely Partnership:

**Collaboration Between an
Auditory-Verbal Center and a
School for the Deaf**

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About...

The Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center

National Initiatives



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The Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center

Demonstration Schools



Philosophy and Beliefs

Kendall School is an ASL/English bilingual program that supports the acquisition, learning, and use of American Sign Language and English (including spoken English) to meet the needs of diverse children.



Clerc Center: Perspectives on Spoken Language

Importance of:

- individualized language and communication planning
- audiology services on-site to support consistent use of hearing aids/cochlear implants
- auditory/speech/spoken language skill development addressed through individualized auditory and speech IFSP/IEP services
- oral language developed and facilitated in the classroom by teachers and other professionals
- spoken English and ASL valued in the school program

Mission of Chattering Children

- ▶ Equipping children with hearing loss and their families with a foundation for lifelong learning through listening and spoken language
- ▶ Building productive partnerships in research, professional training, and collaborative outreach programs to promote best practices in language learning for children with hearing loss



More than just talk.

Chattering Children: Philosophy and Beliefs

Adherence to Auditory Verbal Principles—

- ▶ Maximize technology, integrate listening & spoken language, “coach & guide” families.
- ▶ Put tools for listening & spoken language in “toolbox”; families gather other tools.
- ▶ Families must make deliberate communication decisions, recognizing when strategies compliment and compete with one another.

Perspectives on Signing

Profiles of AV Signing Families

- ▶ Children from culturally Deaf families
 - Goal is to build auditory & spoken English skills
- ▶ Children transitioning from sign to oral language
 - Goal varies by age, often functional, not academic
- ▶ Infants whose families have used sign language
 - Goal is age appropriate spoken language
- ▶ Children with significant cognitive & motor challenges
 - Goal is to maximize auditory potential
 - Receptive & expressive language modes may differ

WHY COLLABORATE ??????



Benefit To The Child

Promotes mutual goals related to facilitating cognitive and linguistic competence

Benefit To The Family

Allows families to address their child's development in a cohesive, collaborative, comprehensive manner.

Benefit To Professionals

Broadens professional understanding of how varied approaches and strategies can be implemented collaboratively to support children and families.

Benefit To Programs

Complementary services and strategies can be collectively provided to the child and family.

Benefit to Deaf Education

Promotes a collaborative focus for advocacy, policy making, and professional training

EVOLUTION OF A COLLABORATION



Evolution Of A Collaboration

- ▶ Families enrolled their children at both Kendall School and Chattering Children
- ▶ Chattering Children connected with Kendall School to:
 - observe children in their school environment
 - promote communication with child's teacher and other support staff
- Plans in progress for:
 - Cross training between facilities

Setting Visual Language Foundations



Bilingual PIP program



Music time



S- Visual Phonics



Look... (handshape for "ee")....eeeeeeee

S in class- ASL



Bilingual Preschool classroom



Early Listening Play



Using Voice with Signs



Receptive Skills - Auditory



Foundational Listening



Building Listening



Including Deaf Families



In Summary

Working together
benefits everyone!

