

# WYOMING EARLY HEARING DETECTION & INTERVENTION (EHDI)

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The Wyoming Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program would like you to be aware of the following resources available to Early Intervention Providers, Speech Language Pathologists, Speech Language Pathology Aides, ECSE Teachers, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Family Service Coordinators, families, or any and all professionals working to support Wyoming children (birth – 5 years of age) who have hearing loss. These services are offered as an ongoing effort to help improve the quality of Early Intervention services provided to Wyoming children and their families.

**Mentoring and guidance** in aspects related to working with children with hearing loss is available via FaceTime sessions, Skype sessions, e-mail, phone calls and on-site trainings. Trainings can take place one-on-one, and in small or large groups; training topics include:

1. Natural Environment and/or Classroom Strategies/Intervention for Children with Hearing Loss
2. Understanding and using technology including:
  - Cochlear Implants, Hearing Aids, Bone Anchored Hearing Aids (BAHAs), FM Systems
3. Understanding an Audiogram/Audiology Report
4. Communicating with Audiologists regarding your child's hearing care
5. Writing an Early Intervention report to send to the Audiologist when your child goes to have a Cochlear Implant mapping.
6. Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP)/Individual Education Plan (IEP) Outcome/Goal Development
  - including attendance at IFSP/IEP Meetings via Face Time and/or Skype if invited by the team.
7. Targeting Auditory Skill Development in Children with Hearing Loss
8. Using/Learning Sign Language with your children
9. Literacy Skill Development
10. Case Management Issues
11. Parent Education/Parent Trainings
12. Other...tell us what you need!

## **EHDI Early Interventionist List Serve**

(List Serve: [wymingehdiei@wymingehdi.org](mailto:wymingehdiei@wymingehdi.org))

This List Serve is used to share articles, resources, information regarding trainings, materials, that are pertinent to working with children who have hearing loss and their families. To join the list serve, contact us at [Susan.Fischer@wyo.gov](mailto:Susan.Fischer@wyo.gov).

### **National Early Childhood Assessment Project (NECAP)**

Best practice dictates that children with hearing loss should be evaluated in all areas of development on an annual basis. By utilizing the Kent, Minnesota, and MacArthur Assessments, all areas of development are evaluated with the use of the NECAP. Assessment packets are made available to Wyoming children with hearing loss (ages birth-5 years of age) through the Wyoming EHDI Program; completed assessments are sent to the University of Colorado to be scored and the child's Early Intervention provider receives a report indicating the child's developmental age for their skills. Support is provided from the Wyoming EHDI Program to discuss and interpret the results for each child and to make adjustments to the child's IFSP/IEP if team members believe changes are warranted.

### **Shared Reading Program**

The Shared Reading Program is designed to teach parents and other caregivers how to read to their children with hearing loss using American Sign Language and uses strategies to make book sharing most effective. Using FaceTime and/or Skype technology, a deaf tutor meets with an individual family on a weekly basis. There is a limit to the number of parents/families who are able to participate in this program.

### **Reading/Sign Language Guide Program**

This program is designed to teach parents and other caregivers how to read to their children with hearing loss using Conceptually Accurate Signed English. Signing support for daily routines is also provided. Using FaceTime and/or Skype technology, a tutor meets with an individual family or with a group of families on a weekly basis. Books and materials are sent directly to each family. There is a limit to the number of parents/families who are able to participate in this program.

### **Language Environmental Analysis (LENA)**

The LENA is a digital recorder unit a child with hearing loss wears continuously during waking hours of one day. The information from the recording is analyzed and the results provided measure the amount of meaningful language to which the child is exposed, the amount of distant language to which the child is exposed, the amount of background noise present in the environment, the amount of T.V. noise present, conversational turns and the amount of silence in the child's day. Early Intervention providers can use the results to support the family in their use of language facilitation techniques and thus positively impact the language/listening environment of the child.

If you have any questions or are interested in tapping into these supports, please contact us. We look forward to working with you!!

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