

Pathways



WASHINGTON STATE
HANDS & VOICES™

A Family's Overview to Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) Early Intervention



Hearing difference identified...

At Birth

or

Before age 3

EHDDI
Early Hearing Detection,
Diagnosis and Intervention

**Newborn
Hearing Screen**

Audiologist

Early Support for
Infants & Toddlers
(ESIT) Agency

**Early Intervention Screening
or
Medical Referral**

Audiologist

Early Support for
Infants & Toddlers
(ESIT) Agency



**GUIDE BY
YOUR SIDE™**
*Add this program
at any time

**ESIT
Deaf or
Hard of Hearing
Specialist**

What is an ESIT Deaf or Hard of Hearing (DHH) Specialist?

ESIT recognizes DHH Specialists and Associates in these roles:

- Developmental Specialists: DHH (Teachers of the Deaf)
- Pediatric Audiologists
- Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) trained in DHH
- Developmental Associates (Paraeducators)

Agencies may assign specific job titles such as

**Birth to Three Specialist, Communication Coach,
Early Language Coach, Family Engagement Specialist, etc.**

Why must an ESIT DHH Specialist join the team?

An ESIT Deaf or Hard of Hearing (DHH) Specialist brings helpful expertise and support to the IFSP process, whether the child has been identified as DHH or is still being tested.

How do I invite an ESIT DHH Specialist to the team?

Ask your Family Resources Coordinator (FRC) about adding an ESIT Developmental Specialist: DHH to your child's IFSP team.



FAMILY TO FAMILY SUPPORT*

Available. Anytime. Anywhere.

What is Family to Family Support?

In Washington State, Hands & Voices offers parent support through their Guide By Your Side (GBYS) Program. This is a parent-driven organization that works with state agencies to provide support to families of children who are deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind, or have combined conditions.

Why is GBYS important?

GBYS Provides Families:

- A trained parent, called Parent Guide, who provides free, flexible support to families with children from birth to 21.
- Validation and empowerment.
- Compassion and knowledge from parents who have a child that is Deaf or Hard of Hearing.
- Information, support, and tools to navigate challenging systems.
- Available anytime and anywhere.

How to request more information.

- Scan the QR code below
- Click "Request Support Form (Parents)"
- Complete to submit the form



**GUIDE BY
YOUR SIDE™**

Scan Here

**TO REFER
YOUR FAMILY
TO GBYS**

