

If You Build It, Will They Come? A Regional Approach to Establishing Effective Learning Communities



Presenters:

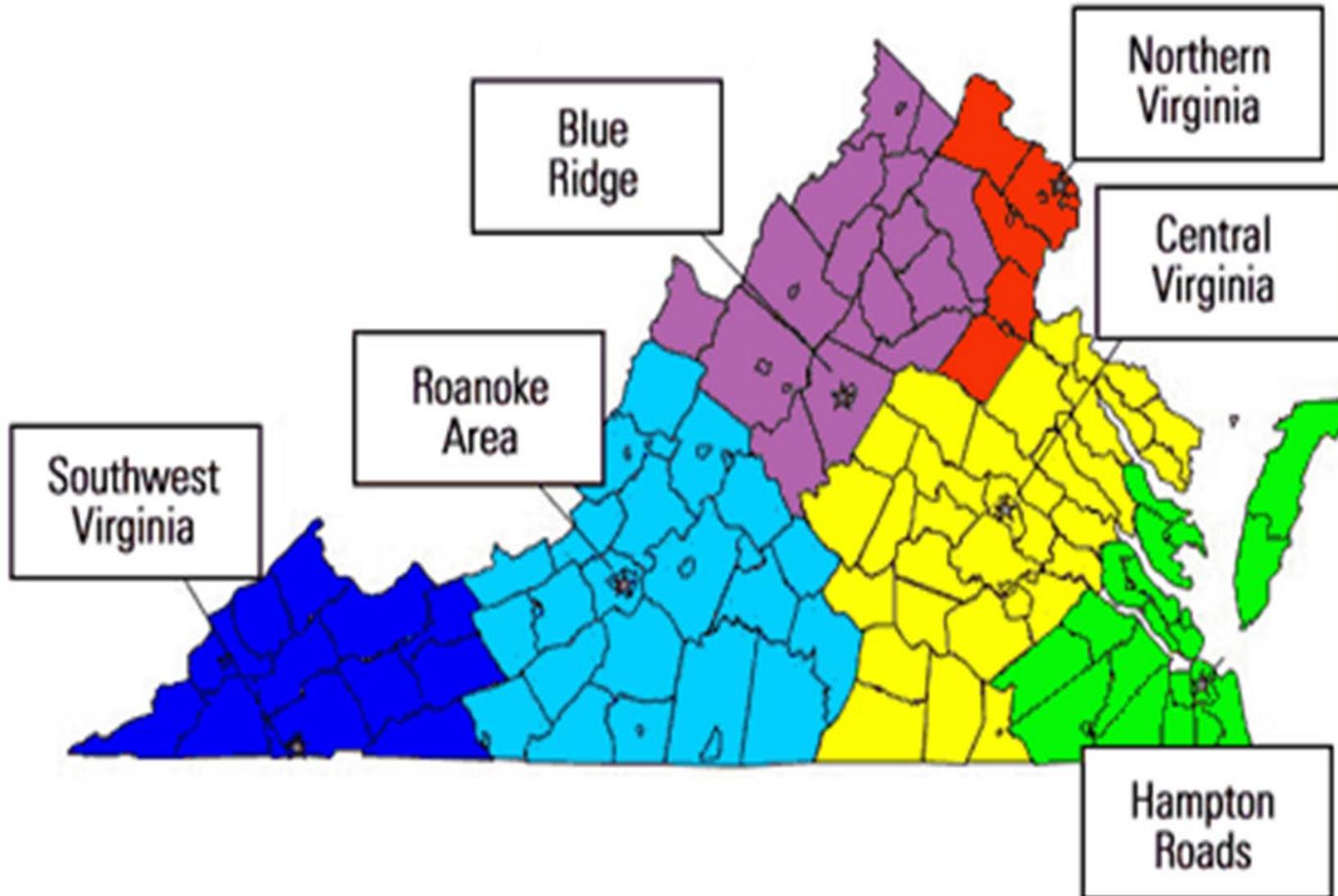
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Objective

- Provide an overview on how the Learning Community was established regionally in Virginia.



The Six Learning Communities



Northern Virginia (NoVa) Region

- Urban and suburban population
- Key Differences
 - Dense population but minimal access to Pediatric services
 - Culturally diverse population
 - Bordering states- Maryland, District of Columbia

Central Virginia Region

- Urban, suburban and rural population
- Key Differences
 - Greater number of key stakeholders
 - Easier access to Pediatric services
 - Culturally diverse population
 - Bordering states- North Carolina

Southwest Region

- Rural population
- Key Differences
 - Rural population
 - Difficulty recruiting parents
 - Minimal internet access
 - Not culturally diverse
 - Extensive travel required to access Pediatric services
 - Bordering states- Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, West Virginia

Roanoke Region

- Suburban and rural population
- Key Differences
 - Scattered access to Pediatric services
 - Not culturally diverse
 - Bordering states- North Carolina, West Virginia

Blue Ridge Region

- Urban, suburban and rural population
- Key Differences
 - Not culturally diverse
 - Pockets of access to Pediatric services
 - Bordering states- West Virginia, Pennsylvania

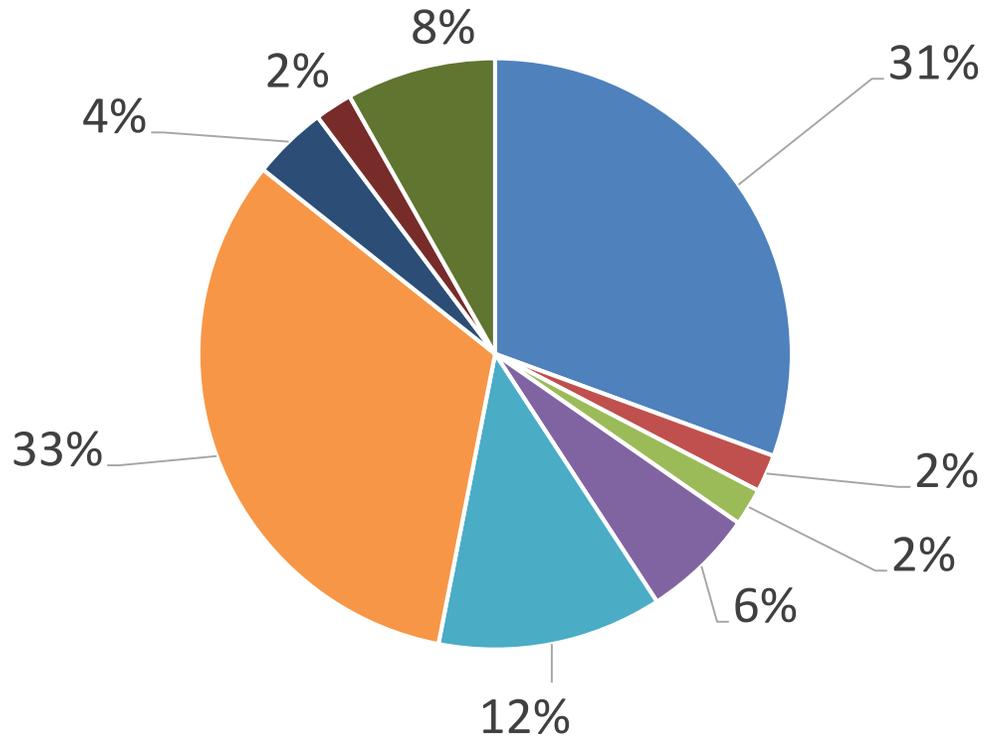
Hampton Roads Region

- Urban, suburban and military population
- Key Differences
 - Transient population
 - Culturally diverse
 - Bordering states- North Carolina

NoVa Region

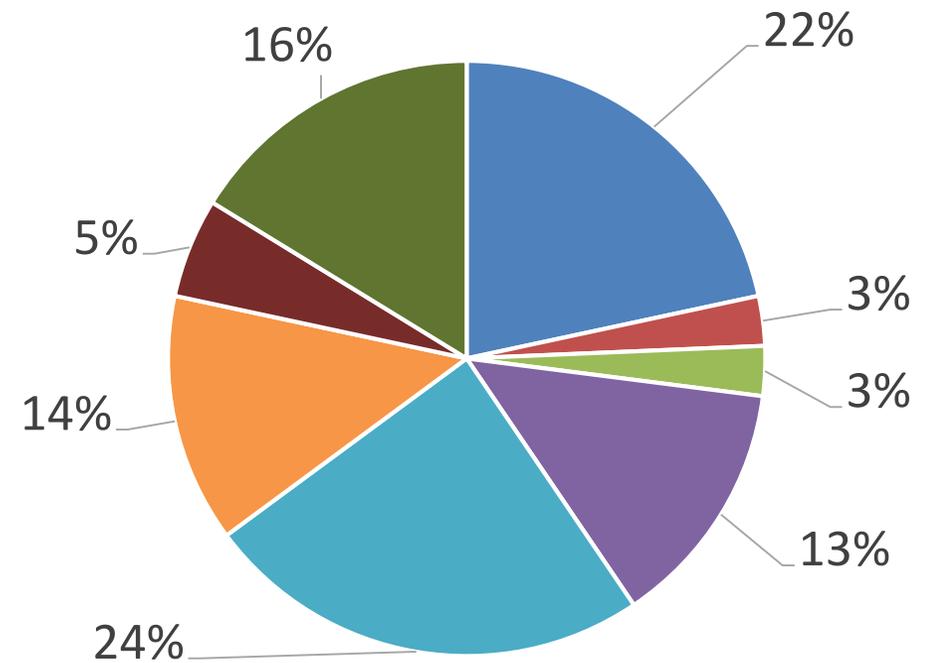
Central Virginia Region

- Established September 2017



- Parents
- Audiologists
- ENT
- Newborn Screeners
- Pediatrician
- Midwives

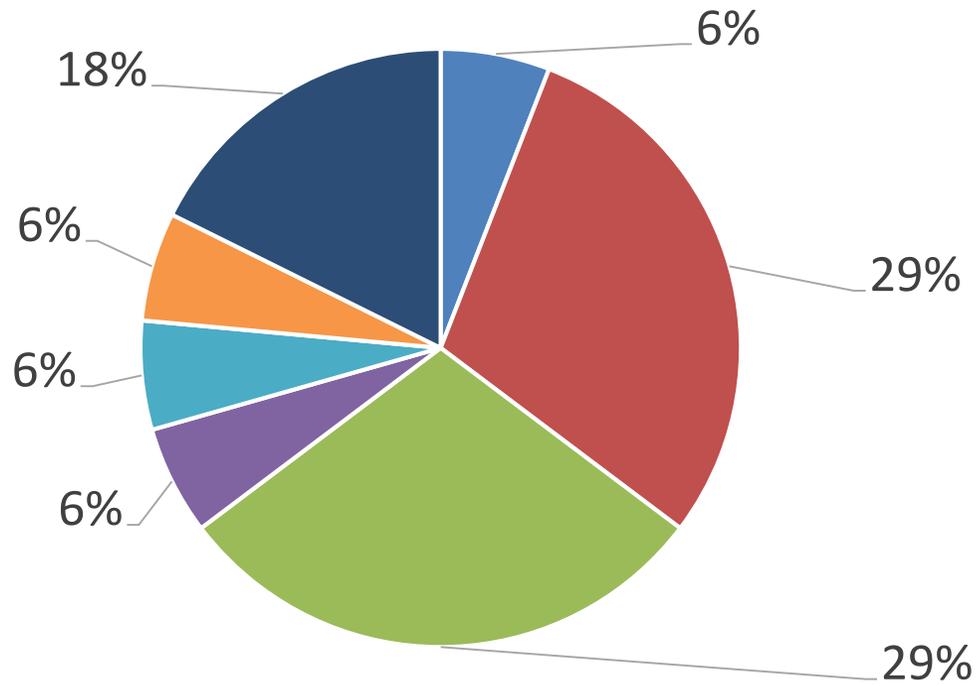
- Established May 2018



- Early Interventionists
- Educators
- Other Professionals

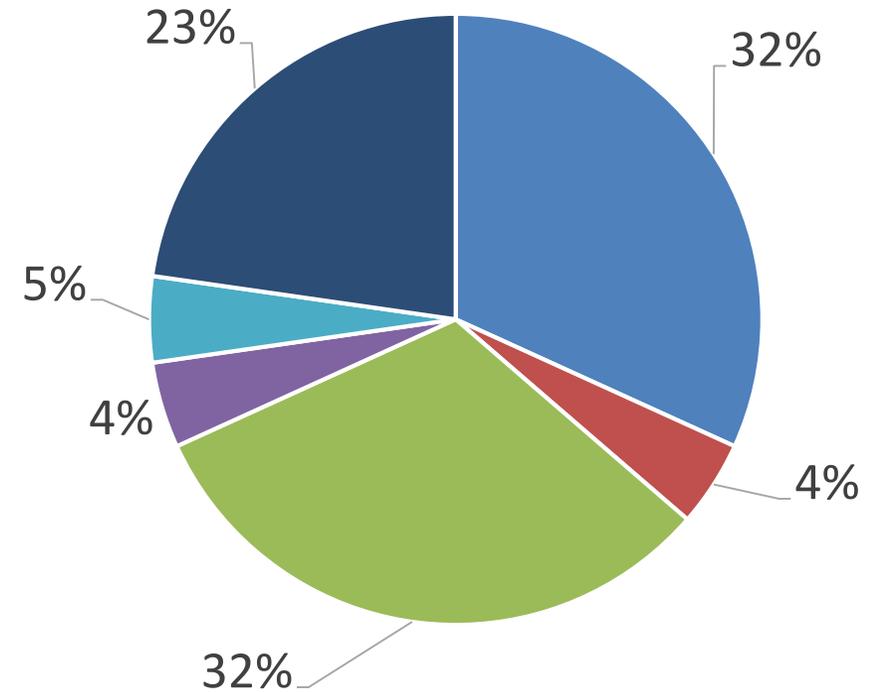
Southwest Region

- Established October 2018



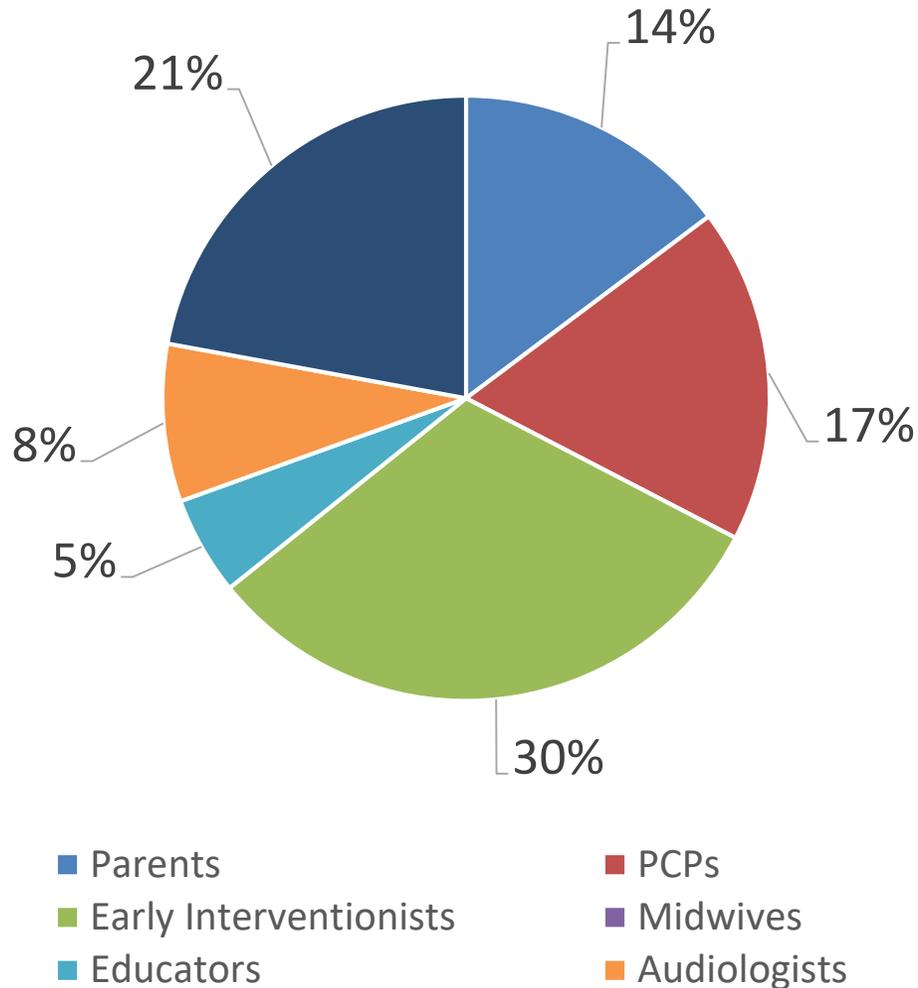
Roanoke Region

- Established October 2018



■ Parents ■ Early Interventionists ■ Educators ■ Audiologists ■ Midwives ■ VAHALB Representative ■ Other Professionals

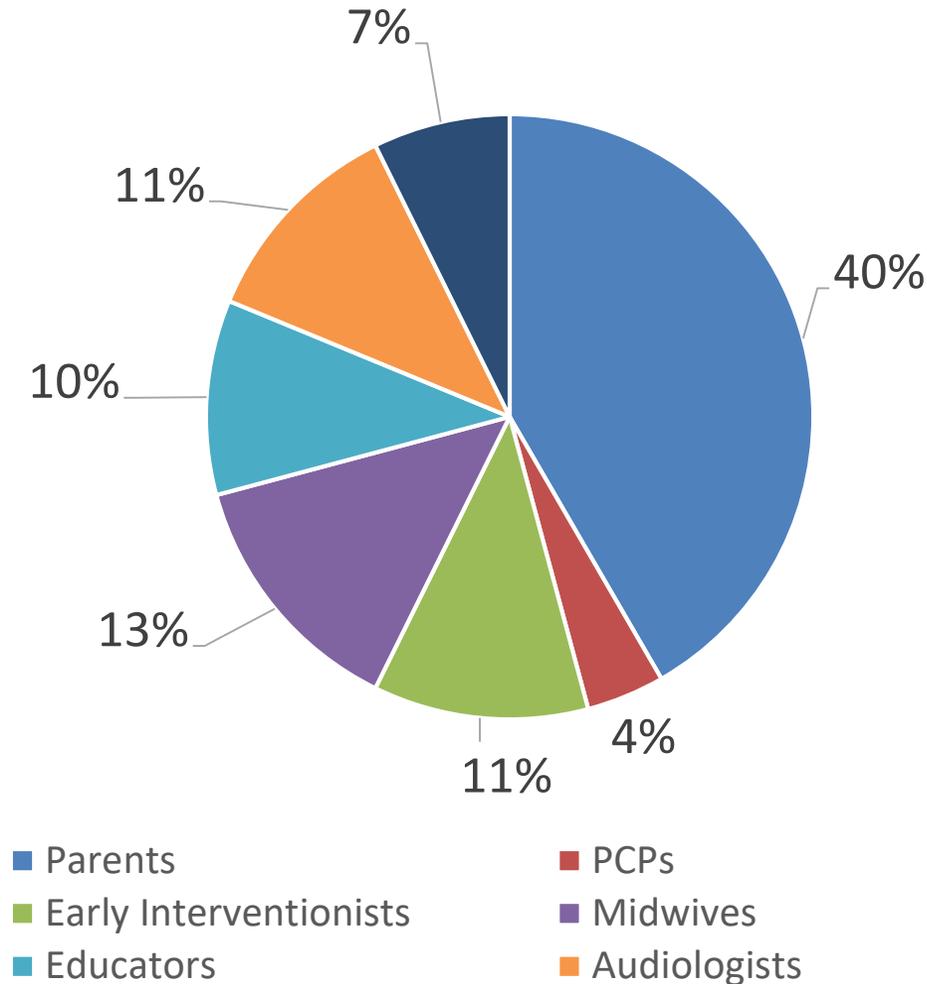
NoVa Needs Assessment



- Key Findings:

- Limited knowledge about EHDI 1-3-6 timeline and risk factors for late-onset hearing loss.
- Many healthcare professionals rarely refer for Parent to Parent support.
- Identified a need for greater supports for parents.

Central Virginia Needs Assessment



Key Findings:

- Increased knowledge about EHDI systems compared to Northern VA LC
- Limited knowledge about risk factors for late-onset hearing loss, Care Coordination and culturally- competent, family-centered care for children who are D/HH

Successful Outcomes

- Establishing peer to peer learning environment
- Ability to connect with providers
- Increased parent leadership
- Development of products



VIRGINIA'S EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION

Shared Plan of Care *for*

Children with Hearing Loss



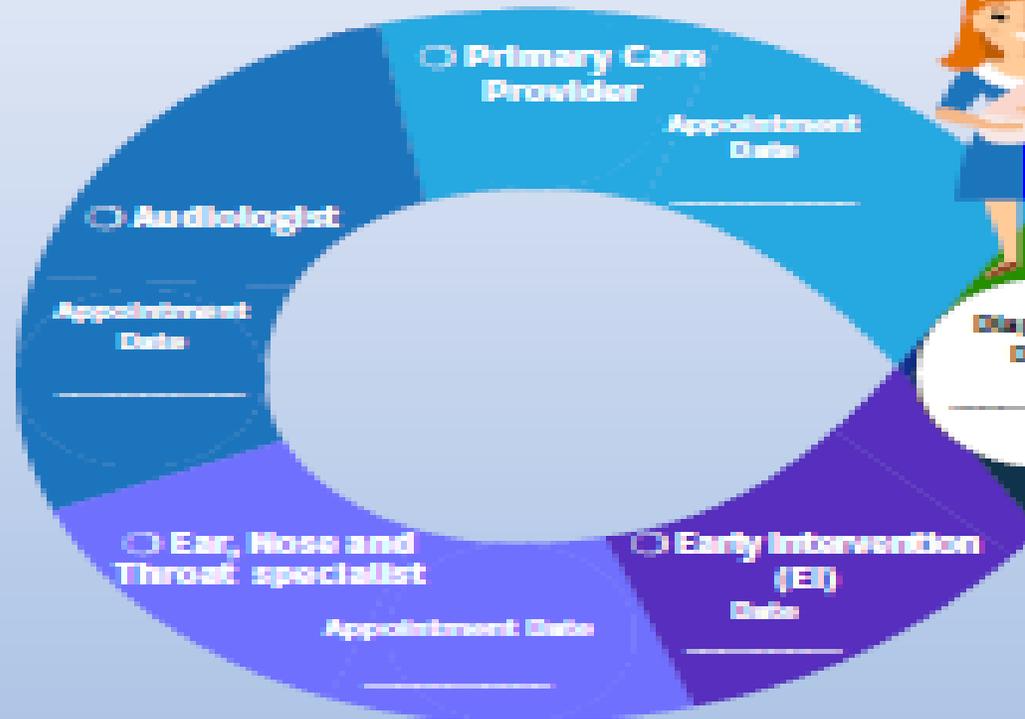
**Early Hearing Detection
& Intervention Program**

VDHLiveWell.com/hearing

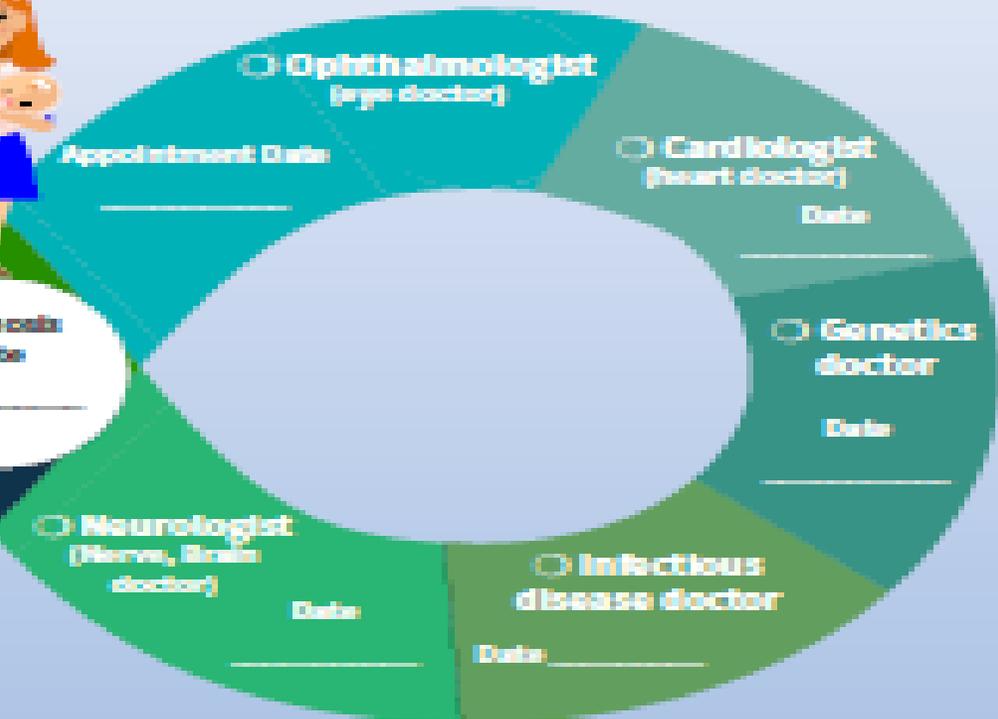
Shared Plan of Care for Children with Hearing Loss

It is important to schedule your child's appointment with their PCP and other specialists as needed. Use the guide below to keep track of all your child's recommended appointments after diagnosis.

Repeating Appointments



Recommended Appointments





Shared Plan of Care

A group of parents and professionals worked together to design the Shared Care Plan for your child who has been diagnosed with a hearing loss. This plan should serve as a guide following diagnosis. The purpose is to provide the next steps in your child's hearing health care. The great news is that there are plenty of professionals and parents ready to support you.

Key terms to know:

Audiologist

A professional trained to diagnose, manage and treat hearing or balance problems.

Early Intervention (EI)

A program that provides services and support to families to give them the skills they need to help their children reach their highest potential.

Family to Family Support

Family members who have experience caring for a child with hearing loss. They provide support and to help identify additional resources.

Primary Care Provider

A primary care provider (PCP) is a health care professional who practices general medicine, including pediatrics. PCPs are the first stop for medical care. PCPs can be a medical doctor, nurse practitioner and/or a physician assistant.

Ear Nose & Throat (otolaryngologist)

An otolaryngologist is a medical specialist who is focused on the ears, nose, and throat. These specialists are trained in both medicine and surgery. Also known as an ENT.

The Virginia Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (VA EHDI) program

provides information and support to parents whose children have been identified with hearing loss. After diagnosis, make sure that VA EHDI has contacted you. If not, please contact us 804-864-7719.

“I was feeling so overwhelmed with my newborn's hearing loss diagnosis. Being able to talk with another parent with personal experience of raising a child with hearing loss was like finding a beacon of light in the darkness. She was so supportive and an incredible resource, I am forever grateful.”

-Sabrina, parent

VA EHDI should:

- Send information after your child is first diagnosed.
- Call with next steps in your child's hearing journey.
- Provide information about possible referrals.
- Connect you with Family-to-Family support and resources in your area.

Next Steps After Diagnosis

- Write your questions for your next appointment.
- Contact your local EI program to schedule an appointment and understand what services they can provide for your child.
- Research communication options
- Connect with Family-to-Family support.
- Check with your insurance company about coverage related to hearing loss.
- Make appointments based on the referrals from your PCP or specialists.

Choose a Communication Plan

Communications options:

You will be exposed to many professional who should provide you unbiased information on communication options.



Repeating Appointments

Audiologist should:

- Refer your child for a repeat Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) test if needed to determine their hearing sensitivity.
- Explain the child's hearing loss.
- Answer the questions you prepared about hearing loss.
- Provide an understanding of Early Intervention services.
- Discuss communication options.
- Explain choices for amplification (optional).
- Refer your child to an Ear Nose & Throat specialist (otolaryngologist or ENT).

Ear Nose & Throat Specialist should:

- Examine your child's ear.
- Discuss hearing loss and treatment options.
- Provide medical clearance for hearing aids - if needed.
- Refer for further tests if needed.
- Answer questions you may have

Primary Care Provider should:

- Meet with you to discuss your child's hearing loss and next steps.
- Discuss referrals your child may need:
 - Ophthalmologist (eye doctor)
 - Cardiologist (heart doctor)
 - Neurologist (Nerve, brain doctor)
 - Infectious disease doctor
 - Genetics

Early Intervention (EI) should:

- Contact you to explain the EI services.
- Schedule a first visit.
- Do an initial assessment with your child.
- Develop an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) - a plan to identify individualized supports and services that will enhance your child's development.
- Assign a service coordinator to work with your child.
- Discuss communication options for children diagnosed with hearing loss (see options above).
- Help you understand your child's insurance benefits.
- Discuss what to expect at your medical appointments related to hearing loss.



For more information, visit VDHLiveWell.com/hearing

We Built it and They Kept Coming. Why?

- Recruitment
- Engagement
- Networking opportunity
- Transition to local leadership



Lessons Learned

- Needs Assessment
 - Quality Improvement
 - Pediatrician and ENT participation
 - Rural community
- Meeting Customization
 - Meeting time & location
 - Variations by region
- PCP and ENT Involvement
 - Recruitment
 - Minimal involvement



Contact Information

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