

UCSF Health

# Barriers To Access in Immigrant Families with Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

# Objectives

- By the end of this session, attendees should be able to identify barriers faced by immigrant families when interacting with their provider
- By the end of this session, attendees will be able to report on a framework for understanding immigrant families with children who are DHH
- By the end of this session, attendees will be able to list one way they can support immigrant families with children who are DHH

# Meet the Team

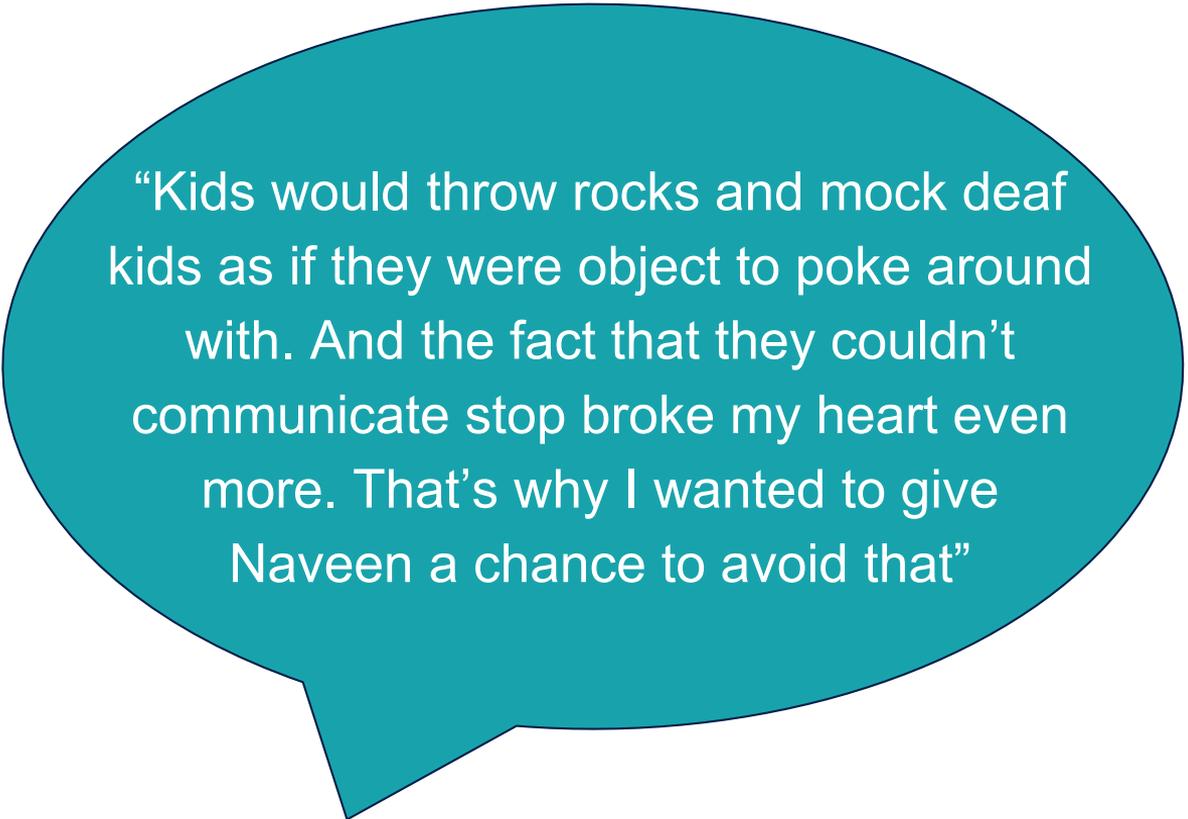


“My husband rejected the idea of accepting [his child learning sign language] and when the ASL teacher would show up at our house he would not welcome them in and would tell me you go deal with them, because [he] didn’t like to see how they talk in sign language with her”

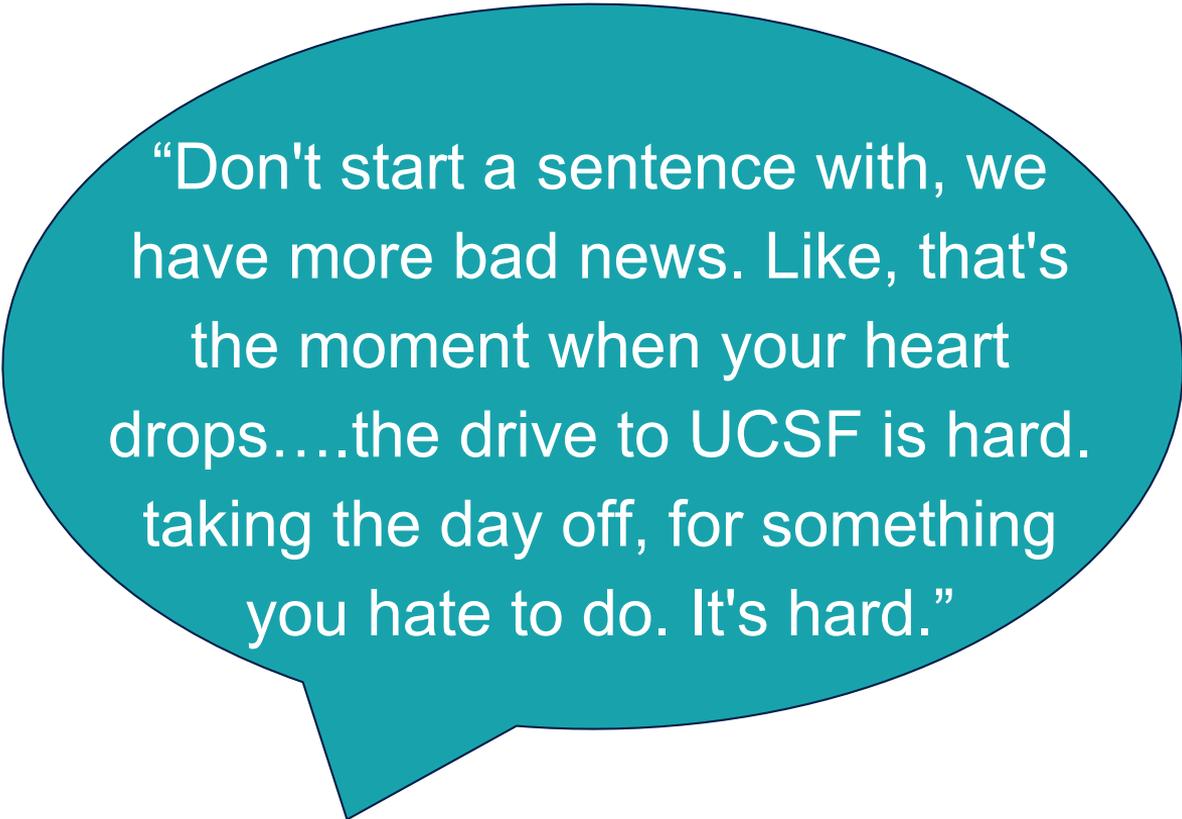
زوجي كان رافض انه هو يعترف بالفكره  
اصلا لما كانوا يجي عند البيت هواوي ما كان  
sign language يستقبل هن يعني بتجي التيتشر تبع  
ما كان يستقبلها كان كله عليا انا  
انا ما بحب اشوف ما . اتصرفي انت معاهن  
sign language بحب شوف شلون عم يتكلم معها.”



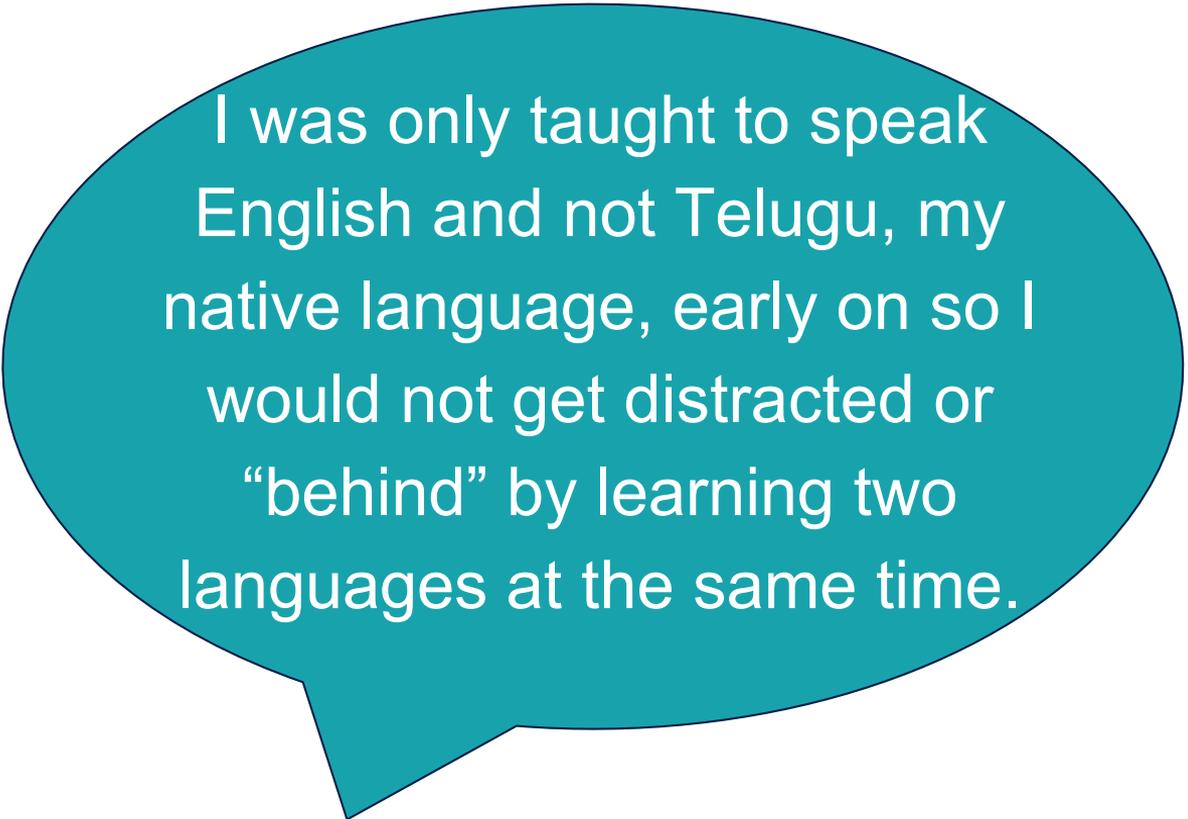
“I take her to China  
to chinese hospital  
to get tested again  
so everyone knows  
this is real.”



“Kids would throw rocks and mock deaf kids as if they were object to poke around with. And the fact that they couldn’t communicate stop broke my heart even more. That’s why I wanted to give Naveen a chance to avoid that”



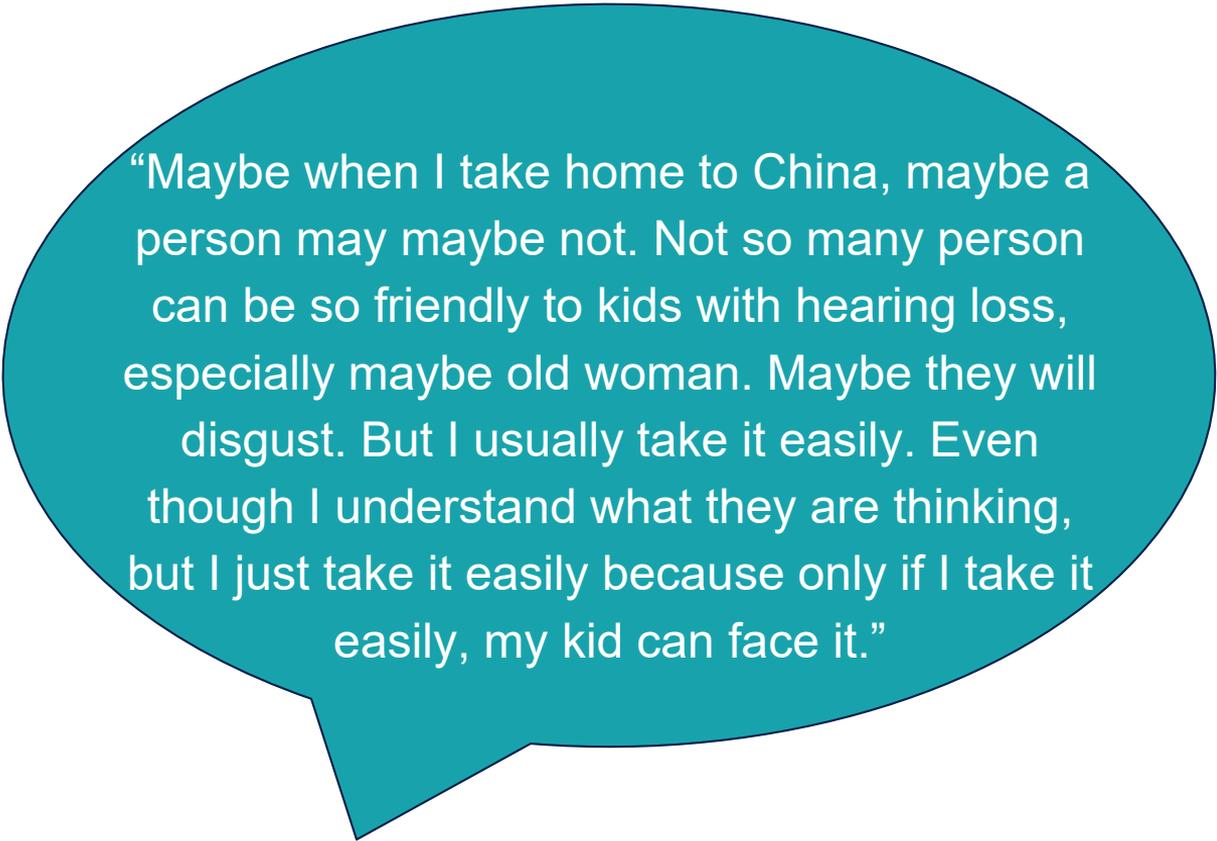
“Don't start a sentence with, we have more bad news. Like, that's the moment when your heart drops....the drive to UCSF is hard. taking the day off, for something you hate to do. It's hard.”



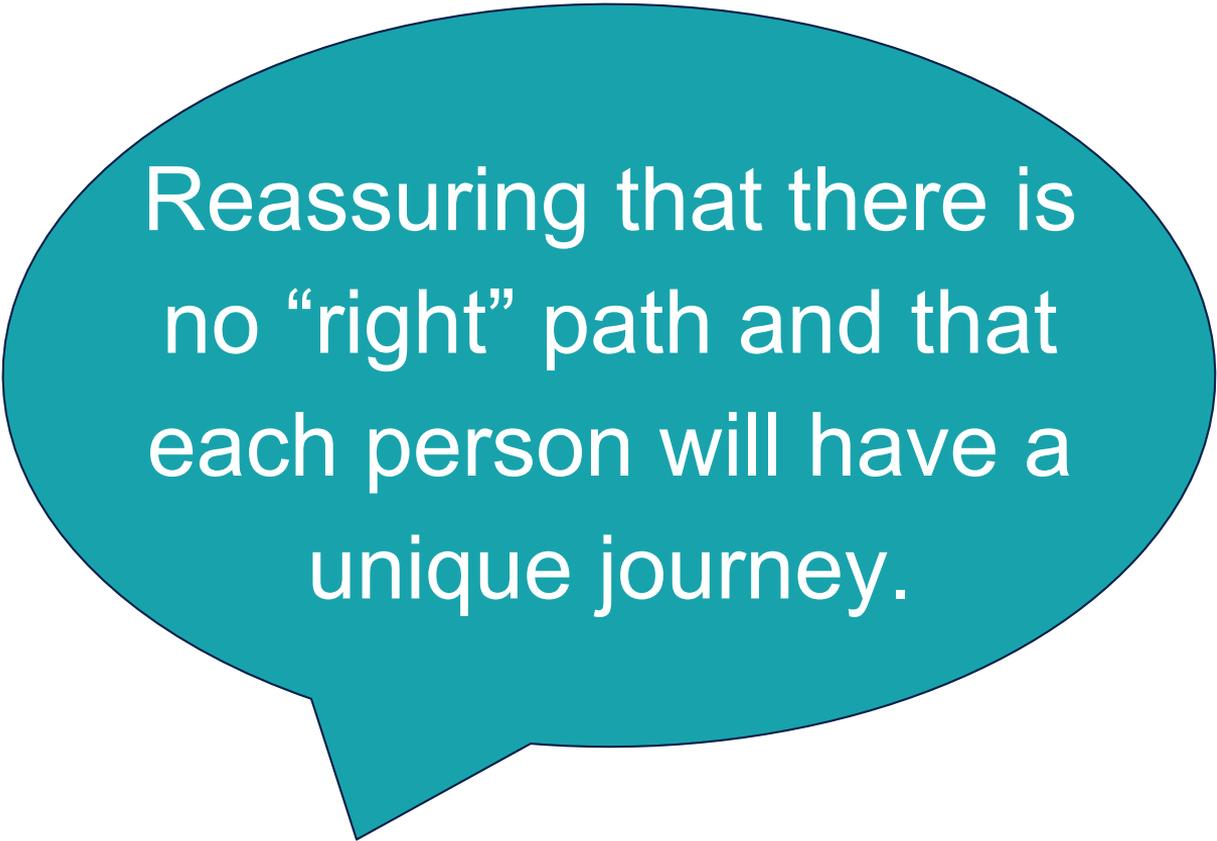
I was only taught to speak English and not Telugu, my native language, early on so I would not get distracted or “behind” by learning two languages at the same time.

“我刚开始查出来的时候，我也就是很责怪自己嘛！就觉得可能自己哪里没注意。因为我生她的时候还遇到了小孩子那个脸的位置不准，然后拖了三个小时才生出来的。然后我在想：是不是也是那个原因？反正也会很自责。”

“When we first started the diagnostic workup, I felt very guilty and blamed myself. I felt that I must have not been careful enough during my pregnancy. Because when I was delivering her, her face wasn't in the right place so it took three hours to deliver her. So I thought: is that the cause? I blamed myself a lot.”



“Maybe when I take home to China, maybe a person may maybe not. Not so many person can be so friendly to kids with hearing loss, especially maybe old woman. Maybe they will disgust. But I usually take it easily. Even though I understand what they are thinking, but I just take it easily because only if I take it easily, my kid can face it.”



Reassuring that there is  
no “right” path and that  
each person will have a  
unique journey.

# Themes

Gratitude

Hope

Cultural  
Awareness

Courage

# Thank you!