













NC Department of Health and Human Services

North Carolina Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Programs that Engage and Empower Families

EHDI Conference
Cincinnati, OH
March 13-15, 2022
Jenna Rankin – NC EHDI Parent Consultant
Lara Pike and Daphne Peacock– Parent Partners

Learning Objectives

- Participants will be able to discuss the importance of family support for families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing (D/HH).
- 2. Participants will be able to describe the importance of family engagement in EHDI programming.
- 3. Participants will be able to describe the role collaboration plays in making new programming successful.

How can we make EHDI programs successful?

The Joint Committee on **Infant Hearing (JCIH)** emphasizes that Early **Hearing Detection and** Intervention (EHDI) programs' success is reliant on the development of wellcoordinated and strong parent-professional partnerships working toward a shared goal.



Photo Credit: NC EHDI Program

How can we make EHDI programs successful?

It is important for families to be trained, empowered, and engaged as partners in the development of the EHDI system of care that is designed to address their family's needs.





Photo Credit: NC EHDI Program

How can we make EHDI programs successful?



The NC EHDI Program aspires to empower families of children with hearing loss by increasing parent engagement throughout the EHDI system.

Photo credit: The CARE Project

NC EHDI Fosters Parent Leaders

We have cultivated a variety of environments that allow families to engage with other parents as well as professionals.

- Education
- Training
- Meaningful Opportunities to Connect with other Families
- Communication
- Continued Involvement
- Growth and Increased Responsibility

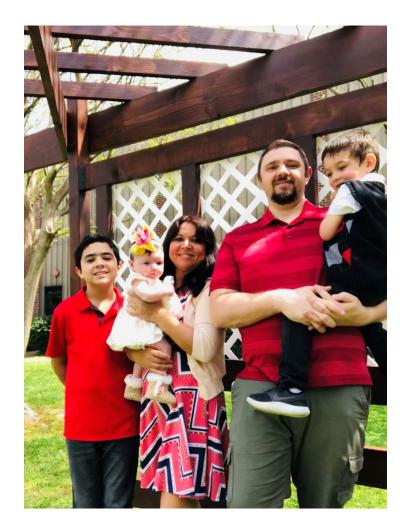


Photo Credit: NC EHDI Program

The Parent Support Team

- The Parent Support Team is a diverse network of parents formed to provide parent-to-parent support for families that have a child who is D/HH.
- Each parent mentor is trained to provide support for families in an unbiased way.
- The role of the parent mentor is to listen, help when asked, and connect families to various parent resources available in our state.

Parent Support Team Form

North Carolina Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program

Do you want to talk to another parent of a child who has hearing loss?

Get connected to the EHDI Parent Support Team!



What is the EHDI Parent Support Team?

The Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Parent Support Team is a diverse network of parents that was formed in order to provide parent-to-parent support for families that have a child who is deaf or hard of hearing. Each parent mentor has been trained to provide support for your family in an unbiased way as you and your child navigate the journey of hearing loss. The role of the parent mentor is to listen, help when asked, and connect you to various parent resources available in our state.

How can I get connected to the Parent Support Team?

- In order to get connected, please email, call, or text the EHDI Parent Consultant:
 - o Email: Jenna.Rankin@dhhs.nc.gov
 - Cell: 919-909-3501 (call or text)

What happens next?

- The EHDI Parent Consultant will speak with you via your preferred mode of communication.
- After finding out what kind of support you would like, the Parent Consultant will
 connect you with a parent support team member that is best suited to help you and
 your family.



Jenna Rankin is the Parent Consultant for North Carolina EHDI. She lives in Raleigh, North Carolina with her husband John and two daughters Sadie and Colette. Her husband's parents are both profoundly deaf as well as her youngest daughter Colette. Jenna and her family love spending time together playing games, watching movies, and having backyard campfires.

"I look forward to speaking with you and learning how EHDI can help support you and your family!"

North Carolina Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program | Toll-free phone: 886-431-7434 | Email: ponestombearing@dyla.nc.opy | 1

Parent Support Team Form - Spanish

Programa de detección e intervención temprana de servicios auditivos en Carolina del Norte

¿Le gustaría hablar con otros padres con niños que con pérdida de la audición y sordera?

¡Conéctese con el grupo de apoyo para padres de EHDI!



¿Qué es el equipo de apoyo para padres de EHDI?

El Equipo de Apoyo para Padres de Detección e Intervención Temprana de Audición (EHDI) es un grupo diverso de padres que se formó para proporcionar apoyo a las familias que tienen un niño con pérdida de la audición y sordera. Cada padre mentor ha sido capacitado para brindar apoyo a las familias de manera imparcial, mientras los padres navegan el camino de los servicios para sus hijos con pérdida de la audición y sordera. El papel del padre mentor es escuchar, ayudar cuando se le solicite y conectarlo con los recursos necesarios y disponibles en nuestro estado.

¿Cómo me puedo conectar con el Grupo de Apoyo para padres?

 Para conectarse, por favor mande un correo electrónico, llame por teléfono o mande texto al consejero de padres:

Correo electrónico: Jenna Rankin@dhhs.nc.gov Llame o mande texto al: 919-909-3501

¿Qué pasa después?

- Un consejero de padres de EHDI se comunicará con usted a través de su modo de comunicación preferido.
- Después de escuchar qué tipo de apoyo necesita, el Consultor de Padres lo conectará con un miembro del equipo de apoyo para padres que sea más adecuado para ayudarlo a usted y a su familia.



Jenna Rankin es una consultora de padres para EHDI de Carolina del Norte. Ella vive en Raleigh, Carolina del Norte con su esposo John y sus dos hijas; Sadie y Colette. Los padres de su esposo y su hija menor, Colette tienen Pérdida Auditiva profunda. A Jenna y su familia les encanta pasar tiempo juntos jugando, viendo películas y haciendo fogatas en el patio.

"Espero poder hablar con usted y aprender cómo EHDI puede ayudarlo a usted y a su familia!".

North Carolina Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program | Toll-free phone: 856-431-7434 | Email: nonembomhearing@dhe.nc.gov | 1

Monthly Family Focus Email

- A monthly email specifically designed for families covering five topics:
 - Resource Spotlight This section highlights one of the many parent support resources we have available in our state.
 - Community Events This section lists events that may be of interest to families with deaf or hard of hearing (D/HH) children.
 - Spot of Joy This section highlights something that can lift your spirits and make you smile.

Monthly Family Focus Email

- Did You Know? This section differs each month and aims to inform families about different facts and resources allowing them to become better advocates for their children.
- Personal Stories This section shares the story of a local family as well as a national or world success story about D/HH individuals.

Monthly Family Focus Email – Example: Personal Stories:



Photo Credit: NC EHDI Program

Local – The De Naples Family

Meredith De Naples and her four children (Jaden, Kiley, Grayson, Silas) live in Raleigh, NC. Meredith is Deaf, along with three of her children. The De Naples family enjoy traveling, spending time together, and playing games together.

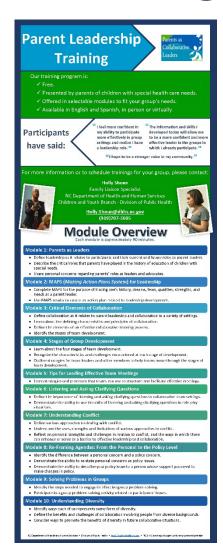
Check out the <u>touching narrative</u> that Meredith wrote about her son Grayson who is Deaf-Plus.

Parents as Collaborative Leaders Training

- This free training program offers 10 modules that help teach parents how to become good leaders.
- The modules are presented by trained parents who have children with special health care needs.
- These trainings are available in English and Spanish, in person or virtually.

Parents as Collaborative Leaders Training

- The flyer to the right is an image of the information that can be found at:
- https://publichealth.nc.gov/wch/d oc/families/Parent-Leadership-Training-Flyer2020.pdf
- This website gives more information about each module and how each one can help parents become better leaders.



The CARE Project Family Fun Days



Photo credit: The CARE Project

- These in-person events are designed to bring together families with children who are deaf and hard of hearing to connect, bond and strengthen relationships in a fun family friendly environment.
- Each event is at no cost to families and includes lunch and different activities for children of all ages.

The CARE Project Parent Learning Experiences

 Parent Learning **Experiences bring** together families to explore on a deeper level the emotional journey, empathy, building relationships with professionals and unconscious bias.



Photo credit: The CARE Project

The CARE Project Family Retreats

 Family Retreats bring families together to share their personal journey of raising a child with hearing loss, connect with other parents and learn from professionals in the hearing

loss field.



Photo credit: The CARE Project

CARE Connect Facebook Live Collaboration

- Monthly Facebook Live events hosted by The CARE Project focus on unique topics that relate to families and professionals.
- Each month a new topic is explored by at least one parent and one professional who have experience in the area of discussion.
- Engagement is encouraged through questions and comments posted on Facebook throughout the duration of the talk show by the audience.

The CARE Project Parent-Professional Collaborative



Photo credit: The CARE Project

This collaborative brings together parents with children who are D/HH and professionals who provide services for these families to bring about a deeper understanding of their emotional journeys after receiving an unexpected diagnosis.

The CARE Project Parent-Professional Collaborative

- Parents gain resources to help better navigate the journey and the systems of services available to families.
- Professionals gain a deeper sensitivity of the emotional journey and how to change their own culture of communication from a medical/clinical/educational perspective to a more sensitive perspective reflecting the family's emotional journey.

A Parent's Perspective: Daphne Peacock

About me:

- Mom of a Deaf teen son.
- Middle school science teacher at NC School for the Deaf.
- I am Deaf and use American Sign Language (ASL).
- Attended a school for the deaf and public schools growing up.
- Was enrolled in an excellent Early Intervention program on the Northwest University campus in Chicago.

A Parent's Perspective:



Photo Credit: NC EHDI Program

My son is unique:

- Uses bilateral cochlear implants and spoken language in the general population.
- Uses ASL at home and with Deaf people.
- Many people are curious about how I established two communication modes for my son.

A Parent's Perspective:

Engagement with EHDI:

- Served on a panel at The CARE Project's 2020 Parent Professional Collaborative.
- Contacted by Jenna Rankin, the EHDI Parent Consultant, to be a mentor parent for the Parent Support Team.
- Panel member for CARE Connect Facebook Live Event.

My Experience as a Mentor parent:

- Positive experience.
- Hope to learn a lot and show families the possibilities a D/HH child can have.
- Helped a foster family with a young deaf child.

Contact Information

- Email: jenna.rankin@dhhs.nc.gov

- Phone/Text: 919-909-3501

- Questions?



Photo Credit: NC EHDI Program