

Early Intervention Services

FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING | KING, PIERCE, AND SNOHOMISH COUNTIES



There are three early intervention programs in the community dedicated to helping families who have a child who is deaf or hard of hearing. Each program is committed to helping children reach their language and learning potential.

The programs differ in the type of communication system used to help the child and family develop. Families and other caregivers are encouraged to visit each of the programs prior to making a decision in which program to enroll.

Detailed information, contacts, and links to websites for each program are provided on the back of this sheet.

The Parent-Infant-Program (PIP) educates and empowers families to communicate with confidence. We utilize a bilingual educational approach with American Sign Language (ASL) and English (or the spoken language of the home, if not English) to instill unrestricted access to language from the beginning and early bonding, regardless of hearing level. We look at the child and family holistically—from the infant as an individual with his or her unique strengths and needs, to the family as a whole entity working together to foster communication and emotional connections, and to the community and services at large that can help support and enlighten the family's experience. Our certified teachers work to guide and support families when it comes to their choices about first language use, amplification options (hearing aids and cochlear implants), and technology available to their child. We also provide early literacy instruction and developmental education in the following areas: communication (ASL as well as spoken language and listening skills), cognition, social/emotional skills, fine/gross motor skills, and self-help skills. In addition, we share opportunities to connect with the local Deaf community and provide access to Deaf role models. Home visits are at the heart of our program, where we tailor all of these services to each family's unique needs. We also offer a weekly Family Night at our facility, featuring a Parent/Caregiver Education & Support Group, ASL classes, and a Bilingual Kids' Playgroup. Families are also encouraged to take advantage of our Resource Library.

ADDRESS
Hearing, Speech & Deaf Center
1625 19th Ave
Seattle, WA 98122

CONTACT
Anna Dodd, M.Ed
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WEBSITE
hsrc.org

Listen and Talk's mission is to help children who are deaf or hard of hearing communicate and learn through listening and spoken language. No sign language is used. Parents are the primary facilitators of their child's listening and spoken language development. Our credentialed staff members coach parents to enable their child to rely on hearing as the primary way for developing listening and spoken language. Our practice is guided by the Principles of LSL Auditory-Verbal Therapy, an evidence-based practice which promotes early diagnosis, 1 on 1 family-focused therapy, and state-of-the-art audiological management and technology, such as cochlear implants, hearing aids, FM systems, and bone-anchored hearing aids. Providers implement ongoing formal/informal diagnostic assessments to develop targets, monitor progress, and evaluate effectiveness. Program goals focus on the development of listening, thinking, and conversational skills while preparing children for early inclusion into their neighborhood school and for later ventures as independently as possible. The ultimate goal is for the child to have access to a full range of academic, social, and occupational choices throughout life. We also support families in their use of their native language, if other than English. Music and Movement Classes and Family Meeting Groups supplement family sessions. We also offer Family Groups specifically addressing needs related to Unilateral (one-sided) hearing loss and provide many opportunities for families to meet other children and adults who are deaf and hard of hearing and who communicate through listening and spoken language.

ADDRESS
Listen and Talk
8610 8th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115

CONTACT
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Birth to Three Coordinator
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Family Conversations uses a combined communication approach to help families build strong parent-child relationships. We support and coach families as they explore a variety of tools to find the most effective ways to meet their goals for their child. Working together with families, we build the foundation for their child's success in school. Our communication tools include: amplification technology (hearing aids, cochlear implants and FM systems) listening and spoken language strategies (including music and singing), language and literacy strategies (including Literacy Kits for use at home) and visual communication including Signing Exact English (S.E.E.). Families learn and practice using language to share their family values and culture with their children. Each family has their own Communication Coach who meets routinely with them in a home-based environment and supports the family's learning through daily routines and play. Our group settings are an opportunity for adults and children to connect and learn. Family Conversations Groups brings parents and children together. Little Conversations Group brings children together to support language, speech, literacy and social development. Parent Conversations Group offers parents and caregivers the opportunity to meet and discuss their experiences raising a child who is deaf or hard of hearing and to meet deaf and hard-of-hearing teens and adults.

ADDRESS
Northwest School for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Children
Attn: Family Conversations
15303 Westminister Way N
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Shoreline, WA 98133

CONTACT
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WEBSITE
northwestschool.com/family-conversations-nwshd

What Works for your Child is What Makes the Choice Right

Guide By Your Side is a program of Washington Hands & Voices. We are a parent-driven, non-profit organization dedicated to providing information and support to families of children who are deaf, deaf-blind or hard of hearing ages birth to 21. Our trained Parent Guides connect with families to offer support and guidance via

phone, video, or in person visits. Some topics we offer support are: What questions to ask, Communication options and opportunities, Where to meet others, Educational choices, Sibling and extended family issues, Transition to preschool, Where to find a pediatric audiologist or sign classes, and more. We are here when you are ready.

CONTACT:
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WEBSITE
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