Working Together
A Parent and a Professional Take on Family Support

Sara Kennedy
Assistant Director, Colorado Families for Hands & Voices

Denise Davis-Pedrie
Colorado Hearing Resource Coordinator (CO-Hear)
Colorado Infant Hearing Program – A Roadmap for Families

**Child's Name:**

**Child’s Date of Birth:**

### Birth
- Home or Hospital Birth
  - 1st Newborn Hearing Screen
    - Date: __/__/__

### Before 1 Month
- Outpatient Hearing Screen (or Rescreen)
  - Place: __/__/__

### Before 3 Months
- Evaluation by a Pediatric Audiologist with experience testing children 0 – 6 months of age.
  - Date: __/__/__

### Before 6 Months
- Enroll in early intervention program that has experience serving children who are deaf and hard of hearing
- Regular visits with your Pediatric Audiologist
  - Children who participate in early intervention prior to six months can have age-appropriate skills by preschool.
- Evaluations to discuss with your medical home:
  - Ophthalmologist (Eye Specialist)
  - Genetic Specialist
  - Other Medical Specialists (heart, development, kidneys, etc.)

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If your baby does not pass or misses the first screening of both ears:
- Schedule an Outpatient Screen at your hospital
- OR schedule an evaluation with a pediatric audiologist
  - If your baby does not pass the outpatient screen, schedule an appointment with a pediatric audiologist right away.

If a baby has a HEARING LOSS, the next steps are:
- Contact or referral to local Colorado Hearing Resource Coordinator (CO-Hear) & Early Intervention Colorado (Part C)
- Evaluation by an ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat doctor)
- Contact Colorado Families for Hands & Voices
- Learn about communication options and programs
- Discuss the use of Hearing aids with a Pediatric Audiologist, including information on newer hearing aids
- Learn about assistive listening devices (such as FM systems, cochlear implants, etc.)

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Well baby checkup with health care provider at two months

Well baby checkup with health care provider at six months

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Health Care Program for children with Special Needs
Hands & Voices
Local and Regional Resources

Pediatric Audiologist: ______________________________

CO-Hear (Colorado Hearing Resource Coordinator): ______________________________

Health Care Program for Children with Special Needs (HCP) Regional Audiologist:

HCP Regional Office and Team Leader: ______________________________

Hands & Voices Regional Parent Guide: ______________________________

Part C Coordinator: ______________________________

Statewide Resources

- Health Care Program for Children with Special Needs: www.HCPColorado.org
- Colorado Families for Hands & Voices: (Parent Funding Toolkit, Parent Stories, Colorado Resource Guide)
  303-492-6283, www.cohandsandvoices.org
- Colorado Home Intervention Program: http://tinyurl.com/cbd5ln
- Early Intervention Colorado, Services for Children Birth to Three: http://www.eicolorado.org/

National Resources

- www.babyhearing.org: Boys Town National Research Hospital informational site for parents
- Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program, Centers For Disease Control website:
  www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi
- National Center for Hearing Assessment & Management: www.infanthearing.org
- Hands & Voices: www.handsandvoices.org
- Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf/Hard of hearing: www.agbell.org
- American Society for Deaf Children, www.deafchildren.org
EARLY INTERVENTION

CO-Hear Coordinator

Contacts Family

Consult with PCP/Medical Home

Complete CO-Hear Form and submit to HCP

• Consult with Part C Community Agencies
• Colorado Hands and Voices/GBYS
• Child Find
• Public Health
Parents with Experience
Parents with Training
Benefits of Parent to Parent Support

“Social networks with other parents of children who are deaf were associated with less isolation, acceptance of their child, and improved interactional responsivity.”

M. Hintermaier, 2000
Benefits of Support from Professionals

- We had nothing and no one to guide us through the maze of understanding hearing loss, audiology, and the whole new set of terms we didn’t know until we met our CO-Hear. “

  Katie Greene, mom of Emma in Cortez, CO
The Professional-GBYS Relationship

Building the team
- Mutual respect for role
- Knowing each other’s story/background

Teamwork in Action
- Co visits
- Tag team support
- Advanced app: advocacy in the system
The Art(?) of the Co-Visit

- Scheduling the visit
- Question prompts
- Happy accidents
- Idealism vs. Realism
From the Parents
Creating a Safe Environment

- Conversation vs. a strict agenda
- Home Turf Advantage
- Benefits of dialogue
- Fielding the “out of the box” question
Takin’ it home
Contacts

• Sara Kennedy, Assistant Director, Colorado Families for Hands & Voices
  editor@handsandvoices.org

• Denise Davis-Pedrie, Colorado Hearing Resource Coordinator (CO-Hear)
  ddped@msn.com
The Last Words