Deaf/Hard of Hearing Connections

Community Begins in the Home
Deaf/Hard of Hearing Connections

What is Deaf/Hard of Hearing Connections?
Deaf/Hard of Hearing Connections was established in 1987. It is a team composed of adults who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing and who may be oral or use sign language. These individuals have been trained to provide information about their own hearing loss to students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing. They also meet with parents of young Deaf/Hard of Hearing children in order to increase parents’ knowledge about hearing loss.

Who are the role models?
The goal of Deaf/Hard of Hearing Connections is to create a program that consists of a diverse group of motivated people who enjoy working with children and adults. The program believes that adult role models need to be open-minded about personal philosophies and individual communication styles of each child.

Who are the target audiences?
- Students who are Deaf/HH
- Parents of a young child (birth - 3) who is Deaf/HH
- Classrooms in which a specific unit on Deafness is occurring
- Service providers who support students who are Deaf/HH in the mainstream
- Professionals needing information on hearing loss
- Agencies serving the Deaf/HH

What are the goals of this program?
- To provide exposure to people about hearing loss, Deafness, and to adults who are Deaf/HH
- To provide exposure to parents of young children about hearing loss and Deafness
- To share information through the personal experiences of a Deaf/HH individual
- For parents to model and share storytelling
- To answer questions of students, parents, and professionals about hearing loss or Deafness

Why is this group important?
Frequently, children who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing are born to hearing parents. Some live in a rural area where there are no peers who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing. It is important for them to have access to an adult who shares a child’s experiences of growing up with a hearing loss.

What is the expense to me?
Home visits with the birth-3 age group are provided with no expense to the family. The cost of the role model is covered by grant funds. In school situations, we ask only that you provide an interpreter, as needed, for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing adult. All other expenses, such as transportation, will be covered by grant funds.
How do I arrange for an adult role model?

To set up a role model visit, you may contact:

Heather Abraham
970-384-5477
E-mail: hechabraham@aol.com

If you are interested in becoming a role model, you may contact Heather or:

Jeanette P. Scheppach
719-578-2288 (TDD)
E-mail: jscheppach@csdb.org

A collaborative venture of the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind (CSDB)