

# Care Plan for Infants with Hearing Loss

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_



*Now that you have learned your child has hearing loss, this care plan can help you understand the next steps.*

- **Continue to have your baby see his or her primary care provider** for well child exams.
- **Ask your baby's audiologist about early intervention services.** The Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program provides services for infants and toddlers who have disabilities, including hearing loss (birth to three years of age). A Family Resource Coordinator (FRC) can help you access services such as family training, counseling, and other early intervention services your child and family may need—including specialized help to meet the unique communication needs of infants and toddlers with hearing loss.

Every community has an early intervention program (it may be called an early learning program). The FRC in your community will help you with early intervention services eligibility for your child. To locate the lead FRC in your county, call WithinReach at **1-800-322-2588** or through relay services by dialing **711**. Or you can find your county lead family resource coordinator by visiting: [www1.dshs.wa.gov/iteip/countyorglinks.html](http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/iteip/countyorglinks.html).

- ***Infants and Toddlers Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing is a state brochure for families*** who have just learned their child has hearing loss. It can be found at: [www1.dshs.wa.gov/iteip/publications.html](http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/iteip/publications.html).

- **Contact family support groups:**

Washington State Parent to Parent: 1-800-821-5927

Washington State Father's Network: 425-653-4286

- **Learn more about the type of communication options available by reading the parent notebook.** You can obtain a copy of a parent notebook from your audiologist or you can download a copy at [www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/mch/genetics/ehddi](http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/mch/genetics/ehddi). The notebook tells you about all the available communication options you can choose for your baby in Chapter 5. Speak with your audiologist, family resource coordinator, or primary care provider about which communication option is best for you and your child.

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# Care Plan continued

- If you choose amplification for your infant**, have your baby fitted with hearing aids. If needed, find out about loaner hearing aids. An evaluation by an ear, nose, and throat (ENT) doctor needs to be done before your child can be fitted with hearing aids.

ENT Clinic \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



- Continue with regular visits to a pediatric audiologist** to check your baby's hearing and hearing devices. Learn more about other devices that can help your child hear.
- Consider a genetic consultation.\*** A genetic consultation will help you learn if your child's hearing loss may run in your family.

Medical geneticist/genetic consultant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- Contact other medical specialists\*** (eye, heart, etc.) as needed.

Specialist \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Specialist \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

To learn more, please visit [www.doh.wa.gov/ehddi](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehddi) and [www.babyhearing.org](http://www.babyhearing.org).

\* You will usually need a referral from your health care provider to see these specialists.



## The Early Hearing Loss, Detection, Diagnosis & Intervention (EHDDI) Program

Phone: 206-418-5613 • Fax: 206-418-5415

E-mail: [ehddi2@doh.wa.gov](mailto:ehddi2@doh.wa.gov) • Web site: [www.doh.wa.gov/ehddi](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehddi)