

Website Resource Guide

Step 2

Decide which areas of your State's EHDI website to improve

Review the guidelines in the EHDI Website Resource Guide for more information about the critical components and suggestions for improvement which can be applied in a pragmatic manner.

The purpose of the EHDI Website Resource Guide is to strengthen the knowledge base of state EHDI administrators in understanding key elements of effective websites. Critical content elements were developed with help of an EHDI advisory committee which included an audiologist, speech pathologist, and a family EHDI leader. Design and accessibility components were selected through research and accessibility standards of effective websites.

Find the EHDI Website Resource Guide and other website improvement resources at:

www.infanthearing.org/webguide

Website of the Year Award

Step 3

Implement Changes

Talk with EHDI members and the webmaster in your State to determine the best way to implement changes for improvement.

NCHAM recognizes the importance of State EHDI programs in communicating early hearing and detection intervention information to all of its stakeholders. The "EHDI website of the year" award is used to recognize the sites that provide quality content in a user friendly format that is accessible to everyone.



Washington
2015 Award Winner



Iowa
2016 Award Winner



Illinois
2017 Award Winner

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EHDI Website Improvement

Have you Considered.....

Content

Critical content for any EHDI website should include:

- An overview of the State's EHDI program
- Specific information for primary stakeholders
- Content that discusses the EHDI process

Design

A contemporary, user-friendly design encourages people to:

- Use and return to your website
- Remember your organization
- Access your website using varied technology

Accessibility

Improve the usability of the website for all by:

- Ensuring content reaches those with varying literacy levels
- Implementing web accessibility standards

The EHDI Website Resource Guide is a tool to assist EHDI program administrators in making informed decisions about website improvements that benefit all EHDI stakeholders. The guide can be used in part or in whole to guide improvements for content, design, and accessibility of any EHDI website. Included is a checklist of critical components considered valuable for an EHDI website.



Website Checklist

Step 1

Review your State's EHDI website

Use the website checklist to find valuable suggestions that could help to improve your State's EHDI website.



Design & Layout

Organization

-  Allow any web page to be read without the use of style sheets and still be organized
- Include headings that are consistent and can be identified by screen readers
- Provide important information first with an option to learn more

Navigation

- Provide several methods to locate a web page
-  Provide method that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links

Style of Presentation

- Follow a consistent page design
-  Have sufficient color contrast between the background and text
- Provide consistency for all text elements

Visual Media

- Reflect cultural diversity for visual content
-  Use "ALT Text" for all images/graphics
-  Provide captioning and descriptive text transcripts for audio and video

Browser Compatibility

- Function in multiple browsers

Mobile Friendly Design

- Responsive web design on tablets
- Responsive web design on smart phones
- Text can be read without zooming in on a mobile device
- Do not need to scroll vertically to access all the content

Accessibility

Keyboard Accessible

-  Allow users to navigate through the website using only the keyboard

Links

-  Provide links that make sense out of context
- Use links that work (No Broken links)

Health Literacy

- Provide content with the appropriate reading level

Content

Overview of State EHDI Program

- Describe State's EHDI Program
 - Mission statement that defines "EHDI" (Early Hearing Detection Intervention)
 - Describe "1-3-6 goals" in association with the EHDI process
- Provide information pertaining to the history of EHDI in your state, including legislative history
- Explain the importance of infant hearing screening
- Include contact information for your State's EHDI program
 - How to contact your State's program coordinator, address, phone numbers, e-mail
 - TTY information
 - Contact for families who speak a language other than English

Information for Families

- (parents, guardians, caregivers)
- Explain the importance of having a child's hearing screening completed before 1 month of age
- Describe what to do if a parent or caregiver doesn't know his/her child's newborn hearing screening results
- Define and explain terms found in a screening result, such as "pass," "fail," "refer," or "incomplete"
- Describe what to do if a parent or caregiver has concerns about their child's hearing
- Explain the importance of continued hearing screenings for a child, throughout their childhood
- Provide a way to email questions and/or provide links to access resources, pay for services, find or locate parent support groups, learn more about assistive technology
- Provide information on finding a pediatric audiologist
- Provide information and resources in other languages such as: PDF's, brochures, and web content

Information for Healthcare Providers

- (hospital workers/midwives, medical homes/primary care doctors, and audiologists/ENTs)
- Describe the provider's role in conducting a hearing screening and following up on hearing screenings that have been completed
- Describe how the provider reports screening results to EHDI and other reporting procedures
- Explain how to deliver and explain hearing screening/diagnostic results to families
- Provide referral sites for rescreening, diagnostic evaluations, and early intervention, including contact information for these services

Information for Early Intervention (EI) Providers

- (Part C programs, Schools for the Deaf, private therapists, and audiologists)
- Describe the EI providers role in early hearing screening and diagnostic evaluations—how to partner with Part C
- Describe how EI providers report results to EHDI
- Explain the importance of audiological follow-up—how to partner with audiologists
- Provide contact information/links for families for various agencies and pediatric audiologists in the community
- Provide information about EI resources for children who are deaf/hard of hearing: family organizations, resource guides to help families learn about communication options, etc.

Content Focused on Screening

- Explain why screening is important for children
- Define screening and rescreening
- Describe when hearing should be screened and rescreened
- Describe who conducts screenings
- Provide information on where to obtain a screening

Content Focused on Diagnosis

- Define diagnostic evaluation
- Describe when diagnostic evaluation is needed
- Describe who should conduct diagnostic evaluations
- Provide information on where to obtain diagnostic evaluation
- Provide information about how it can be paid for (insurance, public programs)

Content Focused on Early Intervention

- Define early intervention
- Identify who to contact (i.e. early intervention services)
- Provide information on a variety of communication options

Content Focused on Audiological Intervention

- Describe hearing assistive devices (hearing aids, cochlear implants)
- Explain the importance of consistent, routine monitoring of assistive devices

Content Focused on Family Support

- Define family support
- Discuss why family support is important
- Provide information on family support organizations and other resources

Content Focused on Surveillance

- Discuss the role of the state EHDI program in surveillance of health care
- Discuss the role of providers in reporting to the EHDI program