

# EARLY HEARING DETECTION and INTERVENTION *(EHDI, pronounced Eddie)*



## NEW COORDINATOR QUICK START GUIDE

### KNOW YOUR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Most states have legislation and/or rules that govern their newborn hearing screening (NBHS). Ask your organization if they have copies of these documents, or visit <http://www.infanthearing.org/legislative/mandates.html>.
- Most EHDI programs are housed within their state departments of health. EHDI programs may have multiple funding sources. The two primary sources are the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA; pronounced her-sa) Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). More information is on the next page.
- Read the most recent Joint Committee on Infant Hearing (JCIH) Position Statement, which provides recommendations on standards for NBHS, <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/jehdi/vol4/iss2/1/>.

### YOU ARE NOT ALONE

The EHDI community is full of compassionate people who are ready to support you in your new role. Additionally, you have access to a multitude of free resources and assistance. To see a list of essential EHDI contacts, visit <http://www.infanthearing.org/stategrants/docs2020/Key%20EHDI%20Contacts.pdf>.

- The National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM; pronounced en-cham) is the national technical resource center for EHDI and can answer many of your questions. Bookmark this page: [http://www.infanthearing.org/coordinator\\_orientation/](http://www.infanthearing.org/coordinator_orientation/). These are resources earmarked for new coordinators to help them understand the many aspects of EHDI. Contact NCHAM at [ncham.helpdesk@aggies.usu.edu](mailto:ncham.helpdesk@aggies.usu.edu).
- Directors of Speech and Hearing Programs in State Health and Welfare Agencies (DSHPSHWA; pronounced dis-pish-wa) was started in the 1950s to encourage the development of more efficient programs for the diagnosis, treatment, and care of children who are deaf or hard of hearing and children with speech and language disorders. Today, DSHPSHWA serves as an advocacy organization for speech and hearing programs in state agencies, including EHDI programs. DSHPSHWA offers support to new EHDI coordinators through their mentorship program.
- EHDI coordinators hold a monthly phone conference called "EHDI Chats." The purpose of these calls is to privately discuss issues, concerns, and ideas. To get started with EHDI Chats, take this brief survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CR9BSX3>.
- NCHAM holds an annual EHDI meeting—typically in February or March. During this meeting, there is a day-long meeting just for EHDI coordinators. Attending these meetings is part of your HRSA grant requirements. Learn more at [www.ehdimeeting.org](http://www.ehdimeeting.org).
- Parents are an important partner of EHDI programs. HRSA funds the Family Leadership in Language and Learning (FL3)—a program geared to increase family engagement and leadership and strengthen family support in the EHDI system. To learn more about FL3, go to <https://handsandvoices.org/fl3/index.html>.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has an EHDI chapter champion in many states. The chapter champion is a primary partner in EHDI programs working in a variety of capacities, including participating on the state's EHDI advisory committee, representing EHDI-related issues in their AAP chapter, and working with state EHDI programs to improve outcomes. Visit <https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/PEHDIC/Pages/Early-Hearing-Detection-and-Intervention.aspx>.
- The Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD) Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) programs are interdisciplinary leadership training programs federally funded through HRSA's MCHB. There are currently 12 LEND programs that receive supplemental funds to expand and augment their pediatric audiology training efforts. These programs serve as partners in EHDI programs working in various ways. To find out if there is a LEND program in your state with a pediatric audiology supplement, go to <https://www.aucd.org/template/page.cfm?id=610>.
- It is important for EHDI programs to work collaboratively with their state's early intervention program (often referred to as Part C). Part C is a program under the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). To find who the Part C coordinator is in your state, go to <https://www2.ed.gov/policy/speced/guid/idea/monitor/state-contact-list.html>.

**IF YOU HAVE  
A HRSA/MCHB  
GRANT**

Your organization should have a copy of your latest HRSA/MCHB NBHS grant, which funds the programmatic portion of your program. Start by reading the work plan attachment to your grant, which is the work you are funded by HRSA to perform. Within the next few weeks, read the remainder of the grant. Some programs have their workplan and grants posted on <http://www.infanthearing.org/stategrants/index.php>.

All HRSA/MCHB EHDI grantees have a project officer to help them navigate their grant process. To find out who your project officer is, email [ehdi@hrsa.gov](mailto:ehdi@hrsa.gov).

Project changes and annual performance reports need to be done in the HRSA Electronic Handbooks, so you will need to get access. Go to [grants.hrsa.gov](https://grants.hrsa.gov), click the *Applicant/Grantee* link, and create an account.

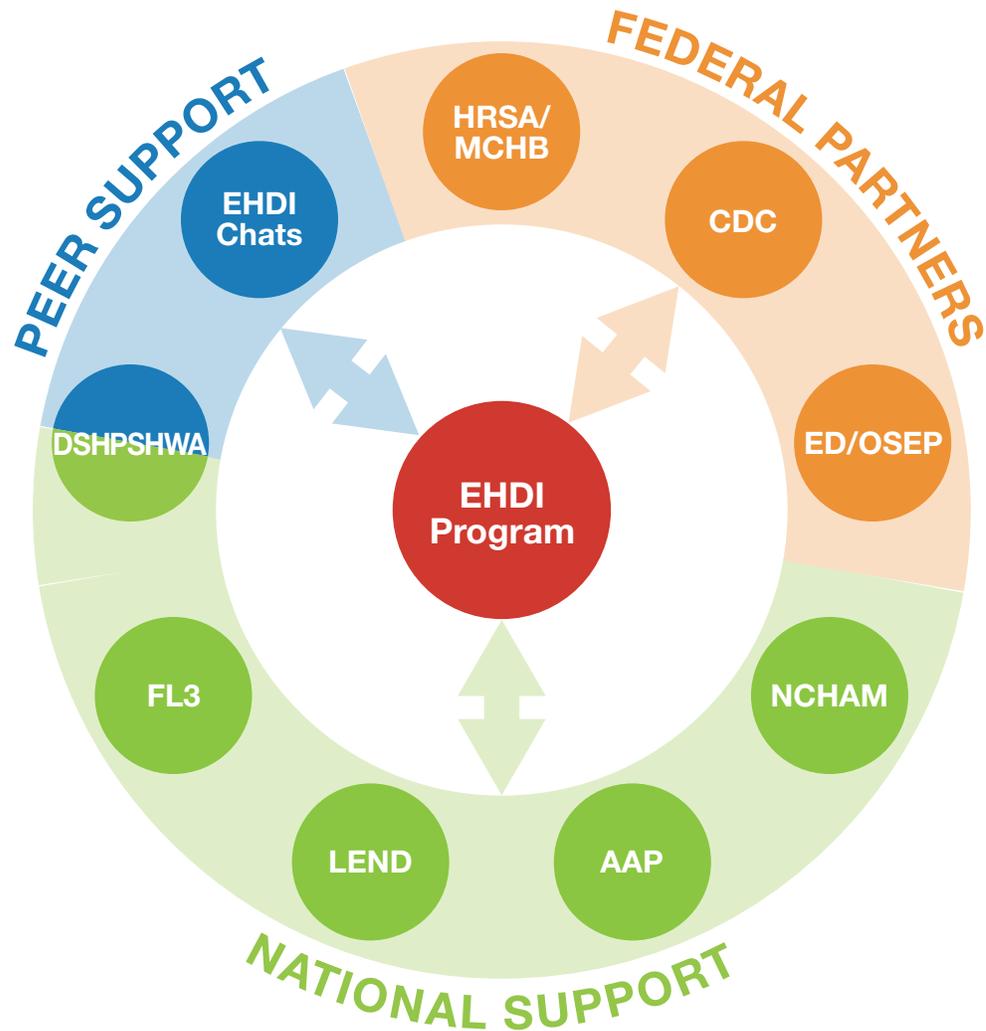
Notify HRSA ([ehdi@hrsa.gov](mailto:ehdi@hrsa.gov)) and NCHAM ([ncham.helpdesk@aggies.usu.edu](mailto:ncham.helpdesk@aggies.usu.edu)) of any changes to the EHDI coordinator position as soon as possible to be sure you get any emails and notifications.

**IF YOU  
HAVE A  
CDC  
GRANT**

Your organization should have a copy of your latest CDC EHDI grant, which funds your EHDI information system and the data gathering portion of your program. Start by reading the work plan attachment to your grant, which is the work you are funded by CDC to perform. Within the next few weeks, read the remainder of the grant.

Notify CDC of any changes to the EHDI coordinator as soon as possible to be sure you get any emails and notifications about due dates.

**EHDI COORDINATOR  
SUPPORT SYSTEM**



Contact information for each of these organizations can be found at <http://www.infanthearing.org/stategrants/docs2020/Key%20EHDI%20Contacts.pdf>. If you have any questions about topics listed on the Quick Start Guide, email [ncham.helpdesk@aggies.usu.edu](mailto:ncham.helpdesk@aggies.usu.edu).

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