

## **Acknowledgements**

This Notebook exists only because families with young children who are deaf and hard of hearing asked for it. Committee members have talked with, and more importantly, listened to many families who have struggled with the diagnosis of their child's hearing loss. Through these discussions, it became clear that what families wished for most was clear and unbiased information. Some of those family members became valuable members of the Wisconsin Sound Beginnings Parent Notebook Committee.

Special thanks go to the dedicated parents, who contributed their time, energy, wisdom and experiences. These include Barb Aschenbrenner, Loraine Lucinski, Kathryn Mazack, and Connie Stevens. Thanks also to the committed group of professionals who helped write, construct and review this resource. These include Christine Kometer, Susan Felstehausen, Mary Kahler, Carol Schweitzer, Elizabeth Seeliger, Kristina Stuart, and Alice Sykora.

Our thanks to the many additional parents who shared stories and photographs of their beautiful children with us and allowed us to display them throughout the notebook.

Particular acknowledgement must go to the following organizations that allowed the reproduction and adaptation of materials already created for families: Mary Pat Moeller and the Boys Town National Research Hospital, The Sibling Support Project, Hi-Preface, and AG Bell Association.

Acknowledgements also go to the WAPC Infant and Family Committee for their creation of Baby Steps from which we owe much of the look and feel of this notebook, Synergy Ink Ltd for their patience and creativity in the design of this, to Elizabeth Seeliger, Loraine Lucinski, and Jayne McCredie for their editing and preparation of the manuscript.

Babies and Hearing Loss: An Interactive Notebook for Families with a Young Child who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing was funded in part by grants from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.