



Parent Resource Checklist for Deaf or Hard of Hearing Children Under 3

Please use the following list as a guide to make sure your team is fully staffed.

MEDICAL PROVIDERS

- ☐ **Pediatrician:** Make sure your pediatrician is aware of your child's diagnosis and discuss your care plan with them. They may also provide referrals to other specialists as needed.
- ☐ **Audiology:** Needed for hearing tests and hearing management recommendations. Your audiologist will test your child's hearing to be able to help you answer your questions and form a plan for managing your child's hearing now and in the future.
- ☐ **Otolaryngology (ENT):** Needed for medical clearance for assistive technology and checking up on ear health. Your ENT may also provide referrals to other specialists as needed.
- ☐ **Other Specialists:** Children born with hearing differences often need a checkup and possibly some support from other medical specialists. Your ENT and pediatrician can help you understand which you will need and why. These may include imaging for an MRI, genetics, psychology, ophthalmology and others.

STATE RESOURCE PROVIDERS

- ☐ **Child Development Watch (CDW):** Your coordinator with Delaware's Birth to Three Early Intervention Program will contact you to set up an Individualized Family Service Plan. This plan will detail educational support for your child from birth, to keep them on track, and can eventually evolve into an Individualized Education Plan to support your child in school.
<https://www.familyshade.org/agency/birth-to-three-child-development-watch/>
- ☐ **Local School District:** Your CDW coordinator will put you in touch with your local school district. It may feel strange to speak with the school district regarding services for an infant, but building this relationship early will help ensure your child's successful outcomes.
- ☐ **Statewide Programs for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf Blind:** Statewide Services offers educational support services in the home and on-site for children from birth to age 3 and on-site preschool services through age 5. They will connect you with educational providers specifically trained to support families with children with hearing differences. Later, they will also offer support in the classroom, regardless of your educational placement decision.
<https://www.delawareoutreach.org>
- ☐ **Other Providers:** You may also need support from social workers, hospital outreach coordinators, and the state Medicaid program. Your CDW coordinator can help you find these resources and navigate application processes.

Delaware EHDI Bureau of Family Health
Delaware Division of Public Health
1351 W. North Street, Suite 103
Dover, DE 19901
1-800-262-3030

Learn more at DEthrives.com.



Updated December 2021



Parent Resource Checklist for Deaf or Hard of Hearing Children Under 3

Please use the following list as a guide to make sure your team is fully staffed.

ONE-ON-ONE FAMILY SUPPORT

- ☐ **The Deaf Mentor Program:** This free program provides families with deaf and hard of hearing children an opportunity to work with highly trained deaf/hard of hearing adult role models to enhance their child's language, social, and emotional development. Interacting with deaf and hard of hearing adults is critical in understanding your child's potential paths and learning about the world from their perspective.
<https://www.delawaredeaf.org/2021/08/09/the-deaf-mentor-program-update/>
- ☐ **Delaware Families for Hands & Voices:** Hands & Voices offers direct parent-to-parent support for connection, information, advocacy, and community. Our Guide By Your Side program matches families with parent guides trained to provide nonbiased information and support for whatever path each family chooses. We are happy and excited to welcome you to our community of Delaware families raising deaf and hard of hearing children in a supported environment. All of our programs are free for families. You are more than welcome to reach out to us for more information about anything on this page or that's missing from it. Call **302-383-9890**, or visit us online at <https://www.delawarehandsandvoices.com/>.

If you have any questions or need help contacting a provider, let us know!

You can reach Hands & Voices at 302-383-9890.



Delaware EHD I Bureau of Family Health
Delaware Division of Public Health
1351 W. North Street, Suite 103
Dover, DE 19901
1-800-262-3030

Learn more at DEthrives.com.

Updated December 2021