

Language & Learning

Getting Started With Early Intervention

Other Parents and Support Organizations

If there is a parent group in your area, your infant/family specialist should be able to tell you how to get in touch. Sometimes, infant/family specialists lead parent discussion groups.

Social gatherings and playgroups are also important support for families and babies. If your baby is learning spoken language, you may find a parent support group called an A.G. Bell Chapter in your state. Contact www.agbell.org for a chapter near you. If you are learning sign language with other parents, sign class is a wonderful place to talk to mothers and fathers whose children are older, in preschool or in school, and who can give you advice and support. You can also meet other parents just starting out, who have made the same decision as your family, and are taking on the same challenges.

If you have a profoundly deaf baby, and you live in a place with an active Deaf Community, a Deaf club, or a state residential school for the Deaf, you may be able to find Deaf adults and children to become friends of you and your baby. Most states also have organizations called the Hearing Loss Association of America (shhh.org). Members of the Hearing Loss Association of America are often happy to help new parents.

It is important to discover that deaf and hard of hearing children grow up to be productive, well-adjusted adults who work, drive, go to college, marry, have children, and in fact, not much different than the adults that hearing children become.

There are many support organizations in the United States. They may be regional, state, or national in scope. Selected National Organizations and Centers for Parents of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children:

Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (A.G. Bell)

3417 Volta Place, NW
Washington, DC 20007
Voice: (800) HEAR-KID
or (202) 337-5220 TTY: (202) 337-5220
Fax: (202) 337-8314
E-mail: AGBELL2@aol.com
Internet: www.agbell.org

Auditory/Verbal International, Inc.

2121 Eisenhower Ave., Suite 402
Alexandria, VA 22314
Voice: 703-739-1049
TTY: 703-739-0874

American Society for Deaf Children (ASDC)

P.O. Box 3355
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Voice/TTY: (717) 334-7922
Toll Free: (800) 942-ASDC
E-mail: ASDC1@aol.com
Internet: www.deafchildren.org

Beginnings for Parents of Hearing Impaired Children, Inc

3900 Barrett Drive, Suite 100
Raleigh, NC 27609
Toll Free: 1-800-541-4327
Voice/TTY: 919-571-4843
Fax: 919-571-4846

Boys Town National Research Hospital

Center for Childhood Deafness
555 N. 30th Street
Omaha, NE 68131
V/TTY: (402) 498-6521
<http://www.boystownhospital.org>

John Tracy Clinic

806 West Adams Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90007
Voice: 213-748-5481
TTY: 213-747-2924
Toll Free: 800-522-4582

Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center

Gallaudet University
800 Florida Ave. NE
Washington, DC 20002
<http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu>

Marion Downs National Center

<http://www.colorado.edu/slhs/mdnc/overview.html>

National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM)

Utah State University -
2880 Old Main Hill - Logan, UT 84322
Tel: 435.797.3584
<http://www.infanthearing.org>

National Cued Speech Association (NCSA)

23970 Hermitage Road
Shaker Heights, OH 44122
Toll Free Voice/TTY: (800) 459-3529
FAX: (216) 360-0359
E-mail: cuedspdisc@aol.com
Internet: www.cuedspeech.org

National Institutes on Deafness and Other Communicative Disorders

National Institutes of Health
9000 Rockville Pike, Bldg. 31, Room 3C-35
Bethesda, MD 20892
Voice: 301-496-7243
TTY: 301-402-0252
<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/>

Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc

7910 Woodmont Ave., Suite 1200
Bethesda, MD 20817
Voice: 301-657-2248
TTY: 301-657-2249

TRIPOD

2901 North Keystone St
Burbank, CA 91504-1620
Voice/TTY 818-972-2080
Fax: 818-972-2090

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children

124 Eglinton Ave., West, Suite 420
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4R 2G8
Voice/TTY: 416-487-7719