Greetings!

What a hectic time of year! We are in full swing here at Hands & Voices after spending time in Denver at the Annual EHDI Meeting. I hope you had the opportunity to see one of the many presentations by the H&V staff or stopped by the exhibit table to meet us. We found the meeting an

FL3 Spotlight: FBOs Listed on the Website

Who is the EHDI designated Family Based Organization (FBO) for my state/territory?

Did you know that the HRSA awarded state/territory-level EHDI grants contained a provision for identifying and

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Year 2 activities have begun! Staff have been busy working on the many different objectives of the FL3 project. They have been working on completing and compiling the data from the National Needs Assessment and final reports will be completed soon. They are providing technical assistance to EHDI systems stakeholders as we start looking at Year 2 of the EHDI cycle. Staff are also assisting the work of the two Advisory Boards - Language, Literacy and Social Development and Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Are you looking for resources? Be sure to check out the FL3 section of the [website](#). We are adding new information all the time. An example of this is the updates to the Family Leadership Section - [For Families](#).

Whether you are looking for leadership skills to enhance your knowledge for your own child or are looking to progress and move towards change at the system level, you can find resources here to develop and better understand these pieces. There is value in capturing and nurturing all levels of leadership from those at the family level through peer-to-peer and the system.

You're invited to attend VL2's Third Annual Knowledge Festival to learn about the Center's latest scientific discoveries and transformative translation products! Reserve your spot now.

This event engages all participants and will feature the Center's four National Resource Hubs, three laboratories, pioneering Ph.D. in Educational Neuroscience (PEN) Program (including students), and new Cognitive Neuroscience Institute.

Refreshments will be served, along with opportunities to enter our raffle drawings for prizes! RSVP today and share this invitation with others. We hope to see you at this community event!

Interpreters will be provided. Contact them at vl2@gallaudet.edu or

Warm wishes,
The FL3 Team
May is Better Hearing and Speech Month! In celebration, the Office of Head Start's Early Childhood Hearing Outreach (ECHO) Initiative is joining the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to host a coffee break webinar series to celebrate this year's theme "Communication for All." Throughout the month of May, ASHA partners with national and local stakeholders to engage in a multifaceted public education campaign to raise awareness about the critical need to intervene early when young children are identified with communication disorders.

The Coffee Break Webinars will focus on raising awareness about the importance of frequent hearing screenings, language development, and family engagement. The webinars will feature speakers that receive funding for various projects through grants and cooperative agreements from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Administration for Children and Families.

There is no pre-registration to join the webinars. Click on the links below when you are ready to join.

**Monday, May 7, 2018, 2:00-2:15 p.m. EDT**
**What You Need to Know About Quality Hearing Screening for Children Birth to Five Years of Age**

Click here to join the webinar

**Thursday, May 10, 2018, 2:00 - 2:15 p.m. EDT**
**Family Engagement: Living It Out in the Real World**
Janet DesGeorges, Co-founder and Executive Director of Hands & Voices, [www.handsandvoices.org](http://www.handsandvoices.org)

Click here to join the webinar

**Monday, May 14, 2018, 2:00 - 2:15 p.m. EDT**
**Unplug and Engage: Creating Language Rich Everyday"**
deaf or hard of hearing children who are lower achieving academically.

The survey is online and is currently available in ASL/text English; English; Spanish; and, Chinese. Survey Link.

Routines at Home
Juliann Woods, Ph.D., Professor and Researcher at Florida State University School of Communication Science and Disorders, http://firstwordsproject.com

Click here to join the webinar

Thursday, May 17, 2017, 2:00 - 2:15 p.m. EDT
Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Strategies to Promote Children’s Language Development
Rosa Milagros Santos, Ph.D., Professor in the Department of Special Education the University of Illinois,
https://provost.illinois.edu/staff-directory/santos-roasa-milagros/

Click here to join the webinar

Synopsis of 2018 EHDI Meeting Pre-Session
Led by Hands & Voices FL3 Staff

Last month, seven of the Hands & Voices FL3 staff facilitated a pre-session at the 2018 EHDI Conference called "Uniquely Delivering Family-to-Family Support Within EHDI systems and Beyond." The goal was to help participants explore evidence-based practices and preferences of parent-to-parent support and to provide current program and methods of delivery models. Also addressed were the ways in which parents with newly identified children who are D/HH access information and need different kinds of support in different formats - including the needs of families from cultural communities, who may be low resourced as well as families who have been challenging to engage. The interactive session, peppered with group work activities, offered innovative strategies and new ideas pulled from the diversity of resource dissemination practices across states and territories, including examples of infusing adults who are D/HH into program delivery. For more information about this session, please visit here

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