



Hello from Hands & Voices and the Family Leadership in Language and Learning (FL3) Center!

We hope this edition of the FL3 Center E-News finds you pausing to enjoy the fall season. With the Thanksgiving holiday approaching, it is a wonderful time to consider what we are thankful for at the FL3 Center. We have so much to be thankful for, including:



- An incredible community of parent leaders across the US states and territories
- Professionals who encourage and fully support our work as Parent Leaders
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing leaders who willingly share their valuable lived experiences to influence and guide our work
- An EHDI system that recognizes the importance of family engagement, leadership, and support
- Leadership at HRSA and the opportunity to be a part of their coordinated portfolio of programs to support the EHDI system
- All our partners--too many to name individually. Please know we are so thankful for the ability to work alongside each of you
- All families: the uniqueness of each family story continues to guide and motivate us towards continuous systemic improvements

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us at the [FL3 Center](#). We are here for you!

Wishing you all a beautiful fall season. I hope you take a moment to breathe deep and reflect on the blessings that surround us in our work with families and their children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

Lisa Kovacs

Hands & Voices Director of Programs / FL3 Center Core Management Team

Learning Events and Timely Resources to Share with Families and Agencies



O.U.R. Children's Safety Project
Tuesday, November 12th, 2024
12 PM ET/11 PM CT/10 AM MT/9 AM PT
(One hour)

Join Dr. Lori Day from The Deaf and Hard of hearing Child Resilience Center (DHHRC) at Gallaudet University to discuss this federally-funded center and its work, learn about resources available to support the mental health of deaf/hard of hearing children, and discuss unique considerations for those children who have experienced traumatic stress.

For complete information
and to register [click here](#).

[Click here](#) for future topics.
All are welcome.

Advocacy Support & Training (ASTra)
Webinar Series
Tuesday, November 19th, 2024
12 PM ET/11 AM CT/10 AM MT/9 AM PT
(One hour)

**The Mind's Eye: Understanding Theory of
Mind and its Impact on Socialization**

Presenter: Andrea Marwah (Illinois H&V)
Description: The delay in acquiring theory of mind (ToM) is caused by a lack of access to language, not by any fundamental cognitive problems. As young children mature, they develop an understanding of themselves and other people as psychological beings who think, know, want, feel, and believe. They come to understand that what they think or believe may be different from what another person thinks and believes. They also learn that much of our behavior is motivated or caused by our knowledge and beliefs. Deaf children who



H&V Reads: A Leadership Book Club
Thursday, November 14th, 2024
3 PM ET/2 PM CT/ 1 PM MT/12 PM PT
(One hour)

**Remedies for Sorrow: An Extraordinary
Child, a Secret Kept from Pregnant
Women, and a Mother's Pursuit of the
Truth.**
By Megan Nix

H&V Facilitator: Sarah Streeval (KY H&V)

After a seemingly uneventful pregnancy, Megan Nix's second daughter, Anna, was born very small and profoundly deaf. Megan and her husband, Luke, learned that Anna could have lifelong delays due to an infection from a virus they had never heard of: cytomegalovirus, or CMV, which Megan had unwittingly contracted from her toddler during pregnancy. Remedies for Sorrow unfolds across the dramatic landscape of Sitka, Alaska, where Luke makes his living as a salmon fisherman. There, Megan struggles to meet Anna's needs and dives deeper into the mystery of why no one—not her OBGYN, not her toddler's pediatrician—had mentioned CMV, despite the staggering cost of this silence to families and children like Anna. From this rugged and beautiful place comes a memoir about the boundless capacity of mothers, the extraordinary child that is Anna, and the lifesaving power of truth.

[Click here](#) for more information and to register.

FL3 Office Hours:
Thursday, November 21st, 2024
8 PM ET/7 PM CT/6 PM MT/5 PM PT
(One hour)

acquire language early are significantly better at reasoning about mental states than language-delayed deaf children.

[Click here](#) for complete description and to register.



October 26th is National Pumpkin Day! Fall Into a Book: Reading Ideas for Kids

Leaves are falling and pumpkin spice has arrived. Make it your autumn goal to cozy up with a good book and read aloud together with your child every day.

Reading aloud every day for just 15 minutes makes a big difference for your little one, especially if your child is deaf or hard of hearing. When you read to them early and often, you're helping their little brain get ready for listening, talking, reading, and learning.

[Click here](#) for fall/pumpkin themed books.

Your Feedback is Requested by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI), and Provider education Center (PEC).



Are you interested in informing education and training for providers who care for young children? Consider [responding to a survey](#) and/or participating in a [key informant interview](#) facilitated by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI), and Provider education Center (PEC).

[Click here](#) for complete description.

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an

Financial Stress on EHDI Families

Facilitators: Sara Kennedy, Hands & Voices HQ and Jodi Roberts, MS (both parents of children who are DHH)

Learn how parents are impacted by money stress and strategies/resources used by programs to better support these sometimes hidden needs in families of DHH children birth to three.

[Click here to register.](#) (one person per program please). Registration is required 48 hours in advance. (One week prior for communication access requests.)

Optional Survey: Have you experienced financial stress while caring for your child who is DHH? Please take this [short survey](#) whether or not you are planning to attend this session.

[Click here](#) for more information and future topics.

ODYSSEY New Directions in Deaf Education

Seeking
Submissions for
the
2025 Issue of
Odyssey



[Submissions](#) are being accepted through December 31st for the 2025 issue of Odyssey on the theme of "Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students with Disabilities"!

[Click here](#) for more information.

Each issue of Odyssey is available both in print and online for downloading in its entirety. The magazine is distributed free of charge to those on the Clerc Center mailing list. [Click here](#) to subscribe.

award totaling \$300,000 with 0% financed with nongovernmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government. If you have any questions, please email AAPEHDI@aap.org or visit the AAP EHD PEC Web site.

Double take in the Target Aisle: Have you seen this cutie on Target Size 2 diapers?

Angela Jones' son De'Aaron was chosen as the model and is featured at Target stores all over the U.S. for that size. He is wearing his hearing aids in the package picture. Congrats to this Minnesota rising star and kudos for representation.



Listen CI Camp Families Sharing Success Financial Scholarships Available (Applications Due Nov. 15th)

Fun filled 4-day weekends hosted at the YMCA of the Rockies - Estes Park, CO

**Financial Scholarship Applications are due
November 15, 2024**

[Click here](#) for financial scholarship applications and camp dates.



Helping your child to label emotions is the first step to understanding, expressing, and regulating emotions and children can learn this nuanced language very young. Emotions can erupt like storms and pass over like weather but they always tell us something important about how children experience the world around them. All children need a rich

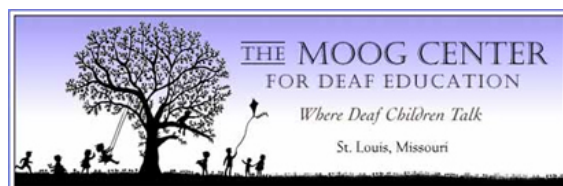
UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Save the Dates for 2025 Conferences

[EHDI Conference](#): March 9-11, 2025
Pittsburgh, PA

[CMV Conference](#): September 7-9, 2025
Minneapolis, MN

H&V Annual Leadership Conference:
October 5-7, 2025
Panama Beach City, FL



EARLY INTERVENTION SERIES

The Moog Center for Deaf Education will present a series of virtual learning sessions for Early Intervention providers, to be presented throughout the 2024-2025 school year from 7:00-8:00 p.m. CT.

- [Early Literacy/Reading with Very Young Children](#): September 18
- [Preparing for Transition: Using More Appropriate Assessments](#): November 14
- [Pragmatic Skills: Expectations for Very Young Children](#): January 14
- [Working with Families: Why Empathy is Important](#): April 2

[Click here](#) for complete information.

Book Review by Sara Kennedy

Navigating *Big Feelings* Together

vocabulary of emotion words to express their feelings and begin to appreciate the feelings of others. This is the foundation of empathy, a milestone in social-emotional development and childhood mental health.

The O.U.R. Children's Safety Vook Club (a virtual booklist highlighting books that increase the protective factors and support healthy relationships for Deaf/hard of hearing children) has a new candidate in this book, which takes an interactive approach that can help grow the bond between young children and their caring adults. What started out as a creative trial to attempt to process the big feelings of a newly adopted young child with limited language, eventually became a book that can shine a light on a child's feeling world for many more families.

The **Big Feelings** book is meant to be shared between a child and an adult. It includes 16 laminated tiles featuring emotions crafted both as adorable "emotisnails" and as a diverse cast of children signing the emotion words. These Velcro tiles can be moved to pages as the child sees fit. Prompts include "I feel ____ when I try something new" or "I feel ____ when it's time to go to sleep" among many other scenarios. There is a blank one for the child to use any way they like. A parent and child pair will no doubt be inspired to talk about events as they arise in day-to-day life, expanding into how to respond to big feelings. Early on, parents can model how they feel, using the words in context with the book and the visuals throughout the day. Children will return to this book often to talk about just one page or many. They may quickly discover they can feel excited AND worried about something!

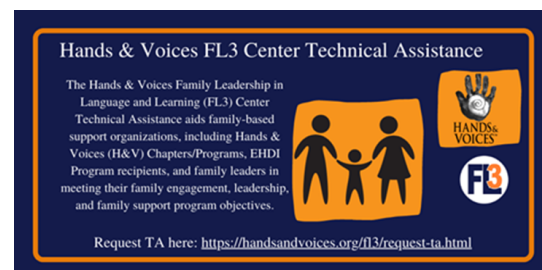
Try it with a child you know. You will be surprised at your own emotional complexity and theirs as well! The emotisnails were designed by Nel Wittman. Lynnette Downing designed the book, and Stephanie Vallejo, a Deaf Latina mother designed the ASL images. Check out the @BigFeelings YouTube channel where the children of the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of hearing preschool students can tutor you in signing each emotion word included in the book.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Seeliger and her daughter Sylviah on this FUN and meaningful book.

Find the book and other options including coloring pages and an educator's guide [here](#).

How to Submit a Request for FL3 Technical Assistance

Requesting technical assistance from the FL3 team is easy! [Click here](#) for the online form.



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