



HANDS & VOICES

"What works for your child is what makes the choice right."™

How To Help



Quarterly News & Updates

2nd Quarter April 2025

Happy Spring from the FL3 Center team!

On March 9th, the FL3 Center hosted an EHDl Family Engagement Liaison (FEL) meeting at this year's EHDl conference. The primary objective of this meeting was to share the role of the FL3 in providing technical assistance to Family Engagement Liaisons - a new role required in the current HRSA EHDl NOFO (HRSA-24-036)- to highlight the successes and opportunities for collaboration between EHDl programs, Family Engagement Liaisons (FELs), and Family-Based Organizations (FBO) and to foster peer-to-peer engagement and learning.



The FL3 Center was pleased to have forty FELs in attendance, demonstrating notable engagement and contribution towards the success of their respective state or territory EHDl systems.

The evaluation data from this meeting was very positive:

- 92.3% strongly agree/agreeing that they learned new information as a result of attending this session
- 100% strongly agreeing/agreeing that information from the session will assist them in achieving their objectives

Some of the comments in the evaluation included.

"I wish we had more time to talk through ideas/ needs, sort of rotating around the room for mini conversations. I have so many more questions!"

"This session rejuvenated me and encouraged me to make plans for some more strategic planning related to family engagement."

"Thank you, this helped clarify my role."

If you are an FEL and did not attend this meeting, don't hesitate to contact your regional FL3 TA Advisor for more information.

In partnership with you,

Upcoming Events and Activities to Share with Families and Agencies



O.U.R. Children's Safety Project

Tuesday, May 13th, 2025

12 PM ET/11 PM CT/10 AM MT/9 AM PT
(One hour)

Increasing Safety Through Sharing Books & “This Summer, I Will”

Facilitator: Sara Kennedy

Guest Speakers: Chresta Brinkman,
O.U.R. Project HQ Team member and
Ruby Sewell, a Licensed Independent
Clinical Social Worker

Audience: Open to all

[Click here](#) for details and pre-work.
[Register here.](#)

**Last meeting of the 2024-25 season.
See you on October 14, 2025**

Registration is required 48 hours in advance. Auto-captioning will be provided. Please register one week ahead for additional access requests.

H&V/FL3 Recorded Leadership Webinar:

***“From Once-a-Year to All-the-Time:
Feedback That Works ”***

Did you miss the April 17th Webinar?

Presented by H&V Leaders Terri Patterson (H&V HQ) and Sarah Roof (KY H&V) to address today’s dynamic work environment, where effective leadership depends on continuous feedback—not just yearly reviews.



**H&V FL3 Office Hours:
Thursday, May 15th, 2025
1 PM ET/Noon CT/11 AM MT/10 AM PT
(One hour)**

Supporting Early Literacy Growth in Babies and Toddlers through Family Support

Presenters: from the HATCH Lab-Idaho State University: Dr. Kristina Blaiser, Director;

Kat Ross, BA, Parent and Family Support Ambassador; Lesa Coleman, MS, Parent and Family Support Coordinator

Facilitator: Sara Kennedy (H&V HQ)

Audience: Parent & DHH Leaders providing family support, EHDI Program staff, family engagement liaisons.

Description: How do we best support families in nurturing their young child’s early literacy skills in the early intervention years? Join with other family leaders to discuss the topic and share your questions, resources, and strategies in this interactive discussion.

For more information and to register [click here](#). (one person per program please).

Registration is required 48 hours in advance. Auto-captioning will be provided. Please register one week ahead for additional access requests.



Spanish Forum
Hosted by the H&V HQ Latino Council
May 20th, 2025
8 PM ET/7 PM CT/6 PM MT/5 PM PT
(One hour)

The Hands & Voices HQ Latino Council will be hosting a forum presented in Spanish. We will learn different ways Parents can participate in Family Support Programs for DHH Children. How can we learn more and support other Parents within our Latino Community?

[Click here](#) to register and learn more about the H&V HQ Latino Council.



The Congenital CMV Public Health and Policy Conference (CMV-PHP)
September 7-9, 2025

The goal of the congenital CMV Public Health and Policy Conference (CMV-PHP) is to present the latest research on diagnosis and treatment, raise awareness, delineate prevention efforts, provide information about early intervention options, and disseminate family support resources in an effort to reduce the number of babies born with CMV and connect families affected by CMV with the resources they need to improve their quality of life.

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



2025 Maryland Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Stakeholders Conference

May 14, 2025 & May 21, 2025
1:00 - 3:00 pm Eastern Time.

The 2025 MD EHDl Stakeholders Conference is being offered as a virtual conference with two in-person watch parties.

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



The 21st Annual Hands & Voices Leadership Conference
October 5-7, 2025

Florida Hands & Voices is excited to host the **21st annual Leadership Conference** in Panama City Beach, Florida.

Registration opening the last week of April.
Agenda will be posted as well.

[Click here](#) for everything conference.



Learning from Deaf/HH Adults

- *What will my child's future look like?*
- *I've never met any adults who are deaf or hard of hearing. Where do I go?*
- *Who will my child's friends be?*
- *How do I help my child feel strong and confident?*
- *What is it like to grow up deaf or hard of hearing?*

These are some questions parents of children who are deaf and hard of hearing may ask early in the journey. Knowing the tremendous value of learning from adults who are deaf and hearing, [share this link](#) from the [FL3 website](#) with families. They will find a wealth of diverse perspectives through interviews, stories, articles, websites and more.



Family Leadership in Language and Learning Center A program of Hands & Voices

[Click here](#) to explore the Hands & Voices Online Academy. Whether you are a parent leader, EHDI or other systems professional, or a DHH Adult leader, here you will find different courses that may support your professional development.

Other Items of Interest to Share

Parents/Caregivers Needed to test a New Parent APP



Does your child use a hearing aid or cochlear implant? Are they 2 years old or younger? Are they learning to listen and talk?

[Click here](#) for information.



DCMP's April's [newsletter](#) included a captioned preview of **No Ordinary Hero: The SuperDeafy Movie**. SuperDeafy, a deaf actor who plays a superhero, must reveal the man behind the cape to find true love and inspire eight-year-old Jacob, a young deaf boy, to believe in himself. The movie follows the evolution of this unique hero.



The Spring 2025 Endeavor is Here

Brought to you by
**American Society for Deaf
Children (ASDC)**

Spring is the season of growth—and [ASDC's](#) latest edition of The Endeavor is blooming with fresh ideas, inspiring stories, and powerful insights.

[Click here](#) to read the latest edition.



Since 2013, students at Gallaudet University and Swarthmore College have been collaborating on [RISE](#). All stories feature deaf native signers of their country.

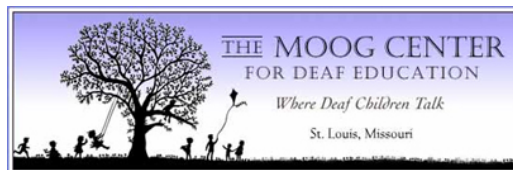
RISE aims to promote language acquisition and early literacy skills for deaf children by providing bimodal-bilingual video books for parents, early intervention specialists, professionals in the education field, or anyone interested in deaf education to share with their children.



Family and Caregiver Resources

REAL South is dedicated to empowering families of deaf and hard of hearing infants and toddlers by providing a wealth of resources tailored to their needs.

Whether you're just starting your journey or looking for additional support, REAL South is here to help



Annual Parent Workshop June 10 – 13, 2025

The [Annual Parent Workshop](#) is a four-day event consisting of learning sessions on hearing and hearing loss and helping one's child who is deaf or hard of hearing learn to talk.



New Resources From [HEARING FIRST](#)

The [Familiar Sounds Audiogram Worksheet](#) can be used to plot the results of a child's hearing test. Parents and professionals can use this tool together to discuss a child's hearing loss so that families understand the sounds their child can hear as well as the sounds they may be missing.

The [Familiar Sounds Audiogram eBook](#) helps parents and professionals answer these questions together, with clear explanations and definitions about an audiogram, hearing loss, and more.



Capstone Project Results in Deaf-Accessible Kiosks

Using their knowledge from classroom instruction, NTID

you create a strong foundation for your child's future.

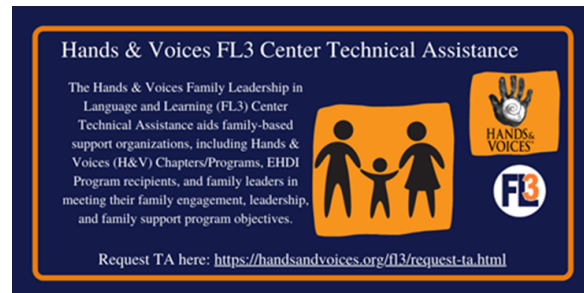
[Click here](#) for more information.

information and computing studies students built equipment and applied for funding, culminating in the launch of five state-of-the-art, deaf-friendly point-of-sale systems that use interactive monitors for easy ordering and delivery of food and beverages.

Read complete article [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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