

# SOUND MATTERS

Audiology Newsletter of the Minnesota Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Program

## Deaf & Hard of Hearing Role Models

### Part of the Village of Support for D/HH Children

When Kate Eckroth was a little girl, her parents were excited to meet Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) adults. Kate had become ill with bacterial meningitis as an infant and received a diagnosis of severe to profound hearing loss six months later. She wore FM system hearing aids and communicated with spoken language in her mainstream classrooms. She later learned some ASL through elective courses in school. Now that she is an adult with her own pre-school aged child, she understands the value in connecting with a community of people who are DHH. Other adults who share her experience understand her concerns and can share practical advice about many topics, including technology that DHH adults depend on.

Kate decided to join [Lifetrack's DHH Role Model Services](#) because, "I can be part of a village for children who are DHH, so children can see adults

that are just like them. This builds self-esteem and identity. Parents worry about their children and I get to be one of the people that helps them know things will be ok. Families really want to know about hearing technology, especially when trying to make decisions about getting cochlear implants for their child. It is such a personal choice. Families also want to know about navigating all the possible school choices."

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Role Model Services at Lifetrack is built on recommendations from a needs assessment of DHH families conducted by Wilder Research. Lifetrack's vision is that trained role models are kind, flexible, understanding, unbiased, and show unwavering support for families. Families of children age birth to 21 years can access the Role Model Services by contacting [DHHRM@lifetrack-mn.org](mailto:DHHRM@lifetrack-mn.org).

## Did you know? Latest Issue of the Journal of Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (JEHDI) is Available

JEHDI 2017-2 is now available at <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/jehdi>. Highlights include:

- <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1053&context=jehdi> - improved follow-up occurs(after not passing newborn hearing screening) when the follow-up appointment is scheduled prior to hospital discharge
- <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1044&context=jehdi> - evidence supports that both ears must pass during the same test time/session to consider the overall result as a pass

# Have You Heard?



## New ASL Standards K-12 Now Available Online

The new webpage, <https://gallaudet.edu/clerc-center/k12-asl-content-standards/>, includes Anchor Standards and a grade level portrait of K-12 ASL development. Standards can be incorporated into planning and instruction, to help monitor progress in the ASL development of deaf and hard of hearing children. More free resources for supporting students who are deaf or hard of hearing are available from the Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center at <http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu>.

## New Resources for Early Intervention

- Rhoades, E.A., Duncan, J., Auditory Verbal Practice; Family-Centered Early Intervention, Second Ed., Charles Thomas Publisher, 2017. Click here for ordering information <https://www.ccthomas.com/details.cfm?P ISBN13=9780398091477>
- NCHAM eBook “Preparing to Teach, Committing to Learn: An Introduction to Educating Children Who Are Deaf/ Hard of Hearing (2017)”. <https://www.infantheating.org/ebook-educating-children-dhh>
- Moeller, M.P., Ertmer, D.J., Stoel-Gammon, C., Promoting Language and Literacy in Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Brookes Publishing 2016. <http://products.brookespublishing.com/Promoting-Language-and-Literacy-in-Childrenwho-are-Deaf-or-Hard-of-Hearing-P882.aspx>



## Last Words from the Advisory Committee



### Meeting highlights...

- Development of new EHDI Benchmark standards for the next 10 years is planned
- New standards for education of Teachers of Deaf/ Hard of Hearing are in place at University of Minnesota
- Regional EHDI teams and the MN Collaborative sub-group continue to focus improving access to EHDI services for diverse cultures
- CMV/Newborn Hearing Screening Study update
  - 5,153 infants enrolled / goal is 30,000
  - 17 confirmed with cCMV as of Dec. 31, 2017
  - 3/17 had hearing loss at time of diagnosis (2 were asymptomatic with isolated hearing loss)

### Next meeting:

**May 16, 2018**  
**1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
**Amherst A. Wilder Foundation**  
**451 Lexington Parkway North**  
**St. Paul, MN 55104**

## Contact Us:

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EHDI Website: [www.improveehdi.org/mn](http://www.improveehdi.org/mn)