

# BC Early Hearing Program

A service of BC Children's Hospital  
and the Provincial Health Services Authority



## Early Language Support Specialists

Professionals will work with you and your family to help support your baby's best possible language development.

### BC Early Hearing Program (BCEHP) Supports

#### **Audiologist**

Audiologists test hearing, fit hearing equipment and provide ongoing support and information about hearing and hearing equipment.

#### **BCEHP Service Coordinator**

BCEHP Service Coordinators are early language development specialists. Service Coordinators are responsible for helping your family get started with early language services as soon as possible. They contact parents shortly after their baby is identified as deaf or hard of hearing.

#### **Guide - Guide By Your Side Program**

Guide By Your Side Guides either grew up deaf or hard of hearing or have children with hearing loss. Trained Guides provide support from those with personal experience.

#### **Sign Language Instructor**

Sign Language Instructors are both fluent in American Sign Language (ASL) and deaf. In addition to teaching families ASL, the instructor shares information about Deaf Culture and Deaf Community.

#### **Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP)**

Speech-Language Pathologists guide your baby's communication and language development. SLP services include monitoring your baby's language progress and helping you build skills that promote interactions with your baby to develop attention, speech sounds, gestures and words.

#### **Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (TDHH)**

Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing have experience working with deaf and hard of hearing children. They provide strategies to stimulate early communication development during play and home routines.

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## Medical Supports

### Family Physician

Doctors provide primary care and make referrals to an Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) specialist.

### Otolaryngologist (Ear, Nose & Throat specialist)

Otolaryngologists investigate the cause of your child's hearing loss and advise on medical treatment options.

## Additional Supports

### Infant Development Consultant

The Infant Development Program serves children from birth to three years old who are at risk for developmental delays.

<https://icdabc.ca/programs/infant-development-program/>

### Aboriginal Infant Development Consultant

Aboriginal Infant Development Programs offer support to families of infants who are at risk for developmental delays. <https://www.aidp.bc.ca/>

### Deafblind Consultant – Canadian Deafblind Association of BC (CDBA-BC)

A Deafblind Consultant works with children who have a hearing and vision loss. They provide one-to-one services to help families learn how to promote their baby's development. <https://www.cdbabc.ca/>

List above is not comprehensive. Your child may have referrals to other specialists. BCEHP partners with Public Health Audiologists, Speech-Language Pathologists, Sign Language Instructors, and Teachers of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing in BC to support optimal outcomes.