

Implementing a Family Education Program for Lost to Intervention: Undergraduate Training and Reflections

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INTRODUCTION

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) is a federally funded program that aims to screen, identify, and intervene in cases of children with hearing differences. EHDI works in conjunction with state and local programs across the United States to meet the goal of supporting children with hearing outside of typical range and their families.

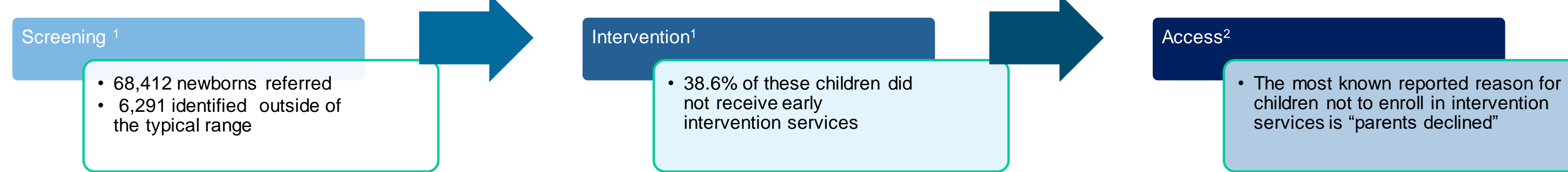


Figure 1. Progression of children referring from newborn screening and diagnostic identification of D/deaf or hard of hearing to percent receiving services to most known reported reason to not access services^{1,2}.

Swaddling Ear to Ear

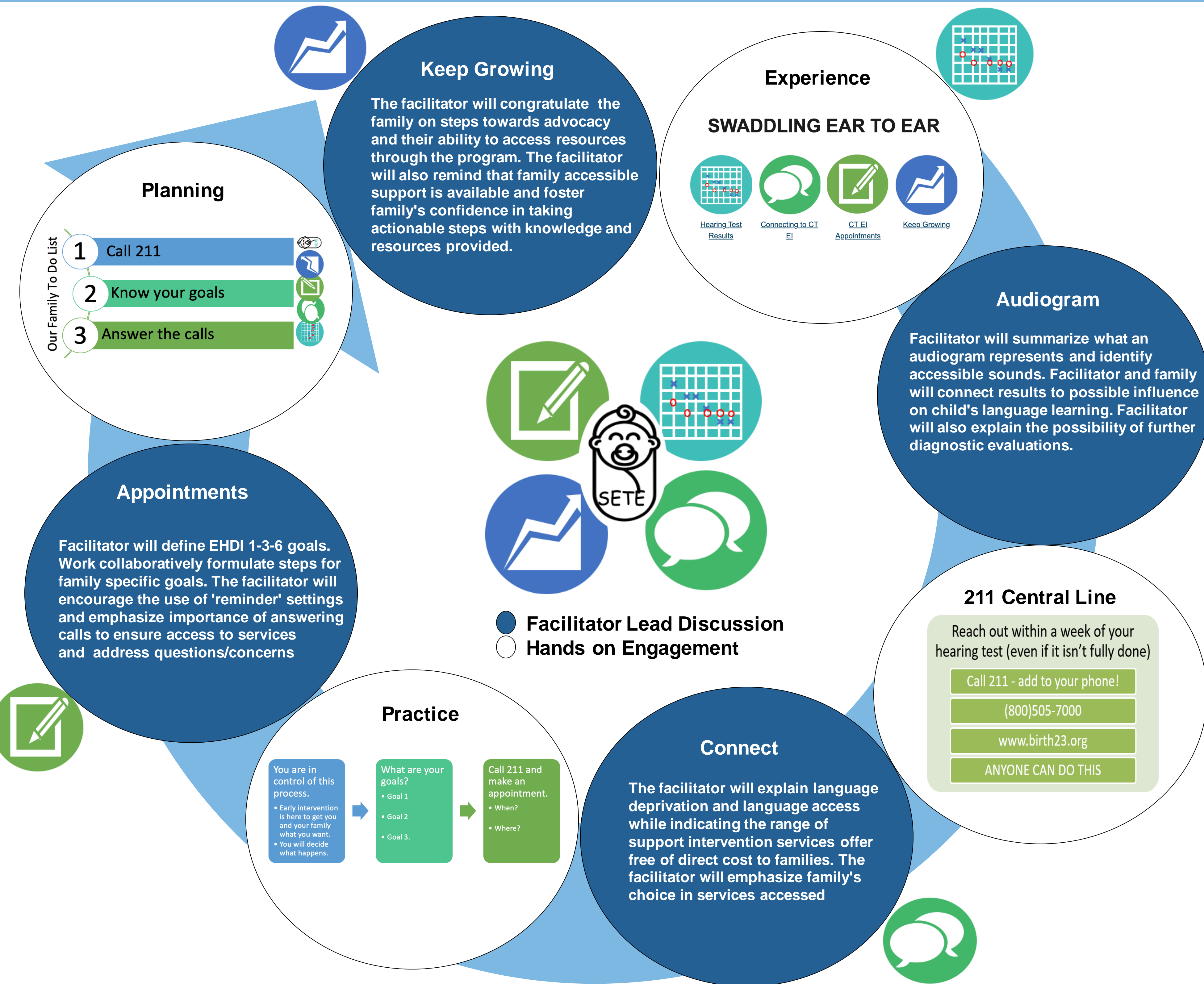


Figure 2. Outline of Swaddling Ear to Ear is program that focuses on providing families whose children have been identified as D/deaf or Hard of Hearing with support by collaboratively developing actionable steps towards enrollment²⁻⁵.

Meet the Student Implementer

The student facilitator is a current Speech, Language and Hearing sciences undergraduate with prior experience with the Deaf community and education systems for D/deaf and Hard of Hearing students. In addition, she has served as a newborn hearing screener. With this broad background, this implementer represents the skills of a community health educator with the ability to support all communication modes families choose.



Image of the student implementer, Emily LaSpada

PURPOSE

This presentation is written from the perspective of a student implementer, reflecting on the experience of training and facilitating a family education program on accessing early intervention services.

Student insights will include

- Facilitators' growth in comfort level with audiological information
- Flexibility in manipulating information to present to families
- Further of understanding in the use of counseling for future patients

REFLECTION

Training Objectives

- Outline time commitment
- Develop foundational knowledge of EHDI, EI, and family centered care approaches.
- Illustrate strong understanding of the program and effective counseling and facilitation skills with training instructor.
- Facilitate and self-reflect to ensure all program goals are met.
- Connect with participant recruitment sites.

Outcome

- Background training 2 hours weekly, 3 weeks
- Session preparation 30 min
- Facilitation 30min-1 hour
- Session reflection 45min- 1hour
- Demonstrated understanding of EHDI and EI services and their role in supporting family needs.
- Practiced counseling skills and facilitation of family guided conversation.
- Demonstrated effective facilitation of mock participant sessions through video recordings and self-reflections.
- Contacted four diagnostic center sites.

Figure 3. Objectives and outcomes of student implementer training.

VALUE STATEMENT

Involvement in research as an undergraduate student has offered valuable experiences from exposure to data collection and analysis, professional writing experience, and presentation opportunities. Facilitating the *Swaddling Ear to Ear* program has allowed me to build a strong foundation of collaborative work, enhanced interpersonal and counseling skills that will be highly valuable to me as I pursue a clinical career.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

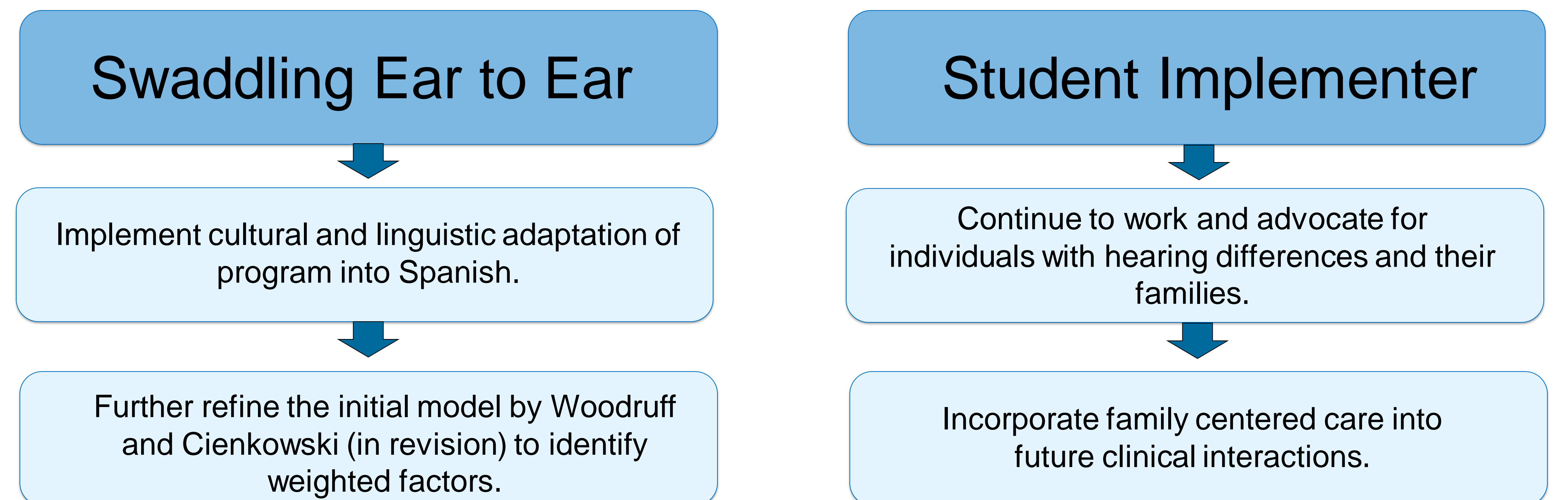


Figure 4. Future directions of Swaddling Ear to Ear program and Student Implementer.

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