

Family-Centered Early Intervention Deaf/Hard of Hearing (FCEI-DHH)

PRINCIPLES

FOUNDATION

1 Early intervention following identification
Early identification that an infant or child is DHH should be linked to provision of early, timely and equitable access to supports and interventions as soon as possible in the child's life.

2 Family-EI Provider relationships
Family-EI Provider partnerships are important for empowering families. In FCEI-DHH, EI Providers aim to collaborate with families, with both sides bringing knowledge and expertise.

3 Family support
Families with DHH children are all different. It is important to recognize each families' unique strengths, concerns, and needs, each of which will change over time. Family support should also adapt to meet families where they are.

SUPPORT

4 Child well-being
Child well-being can be accomplished when early intervention focuses on the whole child in the context of their family, including infant/child development, positive social-emotional functioning, child welfare, and safeguarding.

5 Language and communication
Families should be supported to promote their children's language and communication development in natural, daily routines. Early and consistent access access to language and communication is important.

6 Family decisions
It is vital to involve family members in early intervention. FCEI-DHH provides support, information, and experiences that strengthen families to make informed decisions for themselves and their children.

7 Trained FCEI-DHH Providers
EI Providers need to have certain competencies (general, EI-, and DHH-specific). Trained EI Providers offer effective, professional, equitable, and inclusive FCEI-DHH supports to promote children and family outcomes

STRUCTURE

8 Teamwork among professionals
FCEI-DHH team members come from various backgrounds and experiences. Communication and collaboration across all members of the team is essential and will support positive outcomes for DHH children and their families.

9 Developmental assessment
Meaningful continuous assessment will inform the amount and type of support provided. Professionals need skills to do assessments, manage language(s), and interpret results for planning interventions.

10 Progress monitoring
Progress monitoring is a necessary component of ensuring that the support provided to families is effective across families and across FCEI-DHH programs/services and systems.