

"Being a Child who is DHH is Not Always Easy.
Neither is Being Their Sibling"

Coleman Jones



Taylor Hvass



The “Siblings”: Coleman & Taylor



Questions for the audience:

- How many of you by a show of hands, had to leave your kids to come here?
- How many leave your other kids at home for your DHH child's appointments?
- How many have bought your kids a gift because of having to be patient?
- How many of your hearing kids have ever expressed interest in being DHH?

Our “Why”



Our Family's' Well-being



Our DHH Kids



The Siblings

Questions for Siblings

- What is the best thing about having a Deaf or hard of hearing sibling?
- What is an experience when you felt like you needed to feel more included in the family?

How would you describe your relationship with your DHH sibling?

Questions for Siblings

- What have you missed out on in order to participate with your sibling?
- How much does having a DHH sibling affect your day to day, or the over all direction of your life.
- What were the good things that have come from attending deaf events or interacting with the deaf community?

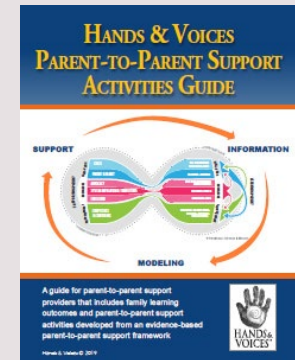
Traits of siblings with DHH siblings or siblings with special needs

- Positive traits, such as a greater level of maturity, empathy, patience, flexibility, and tolerance for differences found in other people. Also, studies show siblings who are helpful to their parents and their brother or sister who is dhh have a great sense of pride. (Atkins, 1987).



Strategies to recognize siblings, as Chapter Leaders

- FL3 Office Hours: “Siblings” (March 23, 2023)
www.handsandvoices.org/fl3/officehours
- SibShops: Provide young brothers and sisters with peer support and information in a lively, recreational setting
www.siblingsupport.org/sibshops
- Hands & Voices Parent-to-Parent Support Activity Guide---
Parent and Family Well-being



Strategies to recognize siblings, as Chapter Leaders (continued)

- Host a Sibling Panel or have a breakout session at Family Camp (strategies in Parent Event Guide)
- Incorporate Sibling articles/tips into social media
- [Siblings of Children with Special Needs | HealthyPlace](#)
- [Hands & Voices :: Communication Considerations \(handsandvoices.org\)](#)
- [Challenges & Benefits of Having a Sibling with Special Needs - Western New York Family Magazine \(wnyfamilymagazine.com\)](#)
- Find ways to say “Thank you”

