

# From the Front Lines: Deaf/Hard of Hearing Early Interventionists Supporting Families

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# Facts:

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- ❖ NMSD EIDS saw a marked improvement in developmental gains once Deaf professionals began to see families
- ❖ Skill development is enhanced by working with Deaf specialists by “teaching” (modeling, mentoring, introducing, exposing) and use of strategies. The Deaf specialist is a linguistic and social expert— for having grown from experiences navigating in society—where the primary modality is hearing and speaking. [http://www.infanthearing.org/ehdiebook/2020\\_ebook/19%20Chapter19DeafProfessionals2020.pdf](http://www.infanthearing.org/ehdiebook/2020_ebook/19%20Chapter19DeafProfessionals2020.pdf)
- ❖ Deaf people are able to provide the Deaf child with something hearing parents cannot: "Experience as a Deaf person" (Chute & Nevins, 2002) [http://www.infanthearing.org/ehdi-ebook/2020\\_ebook/19%20Chapter19DeafProfessionals2020.pdf](http://www.infanthearing.org/ehdi-ebook/2020_ebook/19%20Chapter19DeafProfessionals2020.pdf)
- ❖ Several studies have shown that the most accessible pathway for full access to linguistic information for many Deaf children is through vision. Children have been found to be capable of absorbing multiple languages via multiple modalities with no negative side effects on their language acquisition and development. [http://www.infanthearing.org/ehdi-ebook/2020\\_ebook/19%20Chapter19DeafProfessionals2020.pdf](http://www.infanthearing.org/ehdi-ebook/2020_ebook/19%20Chapter19DeafProfessionals2020.pdf)



How can  
you utilize  
your D/HH  
Front Line  
experts?



- **Who are your D/HH experts?**



Please join us in observing different case scenarios and consider reflecting on how we can use our D/HH Front Line staff to enhance the child/family's language journey.

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**If you have any questions- Please feel free to submit through chat and we will attempt to answer questions at the end of this presentation.**



Observe Case Scenario:  
How can you utilize your  
D/HH Front Line expert?

“DOOR”

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## Reflection on “DOOR” Case Scenario:

How can you utilize your Front Line expert?

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**Reflect.....**

**What is the child missing?**

**Connection with door and why**

**What is the connection with sound and door?**

**Signs + Sounds + Door = Connection**

Observe Case  
Scenario:  
How can you  
utilize your D/HH  
Front Line expert?

**“DINOSAUR”**





# Reflection on “DINOSAUR” Case Scenario:

How can you utilize your  
D/HH Front Line expert?

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**Reflect.....**

**How is your child hearing the word?**

**Is hearing technology incorporated?**

**What is the child saying?**

**How does he hear?**

**Language & Rhythm?**

**Language Enrichment?**



Observe Case Scenario:

“SAY WHAT?”



# Reflection of “SAY WHAT?” Case Scenario

How can you utilize your Front Line expert?

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**What observation can you pick from the child's environment?**

**What does Early visual and Early communication look like?**

**How long should you wait for a response?**

**How can you model language?**



# Why use your D/HH Front Line experts?

- **We are often the first D/HH & language models for the child and their families.**
- **We have unique perspectives and experiences thus providing an insight to families.**
- **We have a wide range of experiences with hearing technologies and equipment.**
- **We have various experiences learning languages through different modes.**
- **We experience “deafness” firsthand.**
- **We offer a diverse educational background knowledge and professional experiences.**

# Your turn to ponder.....

WHO are your  
D/HH Front Line  
experts?

WHY include your  
D/HH Front Line  
experts?

WHEN should you  
include your D/HH  
Front Line experts?

WHERE are your  
D/HH Front Line  
experts?

WHAT can you  
utilize from your  
D/HH Front Line  
experts?

HOW can you  
utilize your D/HH  
Front Line experts?

# Quotes We LOVE

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**Language is not an ear thing or a mouth thing. It's a brain thing. (Language First)**

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**"The language center in the brain does not depend on sound for language development." (Julia Hecht, MD, FAAP)**

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**"Dream big little one. The sky is not your limit"  
(Unknown)**

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**"One Language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way." (Frank Smith)**

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**"The limits of my language are the limits of my world." (Ludwig Wittgenstein)**

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**"Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood." (Fred Rogers)**

Q&A





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**Early Intervention & Developmental Services**



# Reach Out

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# Resources:

- Our field experiences
- Research/Resources Related To The Importance Of Deaf And Hard Of Hearing Role Models And Involvement With Families Of Young Children Who Are Deaf Or Hard Of Hearing. <http://www.infanthearing.org/dhhadultinvolvement/docs/wisconsin/Deaf-Hard-of-Hearing-Involvement-Research-Resources.pdf>
- Deaf Professionals & Community Involvement With Early Education. [http://www.infanthearing.org/ehdi-ebook/2020\\_ebook/19%20Chapter19DeafProfessionals2020.pdf](http://www.infanthearing.org/ehdi-ebook/2020_ebook/19%20Chapter19DeafProfessionals2020.pdf)
- The Deaf Mentor Experimental For Young Children Who Are Deaf And Their Families. <http://www.deaf-mentor.skihi.org/img/DMParticlePittman.pdf>
- Hands and Voices. <https://www.handsandvoices.org/>
- Family Guided Routines Based Intervention. <http://fgrbi.com/>
- New Mexico School For The Deaf. <https://www.nmsd.k12.nm.us/>
- Ski Hi Deaf Mentor Program. <https://deaf-mentor.skihi.org/>

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  - Cochlear Processor (<https://www.cochlear.com/us/en/home/products-and-accessories/nucleus-system/nucleus-sound-processors/nucleus-7> );
  - Advanced Bionics Processor (<https://advancedbionics.com/uk/en/portals/devices.html>)
  - Baha 5 Series (<https://www.cochlear.com/au/en/corporate/media-releases/2016/baha-5-portfolio-press-release>);
  - Osia 2 Sound Processors (<https://www.cochlear.com/us/en/home/products-and-accessories/cochlear-osia-system/osia-2>) |
  - Love You (<http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-wZXkW11tUJw/Tce5I0erYII/AAAAAAAAAC5I/G7MYokdKvtw/s1600/i-love-you-sign.jpg>);
  - Language Word Art (<http://brewminate.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Language10.jpg>)
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