Early Intervention And Early Childhood Services For Children With Vision and/or Hearing Issues

Statewide Service Connections

Kris Ching
Center for Childhood Deafness and Hearing Loss

Nancy Hatfield
Washington Sensory Disability Services, Deaf Blind Project

Katie Humes
Washington Sensory Disability Services, Deaf Blind Project

Deette Snyder
Washington State School for the Blind
TODAY’S FOCUS...

After today, participants will be able to…

1. Understand the purpose and importance of identification of a sensory disability.
2. Become more familiar with ESIT Practice Guide, including the combined registry process.
3. Access an EI/EC Teacher of the Deaf, or Teacher of the B/VI, or Deaf-Blind Consultant in their community or through statewide resources.
4. Become an active partner in EI/ECE services for children with sensory loss (BVI, DHH, or DB)
Who is WSDS?

No one said it was easy to raise a child or be a child who is deaf or hard of hearing or a child with vision impairment. But with good information, helpful training, and the right technologies, what was once an unthinkable difficulty can turn into a quite manageable fact in a wonderful life.

Washington Sensory Disabilities Services (WSDS) is here to assist children who are deaf or hard of hearing, blind or visually impaired, or deaf-blind, by providing assessment services, training and other support to children, school districts, families and service providers.

WSDS is a state needs project funded through the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Special Education Section.

www.wsdsonline.org

• WSDS staff are located state wide.

• Three separate components support WSDS services, including CDHL, WSSB, and the Deaf Blind Project.
PRACTICE GUIDE: INFANTS AND TODDLERS WITH SENSORY DISABILITIES

Available on ESIT website in Professional Development
Created in a partnership between WSDS and DEL/ESIT

https://www.del.wa.gov/development/esit/training

Includes:

1) *Introduction* and summary of each of the following…
2) Pathways to Services
3) Registry Procedures
4) Agency Self-Evaluation Tool
5) Areas to address with all families
Who is a child with BVI, DHH, or combined DB?

• Eligibility criteria in ESIT Practice Guide, page 2 and 3
• Special note: A child who meets one or more of the eligibility criteria above for deaf/hard or hearing and/or visual impairment needs no additional evaluation to determine eligibility for early intervention services. [https://del.wa.gov/development/esit/eligibility](https://del.wa.gov/development/esit/eligibility)
  – The sensory loss alone creates the eligibility. Children with sensory disabilities would be considered eligible under Path 1: Medical Diagnosis.
• Use ESIT approved tool for vision and hearing screen
  – The 3-Pronged Approach to Vision and Hearing screen
  – Available through WSDS (training on use and implementation also available)
COMBINED REGISTRY FORM

Per RCW 72.40.070 WSSB and CDHL are state agencies required to collect data on children with sensory disabilities in WA State


• The Registry helps us identify where families are in each county so we can work together with local FRCs and EI professionals to provide information and resources to families
• Form is submitted electronically http://www2.wssb.wa.gov/b3
• Release of Information is required
• All FRCs who have children with qualifying sensory disabilities are required to submit for each child
  – Interagency contracts with ESIT support our mandates
  – Both agencies collect annual reports from ESDs and school districts for children ages 3-21
Washington State School for the Blind (WSSB)
Center for Deafness and Hearing Loss (CDHL)

Children Aged Birth to 3 with Sensory Disabilities
REGISTRY FORM

The purpose of this form is to gather demographic information on the children aged birth to 3 who are blind/visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, or both deaf/blind in the state of Washington. It is not a referral to a particular program nor a request for technical assistance or consultation.

If you have any questions completing this form, please contact DeEtte Snyder (BVI) DeEtte.Snyder@wssb.wa.gov or Kris Ching (DHH) Kris.Ching@cdhl.wa.gov

Required fields marked with "*

*Registry Type: Blind/Visually Impaired

*Child’s Last Name: ___________________________  *Child’s First Name: ___________________________  *Date of Birth: ___________________________

*Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name: ___________________________  *Phone Number: ___________________________

*Address: ___________________________  *City: ___________________________  State: ______  *Zipcode: ___________________________  *County: ___________________________

*School District: ___________________________  Language(s) Used in Home: ___________________________
## Hearing Information

Audiology report on file with EI agency: **No**  
*Date of Diagnosis:*  
*Audiologist's Name:*  

Medical Records on Order:  

**Type of Hearing Loss:** (if known, check all that apply)  
- [ ] Conductive  
- [ ] Sensorineural  
- [ ] Mixed  

- [ ] Unilateral (One Ear)  
- [ ] Bilateral (Both Ears)  
- [ ] Unknown, Further Testing Needed  

**Hearing Levels/Degree of Hearing Loss:**  
- [ ] Left (Degree)  
- [ ] Right (Degree)  
- [ ] Further Testing Needed  

Amplification (hearing aids, cochlear implant):  
- Left: **N/A or Unknown**  
- Right: **N/A or Unknown**  

**Family/Caregiver Hearing Status:** (check all that apply)  
- [ ] Hearing  
- [ ] Hard of Hearing  
- [ ] Deaf
## Visual Impairment Information

Eye report on file with EI agency: No  
*Date of Eye Exam:  
*Ophthalmologist's Name:  

Medical Records on Order:  

Vision Condition(s): (if known, check all that apply)

- □ Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI) or Delayed Visual Maturation (DVM)
- □ Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP)
- □ Albinism
- □ Aniridia
- □ Coloboma
- □ Leber’s Congenital Amaurosis (LCA)
- □ Retinal Disorder

- □ Nystagmus
- □ Optic Nerve Hypoplasia (ONH)
- □ Anophthalmia/microphthalmia
- □ Cataract
- □ Corneal defects
- □ Retinoblastoma
- □ Glaucoma
- □ Strabismus

Other:  

- □ Unknown, further testing needed

Wears:  

- □ Glasses
- □ Contacts
- □ Prosthetics
# Early Intervention Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Current IFSP Date (if completed):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Name of Agency Providing EI Services:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Lead FRC or Assigned FRC:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Phone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary EI Provider (if known):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TVI (if known):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOD (if known):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency providing TVI/TOD Service (if known)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Submit* (If form does not submit, scroll up and check to see if all required fields have been filled in)
• The registry is **not to request or refer for services** from CDHL, WSSB, or DB Project. Please contact the appropriate agency if technical assistance or consultation is needed.

• Future goals are to imbed within ESIT’s DMS system to streamline data collection about prevalence of BVI/DHH, but for now they are separate.
Appendix 1.a   Pathway to Services: Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Start

Newborn Hearing Screening pre-hospital discharge

Pass

Refer

Notify parents, Primary Care Provider (PCP), Dept. of Health/EHDDI Program (DOH/EHDDI)

Pass

Rescreen as outpatient by 1 month of age

Refer

Notify parents, PCP, DOH

Diagnostic audiologic evaluation by 3 months of age

Identified as Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Audiologist refers to Early Support for Infants & Toddlers (ESIT)/Local Lead Agency via interagency DOH/EHDDI referral system.

Family Resources Coordinator (FRC) fills out B-3 Registry Form; sends via website link.

FRC shares Guide By Your Side (GBYS) information.

Initiate early intervention (EI) services by 6 months of age (National EHDI Benchmark), including B-3 DHH services.

Offer genetic counseling

For Children Identified as Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Does county/LLA have a plan with identified B-3 DHH provider(s)?

Yes

FRC & CDHL develop interim or initial IFSP and consider potential EI partners:

- Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss (CDHL)
- Guide By Your Side (GBYS)
- Office of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing (ODHH) (regional service centers for the Deaf/HH)
- Washington Sensory Disabilities Services (WSDS)/Deaf-Blind Project

Contact WSDS/Deaf-Blind Project for input

No

What local/regional B-3 services and other resources are available? Arrange for TA/consultation from:

- Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss (CDHL)
- Guide By Your Side (GBYS)
- Office of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing (ODHH) (regional service centers for the Deaf/HH)
- Washington Sensory Disabilities Services (WSDS)/Deaf-Blind Project

Proceed with IFSP development and implement EI services

Is child at risk for, or have, a visual impairment?

No

Pass

Refer

Yes

Pass

Pass

Pass

Refer

Refer

Refer
TYPICAL SCENARIO FOR DHH
Appendix 1.b  ◆ Pathway to Services: Blind/Visually Impaired (BVI)

1. **Start Here** if child was referred to ESIT with **EXISTING** BVI diagnosis, including CVI.

   OR

2. **Start Here** if child does not have BVI at initial enrollment in EI services, but concerns about vision are present.

   - 2a. Babies seen at Well-Child Check Up and concern identified.
     - Refer to pediatric ophthalmologist for diagnostic eye examination.
   - 2b. Babies has CVI high-risk factors and team administered the CVI screening tool.
   - 2c. EI and family/team has vision concerns after completion of 3-Prong Vision Screen.

**Child Diagnosed with BVI Medical Condition**

- Initiate early intervention (EI) services including specialty services, including BVI within **45 days of referral**
  - Family Resources Coordinator (FRC) fills out B-3 Sensory Disabilities Registry Form within **4 months of BVI diagnosis** via [http://www.wssb.wa.gov/b3](http://www.wssb.wa.gov/b3)
  - Develop IFSP with input from BVI specialty service providers including B-3 BVI Partner

**Does county/LLA have a plan with identified B-3 BVI partners?**

- No
  - Is child at risk for, or have, a hearing loss?
    - Yes
      - Contact WSDS/Deaf-Blind Project for input.
    - No
      - Arrange for TA/consultation from B-3 BVI specialty services including:
        - School district or ESD
        - WSSB
        - DSB
        - WSDS/Deaf-Blind Project
      - Develop plan for TA support (on-site and/or distance)

**Proceed with IFSP development and EI services with B-3 BVI partner on team.**
TYPICAL SCENARIO FOR BVI
TYPICAL SCENARIO FOR DB
HOW TO REACH US...

**Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

**CDHL**

Birth to 5:
Kris Ching
Email: Kris.Ching@cdhl.wa.gov
Phone: (360)418-4292

Students aged 5 to 21:
Carol Carrothers
Email: carolc@cwu.edu
Phone: (509)963-1131

**Blind or Visually Impaired**

**WSSB**

Birth to 3:
DeEtte Snyder
Email: DeEtte.Snyder@wssb.wa.gov
Phone: (360)947-3305

Students aged 3-21:
Emily Coleman
Email: Emily.Coleman@wssb.wa.gov
Phone: (360)947-3304

**Deaf Blind Project at WSDS**

Katie Humes
Email: khumes@psesd.org
(425) 917-7828
TO MAKE A REFERRAL ON THE WSDS WEBSITE

http://www.wsdsonline.org/ta-web-request-form/

Link to the Infant and Toddler page on the WSDS website

http://www.wsdsonline.org/infant-toddler/