

Hearing Loss is **Not Visible**

Improving Services and Outcomes for Children & Families who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing through six Regional Learning Communities.



WHAT IS A LEARNING COMMUNITY?

It is a group of people from different organizations and systems that are eager to learn from one another and work together toward a common goal.



THE GOAL

To bring families and professionals together to influence systems change and improve outcomes.



PARTNERSHIP

Virginia Early Hearing Detection and Intervention program (VA EHDI) partnered with Center for Family Involvement (CFI) at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) to establish learning communities.



TASK

1. Establish six regional learning communities in Virginia
2. Conduct needs assessments in each region
3. Improve services and outcomes
4. Establish a peer to peer learning and support system
5. Develop a Shared Plan of Care



WHO PARTICIPATED

Parents, Audiologists, Teachers of the Deaf, VA EHDI Staff, Pediatricians, Deaf Adults, Early Intervention Providers, Midwives, Hospital hearing screeners, ENT's and other participants.



METHOD

Face to Face Meeting, Go to meeting/ webinar, and or Virtual Hub.



OUTCOMES

- Developed a Shared Plan of Care
- Improved communication among providers
- Shared experiences among parents and professionals
- Increased understanding of Virginia EHDI system and process
- Parent and Professional co-facilitation
- Transition from state to local leadership



FACT

Hearing Loss is the most common birth defect in the United States.



Watch our video on Learning Communities at: VDHLiveWell.com/hearing

VDHLiveWell.com

