**Who Else Can Help My Child?**

Any amount of hearing loss can affect a child’s speech, language, social, emotional, and educational development. It’s important to take advantage of early intervention services to help your child be as successful and on target as they can be.

\*Many early intervention services are free of charge.

By signing the “Permission for Referral” form, you are allowing the following agencies to contact you about their services. Signing this form does NOT automatically enroll you in their services. Talk to your audiologist about a referral to these agencies.

1. **Infant-Toddler Program**: (birth-3 years old) <http://www.beearly.nc.gov/>

The North Carolina Infant-Toddler Program (ITP) provides services for the development of infants and toddlers with special needs, and their families. These services are provided through your local Children’s Developmental Services Agency (CDSA). Evaluation and service coordination are free.

A child and family may receive supports and services if the child is:

• up to 3 years old and has a developmental delay or established condition including hearing loss

**Early Learning Sensory Support Program for Children with Hearing Impairments (ELSSP-HI):** <http://www.ncelssp.com/elssp-hi.html>

Once you accept services through the CDSA, you should let your Service Coordinator know that you are interested in having a teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing work with you and your child. They will work on listening skills and language development. These services are different than speech therapy services. \*\*If you decline CDSA services, ELSSP cannot contact you to work with you and your child.

1. **BEGINNINGS for Parents of Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing:** (birth-21 years old) [www.ncbegin.org](http://www.ncbegin.org)

BEGINNINGS is a non-profit organization that help parents understand the needs of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. They support families as they make decisions about their child, and they assist parents during the early decision-making stages and throughout their educational career.

1. **Local Education Agency**- This refers to your child’s school or school system if your child is home schooled.
2. **NC School for the Deaf**- (birth-22 years old) <https://www.ncsd.net>

A public-school opportunity for deaf or hard of hearing students as a residential or day student at one of two NC campuses, one in Morganton, and one in Wilson. Designed to provide a language rich environment supported by sign language and other communication methods to satisfy each student’s learning and social needs.

\*For more information on early intervention services for your child please contact the North Carolina Early Hearing Detection 

and Intervention Program (EHDI) at 919-707-5631 or toll-free at 1-866-431-7434.