

# Listen and Chat

Increasing Provider Skills in an EI Professional Community through  
Monthly Collaborative Workshops



The Listen Foundation provides for and assists children who are deaf or hard of hearing and their families with access to a proven speech, language, and listening therapy method to help them achieve a life of independence.

### History

- Established in 1969 by parents
- 1<sup>st</sup> organization in the world to advocate the acoupedic (auditory-verbal, LSL) approach

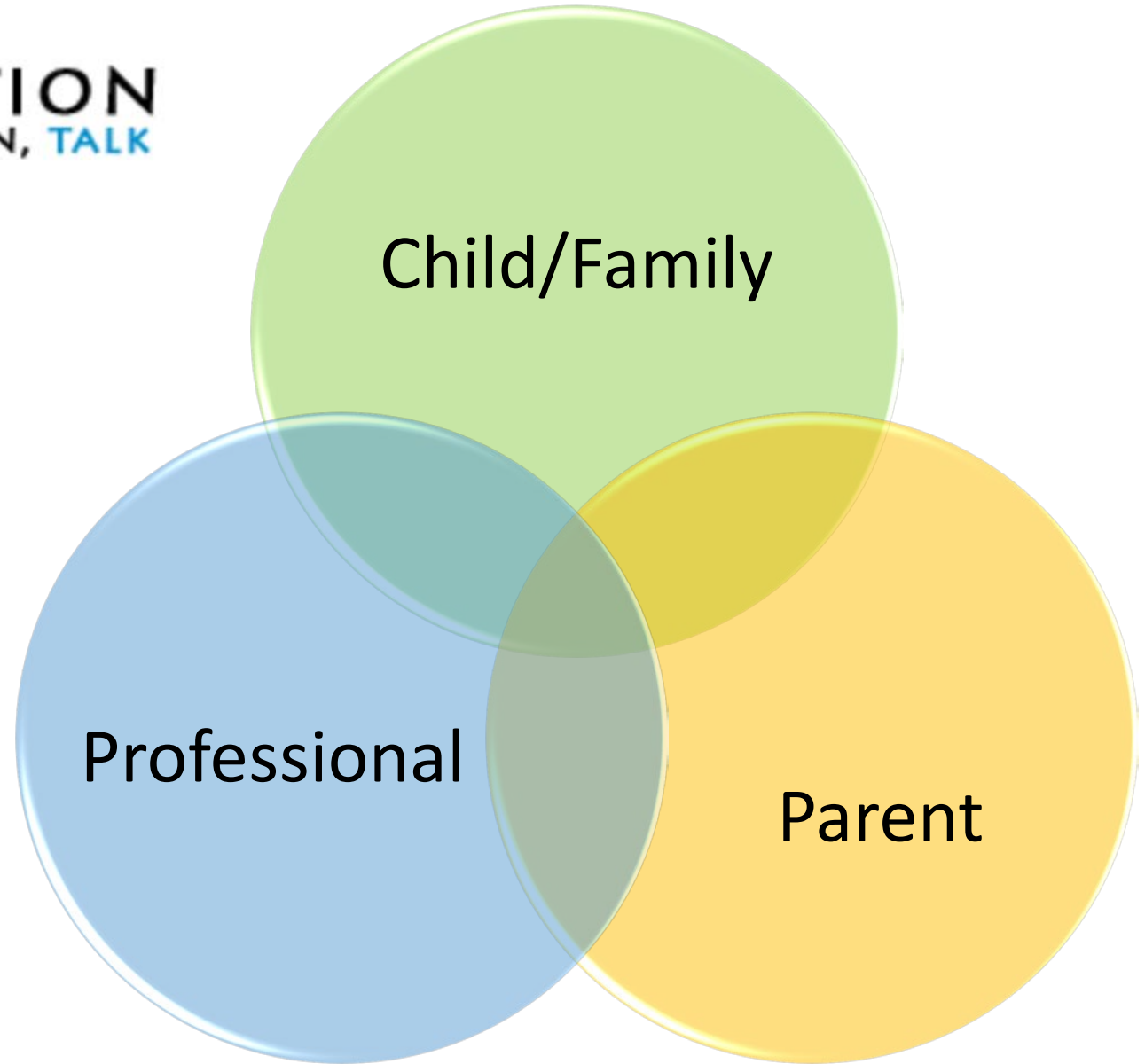
### Awards

- El Pomar Foundation Award for Excellence
- 2018 Doreen Pollack Historical Induction into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame



Programs in 3 areas offer a variety of services for practitioners and families.

Listen and Chat is provided as part of our Professional Outreach Programs.



# Relationship- building is a key benefit of Outreach Programs

- Professional Development
- Listen and Chat
- Oral Communication Consultant-Mentoring



## Listen and Chat

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A monthly workshop for early intervention providers to strengthen skills in practicing high quality listening- and spoken language-focused therapy to children and families.



Listen and Chat is funded  
by The Listen Foundation

It is supported by the  
Colorado Chapter of AGBell





WHERE?

WHO?

WHAT?

WHY?

WHEN?

HOW?



Participants are from many professional fields.....

- EI Providers
- SLP's
- LSLS's
- Audiologists
- TOD's
- Administrators

.....and represent many education, health care, and government organizations.

- Listen Foundation
- CHIP-CSDB
- CDE
- Children's Hospital of Colorado
- 5+ CCB's around the state
- 7+ school districts around the Colorado
- Washington, Utah



# Creative and Varied Listen and Chat Sessions Help Learning

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- Format
  - PowerPoint presentation
  - Guided Discussion
  - Case Studies
  - Video Review
  - Book/Article Review
- Speakers:
  - Listen Foundation
    - Nanette Thompson
    - Other Listen therapists
  - Colorado Community
  - National Speakers



**WHAT DO  
WE DO?**

# When



We ask for participants' time

- 1 evening/month
- 6:30-8:30

# WHERE IS IT

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Online- from sofa or home patio



In person- Listen office with friends/snacks



Topics are Selected by the Group based on Experiences, Feedback, and Community Observations

Examples of recent topics include the following:

- Parent Coaching
- Empowering Parents
- Maximizing Daily Routines
- Using Literature To Increase Quantity and Quality of Parent/Child Interactions
- Speech Acoustics - Beyond the Basics
- Using Tele-intervention as an Effective Tool

# Many Online Tools are available for Scheduling, Participant Tracking, Document Sharing, and Tele-Conferencing

- EZRegister.com
- Zoom
- Padlet
- DropBox
- Skype
- GoToMeeting



# Effective Collaboration creates Relationships across Agencies and Disciplines

- Builds trust
- Learn together- maximizing the strengths of individuals in the group
- Shared resources folder- everyone contributes tools/resources
- Problem Sharing and Problem Solving



# Creating Change in Practice benefits Families

- Identify monthly goals and reflect with the group
- Increased accountability for growth
- Participants request topics, clarification and more information



# Next Steps to Grow Listen and Chat

- Internet Connections to Stream Videos
- Mentor project
- Special Interest/Topic Groups
- Group Projects





# Questions?



How to contact today's presenters:

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**Go forth and  
make awesomeness.**

Rinse. Repeat