

Contact Hearing and Vision Early Intervention Outreach (HV/EIO) to apply to become a Deaf Mentor or for assistance in matching a family with a Deaf Mentor at:

Hearing and Vision Early Intervention Outreach

125 Webster Avenue
Jacksonville, IL 62650

217-479-4320 (v/tty)
217-479-4328 fax
gail.olson@illinois.gov

Check the back of this brochure for a Deaf Mentor in your area.

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Area of Specialty _____

Geographic Service Area _____

Comments _____



State of Illinois
Department of Human Services

Deaf Mentor Services

An important part of the
Early Intervention Team



A guide to understanding
Deaf Mentors as part of the
Early Intervention Team for
families of children with
hearing loss

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Illinois Department of Human Services

Deaf Mentors are adults with hearing loss trained to provide families in Early Intervention with:

- a language model in the family's chosen methods of communication
- a variety of fun and educational language modeling activities
- personal experiences growing up with a hearing loss
- information on assistive technology for individuals with hearing loss
- a link to local resources for individuals who are deaf or heard of hearing.

Deaf Mentors are an important part of the Early Intervention team who:

- bill through the Early Intervention Central Billing Office
- are enrolled in the Illinois Early Intervention System under the Family Support service descriptor
- provide 6 month and annual reports and attend Individual Family Service Plan meetings
- work closely with the team's Developmental Therapist Hearing (DTH)
- consult with all members of the team

Deaf Mentors can be added to a child's Early Intervention team by:

- determining the families chosen communication mode
- sharing strategies for Individual Family Service Plan outcomes consistent with Deaf Mentor services
- sharing your interest in mentoring services with the Child and Family Connections Service Coordinator
- contacting Hearing and Vision Early Intervention Outreach (HV/EIO) to identify a communication 'match' with a trained Deaf Mentor
- completing service authorization paperwork (Service Coordinator)
- discussing service initiation with the family and team

