



North Dakota EHD I

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention

Quarterly Newsletter SUMMER 2023

BIG ANNOUNCEMENT!

The ND EHD I Program is happy to announce that it has recently received the Notice of Award for the final year of the grant cycle (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024).

The funds support "Improving Timely Documentation, Reporting, and Analysis of Diagnostic and Intervention Data through Optimization of EHD I Surveillance Practices and Information Systems."

The long-term outcomes intended are:

- Use of timely and complete patient-level data among EHD I programs for tracking and to inform decision making.
- Increased number of infants who receive a diagnosis no later than 3 months of age.
- Increased enrollment in Early Intervention (EI) services no later than 6 months of age, for infants who are deaf or hard of hearing.

*Submitted by Jerusha Olthoff, MSM
ND EHD I Program Director
The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities*

The 1-3-6 Goals for EHD I include:

North Dakota EHD I works with parents and providers to ensure all babies get their hearing screened

It is important to identify a baby's hearing level as early as possible so that families can figure out the best way to communicate with them. Hearing screening is the first step in finding out if a child is deaf or hard of hearing. North Dakota EHD I follows the 2019 Joint Committee on Infant Hearing's Position Statement and national benchmarks for hearing screening no later than 1 month, a diagnosis no later than 3 months, and for infants who did not pass the screening.

All infants are **screened** for hearing loss no later than **1 MONTH** of age, preferably before hospital discharge.



All infants who do not pass the screening will have a **diagnostic** hearing evaluation no later than **3 MONTHS** of age.

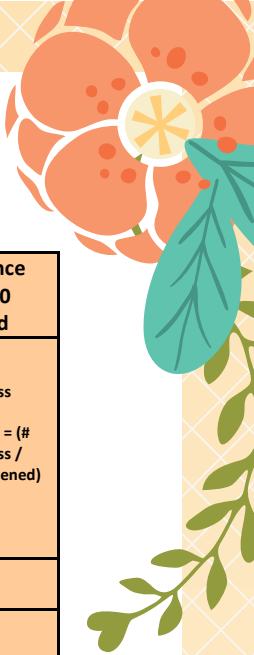


All infants with hearing loss are enrolled in **early intervention** services no later than **6 MONTHS** of age.



Parent support right from the start. Babies who are diagnosed as DHH will be referred to ND EHD I Family Follow-up Coordinator and ND parent support programs.





The following table is ND’s data reported in the CDC Survey from the ND EHDI information system from 2019-2022.

Year	Annual Births		Hearing Screening Outcomes		Audiological Diagnosis Outcomes				Prevalence per 1,000 Screened
	Total number of infants birthed in ND OZ	Total number of births according to Vital Records (resident and non-resident)	Overall Documented Screening Results	Total Not Passed (most recent/final screen)	Total with No Hearing Loss	Total with Permanent Hearing Loss	Total with Transient Hearing Loss	Total with No Documented Diagnosis	
2019 North Dakota	11,943	12,021	11,861 (98.6%)	310 (2.6%)	79 (25%)	16 (5%)	4 (1.3%)	211 (68%)	1.7
2019 National Data	N/A	3604761	3,545,388 (98.4%)	61,475 (1.7%)	32,193 (52.4%)	5,934 (9.7%)	(Not Collected)	23,348 (38.0%)	1.7
2020 North Dakota	11,544	11,548	11,396 (98.7%)	309 (2.7%)	94 (31%)	19 (6%)	8 (3%)	188 (61%)	1.8
2020 National Data	N/A	3576050	3,510,821 (98.2%)	68,412 (1.9%)	34,210 (48.8%)	6,291 (9.0%)	1,530 (2.2%)	28,053 (40.0%)	1.8
2021 North Dakota	11,684	11,677	11,517 (99%)	297 (2.6%)	86 (29%)	15 (5%)	13 (4%)	183 (62%)	1.3
2022 North Dakota	11,133	Unavailable	11015 (99%)	239 (2.2%)	70 (29%)	16 (6.7%)	9 (3.8%)	141 (59%)	1.4

From the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM):

Every day, 33 babies (or 12,000 each year) are born in the United States with permanent hearing loss. With 3 of every 1,000 newborns having a hearing loss, it is the most frequently occurring birth

* Total number of infants reported in OZ vs. Vital Records-the difference in numbers may be due to duplicate entries; transfer for services, incorrect birth hospital designation in OZ

As the column titled “Total with No Documented Diagnosis” in the table shows, there are infants in ND without appropriate follow-up care supporting a timely diagnosis of hearing loss. Without complete hearing health care, these infants are at risk for potential delays in language acquisition, social, emotional, and educational outcomes.

North Dakota providers should be diagnosing approximately 30-33 infants with hearing loss per year. Once diagnosed, providers should be referring to other appropriate services which support the infant and their family along their journey.

It is through the support of systems and programs like Newborn Hearing Screening that we are able to identify and address barriers to services which begin at birth. The collaborative efforts of ND’s birthing facilities, screeners, Audiologists, Early Interventionists, and Family Support and advocates are what contribute to the identification and implementation of processes and practices promoting quality care.

Submitted by Jerusha Olthoff, MSM
 ND EHDI Program Director
 The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities



“We are greater than and greater for, the sum of us.”
 — Heather McGhee





North Dakota School for the Deaf Resource Center Parent-Infant Program/ School Age Outreach Specialists (Statewide Services)

Annual Family Learning Engagement event held at the North Dakota School for the Deaf

The Parent-Infant and School-Age Outreach Department held their annual Family Learning Engagement event at the campus on May 5, 2023. Valuable information was shared from local presenters. The day featured Dr. Kelli Odden, a Mayville State University Associate Professor of Education and Jerrica L. Maxson, a Doctor of Audiology at Trinity Health in Minot, plus staff from North Dakota School for the Deaf/ Resource Center, Tami Iszler and Linda Ehlers. It included a walk outside and concluded with Superintendent Donna Sorensen reading, "Are You My Mother?"

Hands & Voices provided the breakfast and the Dining Services at NDSO hosted lunch with the students for the group.



Left, Dr. Kelli Odden is a national speaker and shares her laughter and struggles of being a parent of someone with special needs. At right, Jerrica Maxson, audiologist, discussed all things related to an audiology appointment and answered questions from the audience.



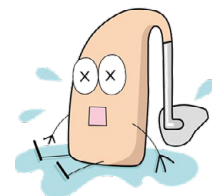
At left, Superintendent Sorensen read "Are You My Mother?" to parents, children visiting NDSO along with the preschool.



iStock

Cochlear Implant and Hearing Aid Tips for Summer: Moisture Damage: How to Get your Hearing Device Working Again from mama.hu.hears

1. **Turn it off:** Additional damage can be caused if the device is wet and still turned on.
2. **Wipe with a soft, dry cloth:** tilt and shake gently to get extra water out.
3. **Remove the battery:** Avoid corrosion or rusting inside the device.
4. **Dehumidify:** Store in a device dehumidifier, dry aid kit with desiccant, or even a container with uncooked rice.
5. **Contact your audiologist:** Even if it's working, let them know, they may want to check for optimal function or send it in for a repair.



Hearing Aid
Accessories

Newborn Hearing Screening Competency at CHI St. Alexius Health Williston – Craven-Hagan Clinic

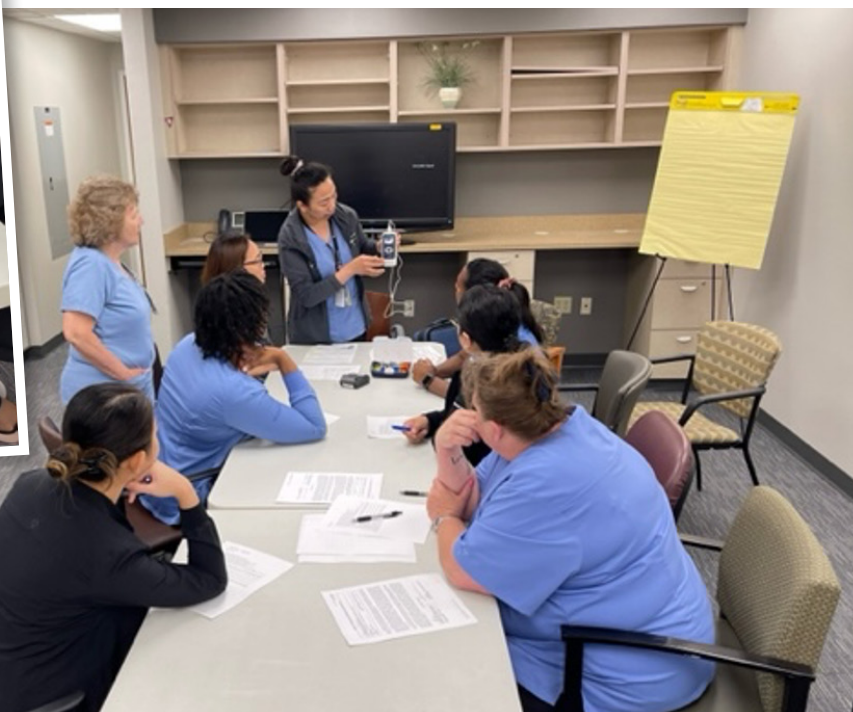
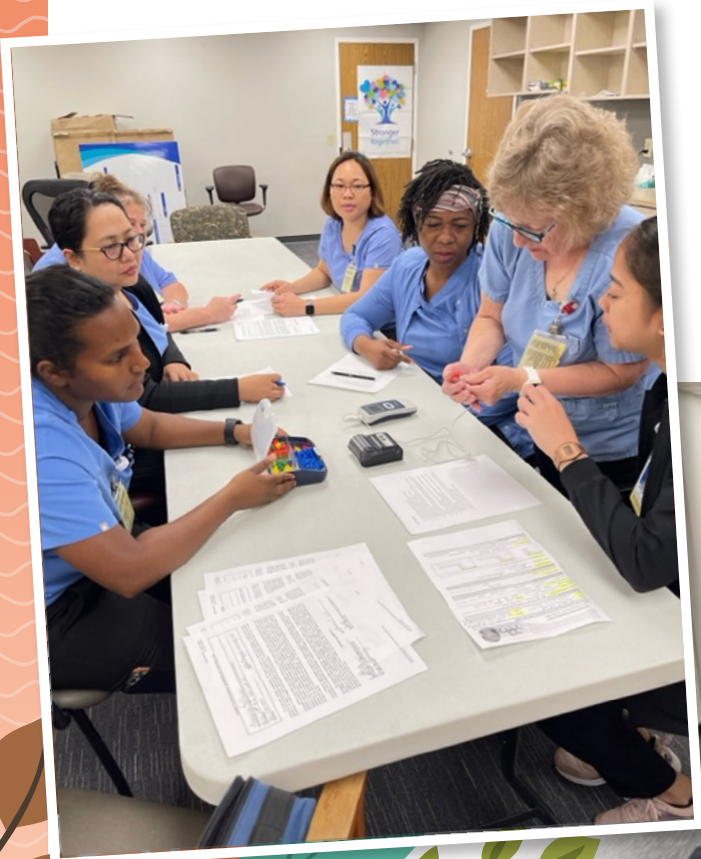
It was a perfect start for summer time as CHI St. Alexius Health Williston- Craven-Hagan Clinical staff Nurses and CNA's attended a competency on June 1, 2023. This training provided thorough understanding on how to use ERO SCAN hearing testing machine. It was also discussed the importance of this testing tool for the early detection of hearing loss with newborn that failed the initial test done at birth. Nurses and CNA's relay to the Provider on passed or failed hearing test results.

We practiced "Hello Human kindness." This focuses on how we listen, care, and feel each parent's love on their newborn baby whenever we get a failed hearing test result. Our Providers are always on positive light when giving information regarding the importance of re-screening through referral to Audiology.



After my presentation, I am so excited to see how competent my colleagues are when they apply what they have learned. CHI St. Alexius Health will continue to support every family in our community by connecting help with ND EHDI.

*Submitted by Anabel L. Ulat, Pediatric RN
Craven-Hagan Clinic
CHI St. Alexius Health Williston*



"For he who has health has hope, and he who has hope, has everything." – Owen Arthur

ND Hands and Voices Senior Spotlight

Kaylyn Maciver

Kaylyn Maciver graduated from Minot High School. She was born prematurely at 24 weeks. Her hearing loss was identified through the newborn hearing screen when she was four months old being discharged from the NICU. She also has visual impairment from Retinopathy of Prematurity.

Kaylyn has had four Teachers of the Deaf throughout her education and reports that they helped her learn to advocate and build confidence in herself.

She reports that her FM system was the most beneficial tool because it helped her hear her teachers and peers.

Kaylyn was very active throughout her education. She did swimming in middle school, cheerleading all four years of high school, violin in orchestra, and guitar lessons now ("I LOVE MUSIC"). She played golf with Prairie Grit and was a member of the National Honor Society.

Kaylyn plans to attend Minot State University and live in the dorms in the fall.

Her advice to children with hearing differences:

"Be open about your disability and educate others. Practice talking about it and be confident in telling people about it."

Her advice to parents: "Give your child many opportunities to find their true self."

Gracie Krueger

Gracie Krueger graduated from Jamestown High School. Her hearing loss was diagnosed around two years, but her family suspected the loss before that. She has used hearing aids and had a Teacher of the Deaf until her junior year.

She had an FM system, but closed captions on videos and sitting at the front helped her a lot at school.

Gracie was also very active throughout her education. She started dance at the age of three and eventually joined the Jamestown Sophistix High School Dance Team as a freshman. She even served as the Team Captain her senior year. She played the cello for 4 years and participated in 4-H from age 6 - 15.

Gracie plans to attend North Dakota State University and major in Animal Science with a goal of becoming a veterinarian.

Her advice to parents: "Always support us and encourage us to get involved in things we enjoy."

Advice to children with hearing differences: "Just be yourself. Don't compare yourself to others, because no one knows who you are and what things you have accomplished. Embrace your hearing differences and don't listen to what other people say to you because they probably don't know how it is."



continued on next page...



Jaylee Anderson

Jaylee Anderson graduated from Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf. She explained that her hearing loss was diagnosed around 4 due to parental concern. She has hearing aids, but used them less this past year at MSAD.

She reports that her Teacher of the Deaf when she was at the North Dakota School for the Deaf was "the most amazing TOD she's ever had" She helped her get through some hard times at school and has missed her advice when she moved this past year.

Jaylee participated in volleyball, softball, and track. This past year, she was also the manager for the boy's basketball team. She's had the opportunity to travel to Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Texas, Washington DC, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Kansas and Missouri for sports.

Jaylee plans to attend Gallaudet University in Washington, DC in the fall and plans to join the volleyball and/or softball teams. She reports she's going to miss traveling with her classmates and being close to home.

Her advice to parents: "Follow your guts and support your children as much as you can. If possible, send them to the nearest Deaf school. If you can't do that, try to find a community of Deaf people around you to get that Deaf community exposure as I am sure they will blossom into their own self."

Advice to children with hearing differences: "Be your own self. Ignore the ones who try to bring you down. They don't know what they are talking about. You are amazing and keep it up. It will get better."

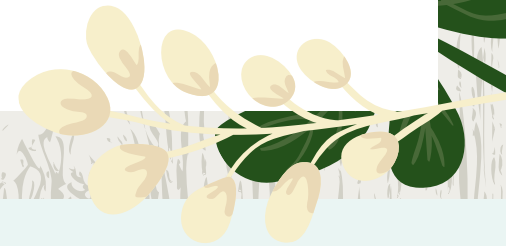


NORTH DAKOTA



Submitted by
North Dakota
Hands & Voices

HANDS &
VOICES™



Annual Data: Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss/ehdi-data.html>

More and more babies who are born deaf or hard of hearing are being identified early in the United States

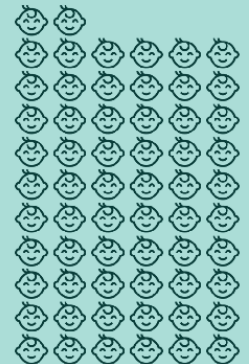


2005



2,634
babies

2020



6,291
babies

"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and inhumane."

— Martin Luther King Jr.

Milestones matter!

Track your child's milestones from age two months to five years with CDC's easy-to-use illustrated checklists; get tips from CDC for encouraging your child's development; and find out what to do if you are ever concerned about how your child is developing.

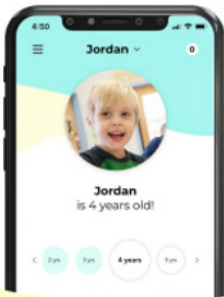
From birth to age 5, your child should reach milestones in how he or she plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves. Photos and videos in this app illustrate each milestone and make tracking them for your child easy and fun!

For more information visit <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones-app.html>.

Help your child grow and thrive

Your child's early years are so very important. Tracking how your little one plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves helps you support their development.

Download CDC's free *Milestone Tracker* app to find fun and easy activities for each age.



Track & Share
Milestones



Get Tips &
Activities



Learn When
to Act Early

Learn more at [cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker](https://www.cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker)



TOP BABY NAMES 100 YEARS AGO (1923)

MALE

John
Robert
William
James
Charles

FEMALE

Mary
Dorothy
Helen
Margaret
Betty

<https://www.ssa.gov/oact/babynames/>





Special Health Services – Screening, Evaluation, and Treatment for Hearing Loss

Financial Coverage Program - Helps families pay for medical services for eligible children, youth and young adults, from birth to 21 years of age who require specialty care to diagnose and treat their chronic health conditions.

Services include:

- **Diagnostic Services** - Provides coverage for services that promote early diagnosis of eligible medical conditions.
 - o This service can be used immediately after the first hearing screen is not passed (referred) until a diagnosis is confirmed or ruled out; however,
 - o There is a financial eligibility requirement (with cost-share option if needed).
- **Treatment Services** - Provides coverage for services to children with chronic health conditions who meet medical and financial eligibility criteria.
 - o This service can be used when your child is diagnosed with permanent hearing loss; however,
 - o There is a financial eligibility requirement (with cost-share option if needed).

For questions, or to see if your family may qualify for these services, contact:

Special Health Services

Claims and Eligibility Administrator

Phone: 701-328-4816

Toll-free: 1-800-755-2714

<https://www.hhs.nd.gov/diagnostic-and-treatment-services>

NORTH
Dakota Be Legendary.

Health & Human Services



It Takes a Village

Without timely data entry, ND EHD I is not able to provide families with important information regarding follow-up needs, family support programs and monitor infants assuring appropriate care is offered and/or occurring.

Conference Participation

North Dakota Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (ND EHD I) was very proud to be part of the ND Health and Human Services Newborn Screening Conference: "A Family's Journey Through Newborn Screening and Beyond" in Bismarck this past May.



Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Resources, Upcoming Events, and Webinars

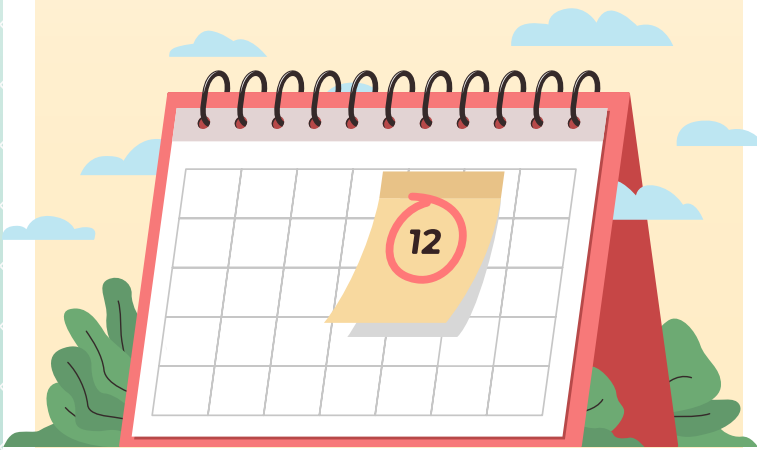
ND EHDI Advisory Meetings

Oct. 12, 2023 | Noon-2 P.M. via Teams

If you wish to attend, contact Jerusha Olthoff, MSM
ND EHDI Program Director

North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities
701-858-4360 or toll free 1-800-233-1737

jerusha.olthoff@minotstateu.edu



UPCOMING WEBINAR: Assuming Competence: What to do if you don't know what to do!

July 13, 2023 | 1:00-2:00 P.M. CT



Presenter: Michelle John

Register at: <https://www.infanthearing.org/webinars/2023/7-13-23-assuming-competence.html>



Visit Hands and Voices Family Leadership in language and learning cooperative (FL3) to explore past webinars and training on Family Leadership, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adult Involvement, Family-to-Family Support, and Language, Literacy, and Social Development.



<https://www.handsandvoices.org/fl3/resources/trainings-webinars.html>

The Core of EHDI Tutorials

The EHDI system is comprised of professionals from a variety of disciplines, diverse family members of children who are deaf or hard of hearing as well as adults who are deaf or hard of hearing. These tutorials are designed to give you a general understanding of:

- The history of the EHDI system, how it got to where it is and current trends,
- How hearing is evaluated and diagnoses of hearing loss determined,
- Ways the EHDI system may be expanding beyond newborn screening to include children up to three years of age, and
- The importance of family support throughout the identification and intervention phases of the system.

*Upon completion of each tutorial, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion, if desired.

For more information visit https://www.infanthearing.org/coordinator_toolkit/core-of-ehdi-tutorials.html.



Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Resources, Upcoming Events, and Webinars

EHDI 101



Karl White, NCHAM
Sandra Battiste, HRSA/MCHB
Eric Cahill, CDC
Linda Hazard, Vermont EHDI
Lisa Kovacs, Hands & Voices
Allison Sedey, University of Colorado
Robert Nutt, American Academy of Pediatrics

The National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM) at Utah State University serves as the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention, National Technical Resource Center (EHDI NTRC), funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) at the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The EHDI NTRC provides programs and professionals that provide:

- Technical assistance
- Training
- Access to information about evidence-based practices
- Partnership opportunities with national EHDI systems of care organizations and other key stakeholders, including those that represent and serve families with children who are DHH.

Learn more at <https://www.infanthearing.org/>.

Watch at https://www.infanthearing.org/video_player/index.php?video=30.



Power Up Your Voice Health & Advocacy Conference | Sept. 11, 2023

A full day packed with sessions to inspire individuals with disabilities & their caregivers to learn how they can grow their advocacy voices!

For more information visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/power-up-your-voice-health-advocacy-conference-tickets-633367438057?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>.



19th Annual Hands & Voices Annual Leadership Conference Oct 1-3, 2023 | Grand Rapids, Michigan

Exhibitor-Sponsor info available now at: <https://handsandvoices.org/conference/2023/sponsors.html>

"Public health depends on winning over hearts and minds. It's not enough to just have a good policy, you have to convince people to actually follow it." – Leana S. Wen

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Resources, Upcoming Events, and Webinars



CMV-PHP Planning Committee is thrilled to announce that they will hold an in-person CMV Public Health and Policy Conference in 2023.



Please plan to join us for the 2023 Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, Oct. 8-10, 2023!

For more information, visit <https://cmv.usu.edu/>.

The goal of the congenital CMV Public Health and Policy Conference (CMV-PHP) is to present the latest research on diagnosis and treatment, raise awareness, delineate prevention efforts, provide information about early intervention options, and disseminate family support resources in an effort to reduce the number of babies born with CMV and connect families affected by CMV with the resources they need to improve their quality of life.

With your help, we can reduce the number of babies born with CMV!



Plan to join your peers for the 2023 ASHA Convention, Nov. 16-18, 2023, at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center in Boston, MA.

The ASHA Convention is the premier annual professional development and networking event for speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists. For more information visit: <https://convention.asha.org/>.



**23rd EHD Annual Conference
March 17-19, 2024 | Denver, CO**

Make plans to join the North Dakota EHD stakeholders in Denver in 2024! For more information visit: <https://ehdconference.org/>.

**2024 North Dakota
Speech Language Hearing
Association Conference
March 2024 | Minot, ND**



The 2024 NDSLHA Conference is tentatively scheduled for March 2024 in Minot, ND. Stay tuned for more information!

<https://www.ndslha.org/convention/>



**17th International Conference on Cochlear Implants and Other Implantable Technologies
July 10-13, 2024 | Vancouver, BC**

Abstract Submissions Opens August 2023.
<https://ci2024vancouver.org>

*"The essence of global health equity is the idea that something so precious as health might be viewed as a right."
— Paul Farmer*

Can Your Baby Hear?



North Dakota Early Hearing
Detection and Intervention
www.ndcpd.org/ehdi
1-800-233-1737

HOSPITALS: Do you need more brochures?

Please email Vickie.Brabandt@MinotStateU.edu

ARE YOU FOLLOWING US?

 www.facebook.com/NDEHDI

 [@NDEHDI_NDCPD](https://twitter.com/NDEHDI_NDCPD)



CHIME IN!

Check out the ND EHCI website at www.ndcpd.org/ndehdi for information or meet the staff. Also, if you have questions, find broken links or typos, or have suggestions, please let us know.

We hope you will find the newsletter provides a broad picture of hearing healthcare in North Dakota. Through collaborative efforts, streamlined processes and consistent communication, ND can assure a strong system of hearing health care for every child birthed and/or residing in North Dakota.

We look forward to being a resource for quality improvement and working with you!

CONTACT INFORMATION

ND EHCI Program Coordinator

Joyal Meyer, MSN, RN

Director, ND Newborn Screening
North Dakota Health and Human Services
Special Health Services Unit
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Dept. 325
Bismarck ND 58505-0250
Phone: 701-328-4534 Fax: 701-328-1645
Email: jbmeyer@nd.gov

ND EHCI Program Director

Jerusha Olthoff, MSM

North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities
Minot State University, Memorial Hall
500 University Ave. West. Minot, ND 58707
Phone: 701-858-4360 Fax: 701-858-3483
Website: <https://ndcpd.org/ndehdi/>
Email: jerusha.olthoff@minotstateu.edu

ND EHCI Follow-up/Data Coordinator

Sue Routledge

North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities
Phone: 701-858-3006
Email: sue.routledge@minotstateu.edu

Family Support Specialist

Tory Allen

ND EHCI Follow-up Family Support Specialist
North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities
Phone: 1-800-233-1737
Email: tory.allen@ndus.edu

ND EHCI Follow Coordinator

Christine Brigden, LBSW

North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities
Phone: 701-858-3356
Email: christine.brigden@minotstateu.edu



North Dakota Early Hearing Detection and Intervention

