

Title: Family Empowerment: A systemic approach

Abstract: How can systems empower early interventionists to empower families in the days and weeks after newborn hearing screening? Utilizing a systemic approach that honors the diversity in families, ideas will be shared on developing a process of early intervention that prioritizes early language development that begins with parent/child attachment. The presenter will share strategies for developing a system of supports, exploration of language and communication opportunities, and ensuring parents have opportunities to meet other parents and deaf and hard of hearing adults. This systemic approach empowers families to recognize the importance of early attachment while moving through the process of early decision-making with the support and guidance of other parents of DHH children, DHH adults and early intervention specialists, audiologists, and pediatricians.