



Home-Based Services Tipsheet

**For Programs Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Infants & Toddlers**

Home based services support deaf and hard of hearing children and their families within everyday routines and natural environments. Services focus on building communication, language, learning, and family confidence through meaningful daily activities.

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Why Are Home-Based Services Important?

- Communication and language develop throughout the day.
- Families are a child's first and most important teachers.
- Everyday routines create natural learning opportunities.
- Children learn best through meaningful daily experiences.
- Caregivers build confidence and skills over time.
- Learning continues between visits.
- Consistent language access supports development.

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Strong Home-Based Services Are...

- Family-centered and responsive to family needs.
- Embedded within everyday routines and natural environments.
- Focused on communication, language, learning, and development.
- Built on caregiver participation and partnership.
- Connected to Deaf mentors, Deaf adults, and community resources when appropriate.
- Flexible and individualized for each child and family.

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How Professionals Can Support Families in their Homes

- Build services around family priorities, goals, and routines.
- Support communication and language during everyday activities.
- Coach caregivers to use strategies between visits.
- Support caregiver learning, including ASL and communication strategies when appropriate.
- Share information, resources, and community connections.
- Connect families with Deaf mentors, Deaf adults, and other support opportunities.
- Partner with families through ongoing feedback and shared decision-making.