

MEET THE IHP TEAM

Once hearing loss has been identified in your child, the Infant Hearing Program (IHP) has a team of skilled professionals, along with a range of programs, available to support your child and your family:

HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALIST

- Fit hearing aids that are prescribed by your child's audiologist
- Provide on-going care and maintenance of hearing devices
- Counsel families about what hearing devices can and cannot do, how to use them, and how to care for them
- Provide information about current listening technology Assistive Listening Devices (e.g., FM systems, alerting systems, TTYs etc.)
- Assist families with third party funding

FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER

Regulated Social Workers

- Discuss options for a primary communication language pathway in spoken or signed language for your child.
- Initiate a referral for language support services for your child.
- Coordinate a communications development plan (CDP) with IHP team members.
- Provide counselling support for caregivers regarding adjustment to a new diagnosis of hearing loss.
- Explore funding support opportunities.
- Share information about helpful programs and resources at ErinoakKids and within the community.

IHP AUDIOLOGISTS

Regulated Audiologists with training in IHP protocols

- Conduct hearing assessments to identify hearing loss and to monitor hearing throughout the preschool years
- Support families in making decisions about signed language development services
- Evaluate hearing technology to select and fit the most appropriate type for child's needs. Regularly assess how well hearing devices are working for your child
- Provide ongoing care and maintenance of hearing devices
- Counsel families about what hearing devices can and cannot do, how to use them, and how to care for them
- Inform families about assistive listening devices, if appropriate for your child

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Speech-Language Pathologists, Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Sign Language Consultants

- Assess your child's communication skills: spoken or signed language
- Help develop your child's speech, language, listening and early literacy skills through strategies such as parent education, guidance and coaching on listening and/or language facilitation techniques
- Educate parents on the effects of hearing loss on the development of communication
- Provide connections to community programs and other families who have children who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Support families with transition to daycare and/or school