



Our Philosophy

We believe that you, the family, are the most effective teacher. The most meaningful intervention happens in your daily interactions with your child. We strive to empower your family so you can teach, model and support your child's early language and communication development.

HOW REFERRALS ARE MADE TO PIP

A referral is made when the diagnosing audiologist contacts Children's Integrated Services (CIS). CIS then sends the referral to PIP.

While your family waits for the referral process to be completed, a parent advisor will reach out to you to provide information, an overview of services and answer any questions.



CONTACT US:

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Parent-Infant Program

Early Intervention for families and their children
(Birth-3 years) who are deaf, hard of
hearing or DeafBlind





You have just learned that your child has a hearing loss... PIP is a free program that will provide support to our family...

Our staff, who are called parent advisors, have years of experience working with children who are deaf and hard of hearing. They are available to help answer questions and provide information as you navigate the many decisions you will need to make for your child.

A parent advisor will meet in your home and/or your child's daycare. They will build a relationship with your family and get to know the goals you have for your child to ensure full language and learning potential is reached. They will discuss hearing technology and communication choices your family will make.

The parent advisor will discuss language and communication options objectively and will listen to your concerns.

A PARENT ADVISOR CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- Emotional support and connecting you with other parents and resources
- Developing your child's language and communication skills
- Understanding the relationship between language and brain development
- Unbiased information about communication options for your child
- Using listening and visual accommodations/strategies to support communication within your daily routines
- Understanding your child's hearing so you can make informed decisions
- The use and care of hearing devices
- Monitoring language development to help your child reach their milestones
- Empowering you to become an advocate for your child
- Providing support and information about transition to school

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT PIP

"Our family has been working with the PIP program since our son was six months old. The guidance and support provided by our parent advisor (PA) as we learned about hearing loss and how to best support our son on this journey has been invaluable. Our PA has offered endless amounts of knowledge, resources, strategies and has truly become part of our family." **Heather S-Parent**

"The PIP team is amazing group of professionals dedicated to providing support and information to families of children with hearing loss. The PIP providers empower families by educating and informing them about their options in order to help them be the best advocates for their children." **Kate Ruwet- Service Coordinator, Early Intervention**

"Parent advisors are an important part of the supportive team for parents and families of children with hearing loss. The range of services changes in response to the specific needs of the families. As an audiologist, I'm grateful for their role in counseling, support, and education. I've seen the benefits of this program for many Vermont families." **Dr. Julie Porter, UVM Medical Center**