

# Children's Medical Services



## SHINE

Serving Hearing Impaired Newborns Effectively

### [SHINE Links](#)

#### **What is SHINE?**

SHINE is the component of the Florida Early Steps Program that provides early intervention services to families of children with hearing impairment. SHINE services provide parents with information and support shortly after the hearing loss of their infant or toddler has been confirmed. SHINE providers in conjunction with Hearing Specialists work as part of a team that provides assessment, ongoing intervention services, and evaluation of child progress to families and caregivers with the goal of meeting the unique communication and developmental needs of children who are Deaf or hard of hearing.

#### **Primary Philosophies of SHINE**

- Parent support and information about hearing loss is critical within 1-2 weeks of diagnosis of the hearing loss
- It is critical to provide families with unbiased information on communication options
- It is important to set high expectations for developmental outcomes for early-identified children with hearing loss

#### **Overall Outcome Desired**

The overall goal of early intervention is for the child who is deaf or hard of hearing to develop language at a rate that is typical of normal hearing children with the same cognitive abilities. Families and caregivers who use consistent, effective interaction and who work toward providing the child with full access to communication provide the best opportunity for their child to achieve the typical language and social development outcomes.

#### **Six Goals of SHINE**

- Share information on hearing loss and its effect of communication interactions and development
- Support knowledge of the effects of hearing loss on speech perception and the benefits of consistent use of amplification
- Increase knowledge and comfort with techniques and strategies to provide communication access to the child with hearing loss

- Provide unbiased information about the different communication features and options available to provide children with communication access
- Monitor the child's development of communication skills to determine his or her communication style and progress over time, updating the Communication plan as needed
- Assist families in matching communication methods and Hearing Specialist expertise to the learning style and strengths of the child and family as he or she develops over time

### **Implementation of SHINE**

Implementation of the SHINE goals will vary somewhat in each Early Steps area due to differences in availability of Hearing Specialists experienced in serving families of children with hearing loss. Each Local Early Steps will have a SHINE provider designated to address the 6 SHINE goals with families. Once parents receive initial information they will be matched to the Hearing Specialist in the area that has expertise in the communication features that the family would like to use when communicating with their child. A Communication Plan will be completed and SHINE initial services will be discontinued. Biannual communication monitoring will be performed by the SHINE provider in conjunction with the Hearing Specialist(s) working with the family. The communication monitoring will use age-appropriate SHINE Vocabulary Checklists, a Parent Interview Progress Report, and update the SKI\*HI Language Development Scale (LDS). In conjunction with ongoing assessment, the Communication Plan will be updated to match the child's communication needs as intervention strategies are adjusted based on child developmental outcomes.