



**HANDS &  
VOICES™**

*"What works  
for your child  
is what makes  
the choice right"™*



**Family  
Leadership in  
Language &  
Learning  
(FL3)**



January - February E-news

## Partner Spotlight



LAURENT CLERC  
NATIONAL DEAF EDUCATION CENTER

### Odyssey: New Directions in Deaf Education

Odyssey magazine is an award-winning publication published annually by the Clerc Center. Each issue is theme-based, focusing on topics of



Greetings!

As we move into winter and towards the end of the year,

importance as they relate to research, philosophy, and application of practice of instruction in the deaf education classroom.

Each issue of Odyssey is available both in print and online for downloading in its entirety. Individual articles are also available in PDF format. The magazine is distributed free of charge to those on the Clerc Center mailing list. To subscribe to Odyssey or check out past issues, [click here](#).



**HEARING FIRST**  
Powering Potential

## Hearing First Learning Communities

Whether you are a family member of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing or an LSL professional, you may be looking to connect with other adults who share your experience. Hearing First Communities offer helpful resources, access to learning experiences, and support from trusted community members.

To find out [more information or to join](#).



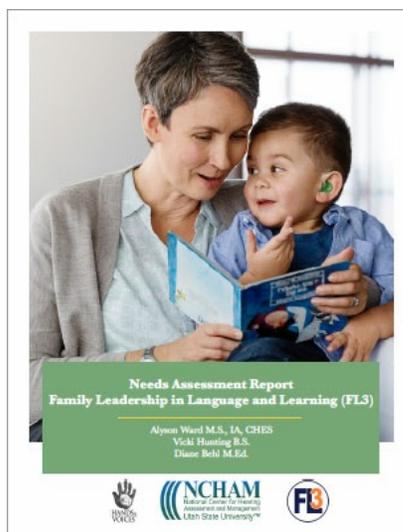
things keep moving forward here at H&V and the FL3 project. One of the focuses of the FL3 project is family-to-family support. If you are an individual who is providing family-to-family support or a program considering implementation of this support, be sure to check out the [FL3 Website](#) for resources and information. Family-to-family support should be an important piece of the system of care for families with children who are deaf and hard of hearing.

In a literature review of 39 peer-reviewed articles published from 2000 to 2014, Henderson, Johnson and Moodie (2014) describe the importance of parent-to-parent support in helping to guide parents on how to advocate on behalf of their child and access special education and other services. "Peer parental support systems boost parental morale and confidence when looking toward the future at points of transition. Parents are better positioned to support the goals chosen by the child through meaningful collaboration." The findings of this dual-stage scoping review and electronic Delphi study provide a conceptual framework that defines the vital contribution of parents in Early Hearing Detection and Intervention programs that will be a useful addition to these programs. [Read the article](#).

As always, if you have questions or need help please don't hesitate to reach out to us. You can direct any FL3 questions to the [FL3 Team](#)

Warm wishes,  
The FL3 Team

## Needs Assessment: Did You Know?



As part of the National Needs Assessment that was recently published, parents of children who are deaf and hard of hearing were asked about the resources and supports they received to support

their child. In response to the findings from the FL3 National Needs Assessment, Hands & Voices Guide By Your Side Coordinators created a document to assist in addressing these findings. There are examples of strategies and activities that Family-based Organizations (FBOs) may want to consider to proactively address what families reported in the FL3 Needs Assessment. FBOs may want to consider to proactively address what families reported in the

## H&V Annual Report

If you are interested in finding out what H&V is doing outside of the FL3 activities, check out the [Hands & Voices 2017/2018 Annual Report](#).

FL3 Needs Assessment. Some examples of information included in the document is how to improve families access to quality Early Intervention and how to improve families access to parent-to-parent supports.

[View the F2F Support Ideas Document](#)

[View the Full FL3 Needs Assessment Report.](#)

## HRSA Seeks Input on UNHS Program



HRSA is requesting input from the public on the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening (UNHS) program as it seeks to improve implementation of the program. Please submit responses to [unhs@hrsa.gov](mailto:unhs@hrsa.gov) or mail responses to the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 18W59, Rockville, Maryland 20857 no later than Friday, January 11, 2019 at 5pm ET.

HRSA is seeking responses that address the following questions. A response to each question is not required.

1. What strategies or programs at the family, community, state, or national level would help to ensure children who are identified as deaf or hard of hearing are able to access services?
2. What strategies or programs would help to ensure that families of children who are deaf or hard of hearing receive information that is accurate, comprehensive, up-to-date, and evidence-based, as appropriate, to allow families to make important decisions for their children in a timely manner, including decisions with respect to the full range of assistive hearing technologies and communications modalities, as appropriate.
3. What strategies or programs would help to support the identification and receipt of timely services for young children (ages 1-3) who are deaf or hard of hearing?
4. What strategies would help to ensure families, parents and caregivers are continuously engaged as active partners in the EHDI system?
5. What models would be helpful for HRSA to consider in fostering family-to-family and deaf and hard of hearing consumer-to-family supports by families and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing?
6. What strategies or programs would help to support state and territory EHDI programs to ensure that all newborns are screened by one month of age, a diagnosis is made by three months of age, and children who are deaf or hard of hearing receive intervention services by three months of age?
7. What new evidence-based or promising approaches that help deaf or hard of hearing children meet language, literacy, social, emotional, and other developmental milestones would be helpful to consider?

[Learn more.](#)

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**Hands & Voices FL3 Project**

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