



Mental Health Services for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing (DHH) Children and Their Families



Seattle Children's Hospital's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine provides mental health assessment and treatment services for DHH children, adolescents and their families. These services are provided with a high degree of sensitivity to communication and cultural needs.

The importance of specialists and specialized services

Mental health and behavior issues are common among children, including those who are DHH. Linguistics, culture and experience need to be part of the overall understanding of the DHH child or adolescent. It is important to have services from professionals who understand the psychosocial aspects of deafness and can communicate directly with deaf children.

The clinical staff in our DHH program are licensed professionals with backgrounds in mental health counseling, educational psychology and child psychology. We are fluent in sign language and have in-depth training in child development and working with DHH children and their families.

To Learn More

- Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine
206-987-2164 (Voice)
- Seattle Children's Hospital
206-987-2000 (Voice)
866-987-2000 (Voice – toll-free for business use only)
- www.seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your child's nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line 1-866-583-1527 (Voice).
Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.

Your child is unique

Every DHH child and their family has unique needs that are affected by their child's hearing level, language acquisition and access, educational placement and other life circumstances. We will support your family and work with you to help your child be successful.

All DHH children ages 18 and under are welcome in the program. The needs and concerns of the families we serve may be minor or complex. Hearing children with a deaf family member are also eligible for our services.

What services do we provide?

Our deafness specialists address a wide range of concerns related to your child's development, emotions and/or behaviors at home or school.

Clinical services we offer include:

- Outpatient diagnostic evaluation
- Individual, family and group therapy
- Care coordination with other educational and community providers
- Summer therapeutic day program for DHH children and hearing siblings
- Support groups for DHH middle and high school students
- Behavioral management consultation and parent education
- Psychiatric medicine evaluation and management
- Training and program consultation
- Interactive sign language class and support group for Spanish-speaking parents of DHH children

Training and consultation services

Our experienced staff can provide consultation on the linguistic, cultural, psychological and educational implications of hearing status. We can provide individual case consultations for DHH clients enrolled for services with other agencies through a contract agreement.

Cost and payment for services

We are contracted with most insurance companies and King County Medicaid/Apple Health. Visit www.seattlechildrens.org/mentalhealthinsurance for more information. Call your insurance company with questions about your child's mental health benefit. Our tax identification number is 91-0564748.