Do you have questions about communication options, language development, amplification, social-emotional development and school programs?

All of your questions can be answered in one place!

INSTITUTE FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

JUNE 7-12, 2020

What is the Institute?
The Institute is a one-week program (Sunday - Friday) for parents of children (through age 5) who have a significant hearing loss. The Institute is held in June on the campus of the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville, Illinois. Parents learn about hearing loss and their child’s individual strengths and needs. Parents will meet other parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Mission Statement
The Institute provides information and support to families so they can make informed decisions on behalf of their child who is deaf or hard of hearing. The Institute was summarized by one parent as “an incredibly useful week to...prepare my child for a life of learning.”
What do children do? Each morning the children go to classrooms overseen by experienced teachers of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Children receive hearing, vision, psychological, speech, language and educational evaluations. Children will also have the chance to play with other children who have a hearing loss.

What do parents do? Parents attend daily lectures by experts in the field to learn about raising a child with hearing loss. They also meet in small groups to discuss specific concerns and connect with other caregivers. Parents meet with professional staff to review the evaluations for their child. They also have the opportunity to learn about various communication modes used with deaf or hard of hearing individuals.

Lecture topics include:

- Child Development
- Types of Hearing Loss
- Communication Choices
- Hearing Aids, Cochlear Implants
- Language Development
- Parent Rights
- School Programming
- Deaf Culture

What about siblings? Brothers and sisters, through age 12, can come to the Institute. They participate in activities for their age group at the Nursery School on the ISD campus. Siblings also stay with their families in the dorms and go to recreational activities.

What does it cost? There is no cost for families who come to the Institute. Meals and housing are provided at no charge on the campus of the Illinois School for the Deaf. This week is free!

Who works at the Institute? Professionals from all over Illinois come to the Institute. They come from hospitals, schools, colleges, private centers, ISD, DSCC and DPH.

Where is the Institute? The Institute is held at the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville, Illinois. Jacksonville is 30 miles west of Springfield on Interstate 72.