



# From Screening to Success: Strengthening EHDI in KY

2026 KENTUCKY EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION SUMMIT

Friday, June 5, 2026

9 AM to 4 PM ET

University of Louisville Shelby Campus

Burhans Hall

440 N. Whittington Parkway

Louisville, KY 40222

Join us for an in-depth look at the latest guidelines, treatment strategies, and interventions in early hearing detection. Topics include: early intervention; the mental health and emotional needs of families and children with hearing loss; the importance of early identification and special considerations when working with young children who are deafblind; and current information on congenital Cytomegalovirus and hearing loss.

## Summit Agenda

**8:30 AM** – Check-in, Breakfast (Provided), Visit with Exhibitors

**9:00 AM** – Welcome & Opening Remarks

**9:10 AM** – Early Intervention Characteristics Leading to Optimal Outcomes, *Yoshinaga-Itano*

**10:10 AM** - Break, Visit with Exhibitors

**10:20 AM - Concurrent Sessions:**

The Power of Early: Identification and Building Early Literacy, Language and Communication Pathways for Children Who are DeafBlind, *Carpenter*

Why Mental Health Matters in Early Hearing Care, *Scoresby*

**11:20 AM** - Break, Visit with Exhibitors

**11:30 AM** - Congenital CMV Infection: The Need for Early Detection!, *Sanchez*

**12:30 PM** – Lunch (Provided), Visit with Exhibitors

**1:30 PM – Concurrent Sessions:**

Removing Hearing Healthcare Barriers Through Mobility, *Tisdale*

Celebrating 25 Years of EHDI: Progress, Perspectives, and Possibilities in Early Intervention, *Robbins, Brown, Carby, Embry-Wright, Rutledge*

**2:30 PM** – Snack Break (Provided), Visit with Exhibitors

**3:00 PM** – Parent Perspectives: A Panel Presentation, *Roof, Gonzales, Perkins, Render, Richardson*

**4:00 PM**- Closing Remarks and Adjournment

## Learning Objectives

1. Identify characteristics of early intervention services that lead to optimal outcomes.
2. Discuss congenital Cytomegalovirus diagnosis and its potential impact on hearing diagnosis and intervention.
3. Identify two ways in which a parent perspective should inform the work of professionals within the early hearing detection and intervention community.

## Registration

\$20 - General registration fee

\$10 - Parents of children with hearing loss, students, and retirees

Registration fee scholarships are available. Email

[lindsey.hendricks@ky.gov](mailto:lindsey.hendricks@ky.gov) for details.

**Registration deadline: May 29, 2026**

To register, visit [cme.cecentral.com](http://cme.cecentral.com), or scan the QR code.



Hosted by:

Kentucky's Office for Children with  
Special Health Care Needs



**Kentucky Public Health**  
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Office for Children with  
Special Health Care Needs

Logistical Support and CMEs provided by:



## Audience

This event is targeted toward audiologists, primary care providers, otolaryngologists, midwives, speech-language pathologists, early intervention providers, hospital screening staff, and parents of deaf and hard of hearing children.



## Featured Speakers



**Dr. Christine Yoshinaga-Itano** is Professor Emerita, Department of Speech, Language & Hearing Sciences, at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Research Associate, Institute of Cognitive Science, and Visiting Professor, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, Centre for Deaf. She has over 125 published articles and chapters with a focus on universal newborn hearing screening and predictors of developmental outcomes of children with hearing loss with an emphasis on children and families from multicultural/linguistic backgrounds, and those with socio-economic and linguistic challenges. She received Honors from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and was Jerger Career Research Awardee from the American Academy of Audiology. She is a member of the Audiology committee for the International Association of Communication Sciences and Disorders (IALP) and the Audiology committee of the Global Coalition for Hearing Health.

Disclosure: Received stipend and compensation for travel and related costs from OCSHCN to present



**Dr. Pablo Sanchez** is a Professor of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatology and Pediatric Infectious Disease at Nationwide Children's Hospital and The Ohio State University College of Medicine. Dr. Sanchez has a longstanding interest in clinical and translational research focused on perinatal and neonatal infections and antimicrobial stewardship globally. He earned his medical degree at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine in 1981 and completed various residencies and fellowships in pediatrics, neonatal-perinatal medicine and infectious disease at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, and University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

Disclosure: Consultant for Merck Sharpe & Dome, Kamada Pharmaceuticals, and CyanVac. Received stipend and compensation for travel and related costs from OCSHCN to present



**Dr. Kristel Scoresby** is an Assistant Professor in the College of Social Work at the University of Kentucky. Her research focuses on three intersecting areas: (1) integrating social work into audiology and hearing healthcare to address the mental health needs of people with hearing loss, (2) advancing accessibility and universal design in clinical, educational, and professional spaces for people with disabilities, and (3) developing ethical and responsible uses of artificial intelligence as an accessible pedagogical tool in social work education. Drawing on two decades of clinical practice and interdisciplinary collaboration, her work includes community-engaged research, intervention development, statewide systems advising, and accessible teaching practices.

Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present

## Speakers

**Dr. Donna Carpenter** is the State Director of the Kentucky DeafBlind Project. She is a faculty member at the University of Kentucky, where she leads the DeafBlind Graduate Certificate Program. Donna is a certified Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, an Elementary Education teacher, and Montessori Early Childhood certified. She also holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership. Her professional interests include exploring how children are presented to other professionals and fostering positive mindsets through the use of family photo stories.

Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present

**Dr. Michele Tisdale**, joined the Heuser Hearing Institute team as an extern in May 2024 and the KY HEARS program in June 2025, with a special focus on pediatrics. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology from Middle Tennessee State University and her Doctor of Audiology degree from the University of Louisville. Michele holds the Certificate of Clinical Competency in Audiology (CCC-A) from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and is a Certified Occupational Hearing Conservationist (COHC)

Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present

## Parent Panel

## Moderator

**Sarah Roof, BS**, is the executive director of Kentucky Hands & Voices (H&V). She holds a graduate certificate from Gallaudet University in supporting Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) infants and families. Sarah serves on Kentucky's EHDI Advisory Board and the National NCHAM Family Advisory Committee. She led the successful passage of Kentucky's CMV screening legislation in 2022 and is a recipient of the Seaver Vision Award (2021) and Dr. Deborah Haydon Leadership Award (2019). Sarah and her husband, Steve, have three children, two of whom are diagnosed with hearing loss. She is passionate about empowering families, connecting D/HH children, and strengthening early intervention services.

Disclosure: Member of EHDI Advisory Board, Serves as the H&V Direct Referral Coordinator for referrals from KY EHDI program to H&V, KY Chapter of H&V is contracted with KY EHDI through HRSA grant to provide parent and family support activities, received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present, Parent of a D/HH child

## Panel

## Members

**Nora Gonzales**

Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present, Parent of a D/HH child

**Erica Perkins** is the mother of one child who experienced hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy at birth. He initially passed his newborn hearing screen but was later identified after delayed speech development.

Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present, Parent of a D/HH child

**Brooklynd Render**

Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present, Parent of a D/HH child

**Megan Richardson** has two children, her oldest of which has congenital hearing loss due to Noonan Syndrome PTPN11. Their hearing loss journey started with a failed newborn hearing screen.

Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present, Parent of a D/HH child

## Early Intervention Panel

**Moderator** **Emily Robbins, MS, CCC-SLP, LSLC Cert. AVT** is a speech-language pathologist with more than 10 years of experience in early intervention. As a licensed Listening and Spoken Language Specialist and KY EHDI Advisory Board member, Emily has made serving children who are deaf and hard of hearing and their families a priority. Emily's personal connection to hearing loss serves as a catalyst for creating a hearing healthcare model that is accessible and equitable for all families in Kentucky.  
Disclosure: Member of EHDI Advisory Board, Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present

**Panel Members** **Megan Brown, MS, CCC-SLP, LSLC Cert. AVT**, is a speech-language pathologist with over two decades of experience. She has worked with children presenting a wide range of speech and language delays and disorders in both outpatient and classroom settings, delivering services through individual and small group therapy. Her primary area of specialization is working with children who are deaf or hard of hearing and their families, particularly those pursuing listening and spoken language outcomes.  
Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present

**Paula Carby, M.Ed.**, has an extensive background working as a Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and early interventionist with the Kentucky Early Intervention System (KEIS), formerly known as First Steps. She also spent time as a classroom teacher and traveled the state working with families and therapists on best practices when working with children with hearing impairment.  
Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present

**Kinya Embry-Wright, PhD, CCC-SLP**, is an Assistant Professor and the Assistant Director of Clinical Education at the University of Louisville in the Department of Otolaryngology Head-and-Neck Cancer and Communication Disorders in the School of Medicine. She has experience working with deaf and hard of hearing children in outpatient settings as well as at the Kentucky School for the Deaf. She is also the Assistant Director of Language First, an organization that promotes American Sign Language-English bilingualism for deaf and hard of hearing children.  
Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present, Assistant Director of Language First

**Shelby Rutledge, M.A., CCC-SLP, LSLC Cert. AVT**, has a career as a speech-language pathologist spanning 41 years. She spent 35 of those years providing listening and spoken language therapy to families of children with hearing aids and cochlear implants. She specialized in early intervention and family coaching.  
Disclosure: Received stipend paid by OCSHCN to present



## Continuing Education

### Available Credit

Learners must achieve the following to satisfactorily meet the requirements for session attendance:

- attend each session in its entirety
- complete the learning assessment

#### **5.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ - Deadline of August 3, 2026 to claim credit**

In support of improving patient care, UK HealthCare CE Central is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), and the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

This Live activity is designated for a maximum of 5.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

#### **5.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ Participation - Deadline of August 3, 2026 to claim credit**

In support of improving patient care, UK HealthCare CE Central is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), and the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

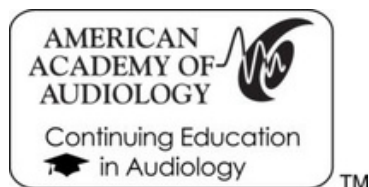
This Live activity is designated for a maximum of 5.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ Participation. Learners should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

#### **5.00 ANCC (UK Healthcare CE Central) - Deadline of August 3, 2026 to claim credit**

In support of improving patient care, UK HealthCare CE Central is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), and the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

The maximum number of hours awarded for this Continuing Nursing Education activity is 5.00 nursing contact hour(s).

#### **American Academy of Audiology (AAA)**



The Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs is approved by the American Academy of Audiology to offer Academy CEUs for this activity. The program is worth a maximum of 0.5 AAA CEUs. Academy approval of this continuing education activity is based on course content only and does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products, or clinical procedure, or adherence of the event to the Academy's code of Ethics. Any views that are presented are those of the presenter/CE provider and not necessarily of the American Academy of Audiology.

#### **American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)**

This course is at the various instruction level and will be available for up to 0.5 ASHA CEUs.



Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs

Various Level  
0.5 ASHA CEUs

**To claim credit for AAA and/or ASHA, the course evaluation and assessment of learning must be completed by 11:59pm on Friday, June 19, 2026.**

#### **Confirmed attendance**

Confirmed attendance hours will be recorded for all other attendees. Hours of confirmed attendance will be equivalent to the number of hours of attested attendance.

For more information related to confirmed attendance, contact CE Central at [support@cecentral.com](mailto:support@cecentral.com).

## SPECIAL THANKS TO . . .

### The following meal exhibitors:

- Breakfast:
  - Ohio Valley Voices
- Lunch:
  - Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
  - e3 Diagnostics
- Snack:
  - Oaktree Products

## Exhibitors

- Advanced Bionics
- Cochlear Americas
- e3 Diagnostics
- Family to Family Health Information Center
- Hands & Voices (H&V)
- Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH)
- Kentucky DeafBlind Project
- Language First
- Norton Healthcare
- Oaktree Products
- Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs
- Ohio Valley Voices
- Oticon
- Phonak

## Issues or Concerns

If there are any issues or concerns with creating an account or a technical issue with the registration site, please send an email to [support@cecentral.com](mailto:support@cecentral.com). For other issues or concerns prior to the course, please send an email to [EHDI@ky.gov](mailto:EHDI@ky.gov). If concerns arise during the course, please notify an Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs employee present at the event.

The Commonwealth complaint policy can be found at the Office of the Ombudsman website listed below. If you have any concerns or complaints following the course, please contact:

Commonwealth Office of the Ombudsman  
 209 St. Clair Street  
 Frankfort, KY 40601  
 866-596-6283  
[kyombud@ky.gov](mailto:kyombud@ky.gov)  
[www.auditor.ky.gov/kyombud](http://www.auditor.ky.gov/kyombud)

OR

Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs  
 310 Whittington Pkwy, Ste 200  
 Louisville, KY 40222  
 502-429-4430  
[OCSHCNWebPage@ky.gov](mailto:OCSHCNWebPage@ky.gov)  
[www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/ocshcn](http://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/ocshcn)

## Cancellations

As a courtesy to the planners and catering, please submit cancellations before Monday, June 1, 2026.

The registration fee is refundable if cancelled by Friday, May 29, 2026. The Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs and CE Central are not responsible for any other costs incurred by the participants. To cancel, send an email to [EHDI@ky.gov](mailto:EHDI@ky.gov) or call 877-757-4327.

Should the providers cancel this conference, registration fees will be reimbursed in full. However, OCSHCN and CE Central are not responsible for any other costs incurred by the participant.

## Special Needs/Accommodations

OCSHCN is committed to making this symposium accessible to all individuals. If you have a disability, provide a description of any auxiliary aids or services (identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act) needed at the time of registration. Advance notification of special needs and/or dietary restrictions helps us provide accommodations. Send requests to [EHDI@ky.gov](mailto:EHDI@ky.gov). Requests should be submitted by May 22, 2026.