



beginnings.
*guidance for your
child's journey™*



Empowering parents of children
who are deaf or hard of hearing
through education and support



BEGINNINGS provides free services to North Carolina residents who are:

- parents or caregivers of a child 21 or younger who is deaf or hard of hearing
- parents who are deaf or hard of hearing
- professionals who serve these families

BEGINNINGS helps parents understand:

- hearing test results
- communication strategies
- amplification options
- language and speech development
- how to implement strategies for school success
- education law
- programs and resources available to their family





Did you know that ...

- Hearing loss is one of the most common birth defects.
- Nearly three of every 1,000 children are born with a permanent hearing loss.
- Another two or three in 1,000 will develop hearing loss later.

By identifying a hearing loss early in your child's life, you can help ensure age-appropriate development.

Most children born with hearing loss have parents with typical hearing. If you haven't previously been exposed to hearing loss, you might understand the consequences for your child and family.

That's where BEGINNINGS can help!



Improving outcomes

In North Carolina, most infants are screened for hearing loss at birth. But hearing loss can be discovered at any age. BEGINNINGS is there from the time the hearing loss is identified no matter what the age and continues to be there for you until your child turns 22.

In the first few months after learning of a hearing loss, you face an overwhelming number of choices. The decisions you make will have an impact on your child's emotional and language development. It is important for you to understand the challenges of hearing loss, the resources available, and the many pathways to your child's happy and successful adulthood.

BEGINNINGS gives you with accurate and objective information so you can make the best decisions for your child and your family.

BEGINNINGS stays in contact with you as your child transitions from early intervention to preschool, and along the sometimes confusing paths through elementary, middle and high schools. We are there to help you understand available options and to become YOUR child's best advocate.

800.541.4327
North Carolina only
919.715.4092
www.ncbegin.org



BEGINNINGS is a nationally recognized, inclusive non-profit agency that meets the diverse needs of families with children who are deaf or hard of hearing and the professionals who serve them.

We collaborate with state agencies and organizations and serve on state and national committees, representing parents of children with hearing loss. Every day in North Carolina, we meet with parents and professionals to improve children's lives.



“BEGINNINGS believes that parents are the experts for their child and when they are given accurate, objective information about hearing loss, can make sound decisions for their child about communication approaches, educational placement, and related service needs.”

Diane Doak, Executive Director, BEGINNINGS.



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