

# Family-to-Family

## Peer support resources

### Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Resources for Families with Children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Some families may wish to talk to other families to understand the process and their experiences. Here are some ways you might be able to connect:

#### Ask Your Healthcare Provider

Your healthcare provider (for example, audiologist, speech language pathologist, or social worker) may be able to connect you with families who have been through this process before. **Speak to your provider to see if this is possible for you.**

#### Connect Society

Connect Society provides Family Supports Services, which connects families together so they can help each other navigate caring for their children. They aim to promote strengthened relationships, safe and nurturing home and school environments, and access to resources.

→ [www.connectsociety.org](http://www.connectsociety.org)

#### Alberta Hands & Voices

Alberta Hands & Voices provides support for families with children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) without a bias around communication modes.

→ [www.albertahandsandvoices.com](http://www.albertahandsandvoices.com)

#### Deaf & Hear Alberta

Deaf & Hear Alberta works to ensure that information is accessible to all Albertans by providing American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation and services that support the DHH community. You can connect with other families through programs, such as family focused ASL immersion weekends and ASL summer camps!

→ [www.deafandhearalberta.ca](http://www.deafandhearalberta.ca)

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# Financial and Equipment Support

Early Hearing Detection & Intervention  
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The information below outlines financial resources that may be available to support families with children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH).

## Alberta Aids To Daily Living (AADL)

Government of Alberta program that helps Albertans pay for basic medical supplies, such as a portion of the cost for hearing equipment.

Website provides information on: eligibility, application for cost share exemption, and other program details.

→ [www.alberta.ca/alberta-aids-to-daily-living.aspx](http://www.alberta.ca/alberta-aids-to-daily-living.aspx)

## Family Supports For Children with Disabilities

Government of Alberta program that works with families with children with disabilities to provide support and services. Supports for eligible families include: information about government programs and services, assistance in coordinating supports and services, and help with costs, such as parking, mileage, meals, and accommodations.

→ [www.alberta.ca/fscd.aspx](http://www.alberta.ca/fscd.aspx)

## Disability Tax Credit (DTC)

Non-refundable tax credit from the Government of Canada that helps persons supporting those with disabilities (in this case, parents and/or other caregivers) to reduce the amount of income tax they have to pay.

If your child is approved for the DTC, your family may also be eligible for a tax-free monthly payment, called the Child Disability Benefit.

→ [www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit.html)

Continued... →



Early Hearing Detection  
& Intervention Program

# Financial and Equipment Support continued...

Early Hearing Detection & Intervention  
Resources for Families with Children who are  
Deaf and Hard of Hearing

## Opening A Registered Disability Savings Plan

### Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP)

Families who have been approved for the Disability Tax Credit may open an RDSP. Once an RDSP has been opened, eligible families may also receive financial support in the form of bonds and grants from the Government of Canada until the beneficiary turns 49.

### Canada Disability Savings Grant

This is a matching grant paid directly into an RDSP. The amount of the grant is based on family contributions and net family income. Maximum of \$3,500 per year and up to \$70,000 over a lifetime.

### Canada Disability Savings Bond

This is a government bond paid directly into an RDSP for low income Canadians. No contributions have to be made by a family in order to receive the bond, but they must open an RDSP to be eligible. Maximum of \$1,000 per year and \$20,000 over a lifetime.



[www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/topics/registered-disability-savings-plan-rdsp/canada-disability-savings-grant-canada-disability-savings-bond.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/topics/registered-disability-savings-plan-rdsp/canada-disability-savings-grant-canada-disability-savings-bond.html)

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# More Resources to Explore

## Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Resources for Families with Children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Below are some additional resources that may be of interest for families with children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH):

### Hear To Learn

Explore Hear to Learns “Family Stories” section, where families who have children who are DHH have shared their experiences – includes both videos and written pieces.

→ <http://www.heartolearn.org>

### Hearing First

Connect with parents who understand what you’re going through – learn how they felt after a diagnosis, why they made certain choices, and how you can work with your support team. Watch videos and listen to podcasts sharing stories from families about their Listening and Spoken Language journey.

→ [www.hearingfirst.org/getting-started](http://www.hearingfirst.org/getting-started)

### Listen with Lindsay

This blog, developed by pediatric audiologist, Lindsay Cockburn, provides resources and information for parents on how to navigate and manage their child’s condition. Connect with other parents through her “DHH Mentor” feature on her Instagram @ListenWithLindsay.

→ [www.listenwithlindsay.com](http://www.listenwithlindsay.com)

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