

Foundations for Families

Family Workshop for children who are deaf or hard of hearing

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This year BC Family Hearing Resource Centre (BCFHRC) is excited to invite you to our newest event: Foundations for Families, a community workshop to support the needs of our families across British Columbia.

The Foundations for Families workshop, created by BCFHRC, is designed to strengthen families' knowledge on their child's hearing and how it relates to their child's development. Research shows that children who are deaf or hard of hearing are at risk for social, emotional and academic difficulties. The Foundations for Families workshop aims to equip families with the knowledge to make well-informed decisions and the strategies to support their child's development in these areas.

Foundations for Families also provides an opportunity for parents to ask questions and engage in discussion with staff and other parents in your community who are also experiencing this journey. Connecting with families is a valuable way to build confidence in yourself and self-esteem in your children, while gaining knowledge from others with shared experiences. These friendships and connections provide continued support as your child graduates from BCFHRC's services and enters the school system.

Foundations for Families workshop will be covering a wide range of topics relating to your child's hearing difference, including:

- Different ways to communicate
- Communication strategies
- Creating optimal learning environments
- Describing your child's audiograms
- Equipment options and strategies to keep them on
- Language development (visual and spoken)
- Hearing and listening development
- Speech sound development
- Tips for successful audiology appointments



This workshop is complimentary to the services you are receiving from your team in the community. We aim to not only strengthen your current understanding of these topics, but to expand your knowledge and skills in these areas. Foundations for Families is a fun and interactive hands-on two-day workshop. You will have the opportunity to create and take home materials to add to your toolbox.



Workshop location and dates:

Location	Workshop Dates	Registration Deadlines
Victoria, BC Family Hearing Resource Centre	Friday November 17 th and Saturday November 18 th 2017, (9am-3:30pm)	Friday November 3 rd 2017
Surrey, BC Family Hearing Resource Centre (and online!)	Friday January 19 th and Saturday January 20 th 2018, (9am-3:30pm)	Friday January 5 th 2018
Kelowna (Starbright Children's Development Centre)	Friday May 11 th and Saturday May 12 th 2018, (9am-3:30pm)	Friday April 27 th 2018
Surrey, BC Family Hearing Resource Centre (and online!)**	Tuesday August 7 th and Wednesday August 8 th 2018, (9am-3:30am)	Monday July 23 rd 2018

**All workshops require a minimum of three families registered in each location*

***Accommodations for outreach families are available on a first come, first serve basis for the August 7th-8th workshop, before Mingle and Play (August 9-11th 2018)*

Pre-registration is required (this is not a drop-in workshop). You must be able to attend both days of the workshop to participate. Register online at: <https://goo.gl/M8S65D> Light snacks, beverages, and lunch will be provided on both days. For families who are unable to travel to one of the above locations, you are welcome to participate online during our Surrey workshops in January or August.

Please note that this workshop is designed for parents and caregivers. Pre-mobile babies welcome. Childminding may be available at family's request upon registration.

If you have any questions or want more information, please contact Stefanie Macaro or Valerie Marshall, or speak with your interventionist. We look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

Stefanie Macaro
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&

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35 years of making futures bright



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