

Become a Nebraska Newborn Hearing Hospital Champion

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NE DHHS) and the Nebraska Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (NE-EHDI) Program invite you to join the Nebraska *Newborn Hearing Hospital Campaign*.



This campaign is aligned with the Nebraska Safe Babies Hospital Campaign that all of you are familiar with and many of your hospitals have been recognized already as Champions. **We want to recognize you as a Newborn Hearing Hospital Champion as well.**

Nebraska has approximately 54-56 Birthing Hospitals annually that routinely deliver babies, touching the lives of over 26,000 new babies, parents, and caregivers each year.

The overall goal of the Nebraska Newborn Hearing Hospital Campaign is to provide evidence-based education to parents of newborns as well as birthing hospital staff. Your hospital can make an impact by joining our exciting venture to educate hospital professionals so they are aware of how they communicate results to parents can impact timely follow up when an infant refers on the newborn hearing screening.

The goal is to identify infants who are deaf or hard of hearing (D/HH) as early as possible so they can be referred to early intervention and be informed of a variety of resources. This gives D/HH children the opportunity to stay on track with their hearing peers so they can reach his/her full potential.

NE-EHDI provides education brochures and cards free of charge so healthcare providers can educate parents about the importance of hearing in a child's cognitive, academic, social, and emotional development. **5 steps to become a Newborn Hearing Hospital Champion:**

1. Take the Nebraska Newborn Hearing Campaign Pledge:

- **Designate an Internal Hearing Screening Coordinator** to supervise and guide the hospital based Newborn Hearing Screening and become the main point of contact for the NE-EHDI Newborn Hearing Campaign.
- **Sign and Return Pledge From:**
 - The CEO, hospital administrator, or director of the hospital and the Hearing Screening Coordinator signs the [pledge form](#).

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Return By MAIL to: Judith Obodougo, EHDI – 6th Floor
P.O. Box 95026
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509

By FAX: 402-742-2395, Attn: Judith Obodougo
By EMAIL: Judith.Obodougo@nebraska.gov

2. Develop or update current hearing screening policy to incorporate new Parent Perspectives training video, new scripts and education protocol for staff, and new education cards for parents.

- Updated Hearing Screening Protocols should address the following topics:
 - Meet [Nebraska State Statutes](#)
 - Meet EHDI Protocols & JCIH Guidelines
 - Incorporate [Parent Perspectives Video](#) & [Scripts](#) as part of training for new staff and annual training for all staff involved in the hearing screening process
 - Implement use of new education cards.
- **Sample Protocols**
 - [NE-EHDI Protocols](#)

3. Hospital Personnel Education and Education Plan

Create an education plan for all hospital personnel who communicate newborn hearing screening results to parents. Areas to include may be Labor and Delivery, Post-Partum, NICU & PICU.

- [Personnel Education Plan Template](#)

4. Provide patient / client education

Per Nebraska State Infant Hearing Act Statute §71-4740, birthing hospitals are required to provide educational information to parents about Newborn Hearing Screening. NE-EHDI provides brochures free of charge in 14 different languages so birth hospitals can quickly and easily fulfill this requirement at no cost to them.

- *Can Your Baby Hear* brochure or similar information should be given to parent(s) of every newborn infant.
- *Your Baby Needs Another Hearing Screening* brochure should be given to parent(s) of every newborn infant who refers on the inpatient hearing screening.
- Parent Education Cards (Inpatient Screening Card and Refer Card)

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After hospital policy is implemented, send completed policy and education plan to NE EHDl:

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Lincoln, NE 68509

By FAX: 402-742-2395, Attn: Judith Obodougo
By EMAIL: Judith.Obodougo@nebraska.gov

After we receive the implemented policy and the education plan, your hospital name and logo will be placed on the [NE-EHDl Hospital Champion Page](#).

5. Complete annual trainings & audits:

Complete yearly internal employee education compliance audits for newborn hearing screening.

- [Annual Compliance Audit Form](#)

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