

# Child Safety Overview

AL H&V Intern Presentation

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# Observe Understand Respond

## O.U.R. Children's Safety Project



- Studies show that children who are d/hh are 3-4 times more likely than their peers to be victims of some form of abuse or neglect, including bullying.
- Provides parent education and awareness through virtual workshops and in person events & classes
- Monthly meetings with parents and professionals to raise awareness and share resources
- Educates parents on [The Protective Factors](#) for children's safety and success
- Created a safety attachment plan for IEPs

# Protective Factors

## *One Caring Adult...*

"Developmental research shows that having one or more caring adults in a child's life increases the likelihood that they will flourish and become productive adults themselves."

<https://cms.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/2013-54CaringAdults.pdf>



#1 Nurturing and Attachment

#2 Knowledge of parenting and of child and youth development

#3 Parental Resilience

#4 Social Connections

#5 Concrete Support for Parents

#6 Social and Emotional Competence of Children

# Supporting Families

## #1 Nurturing and Attachment

Encourage Parents to Respond to Infant/Child clues:

- Respond promptly to cries/distress
- Follow child's visual gaze
- Make environmental modifications to increase visual contact
- Respond to all forms of communication/interpret child's actions as meaningful
- Match strategies to child's needs and abilities
- Build routines that incorporate multi-sensory cues to increase predictability

~Deborah Mood, PhD

Developmental Pediatrics Unit of Children's Hospital Colorado



### What we know about attachment and deafness

- Deaf children and adults have [ability for] a high rate of secure attachment
- Synchronicity of parent/child relationship and ability of consistency of caregiver response to child's needs for children under age 3 may have more impact on attachment than communication skill
- Influence of parent reaction to deafness can affect attachment
- Importance of availability of resources to support parents

~Deborah Mood, PhD

Developmental Pediatrics Unit of Children's Hospital Colorado



# Supporting Families

## #2 Knowledge of Parenting and of Child and Youth Development

- CDC Milestone Tracker App



- H&V Family Leadership in Language and Learning Center



### Parent Tip Sheets

Tip sheets for parents and caretakers of children who are deaf or hard of hearing

- [Cognitive Development](#)
- [Early Literacy Development](#)
- [Language Development \(links below\)](#)

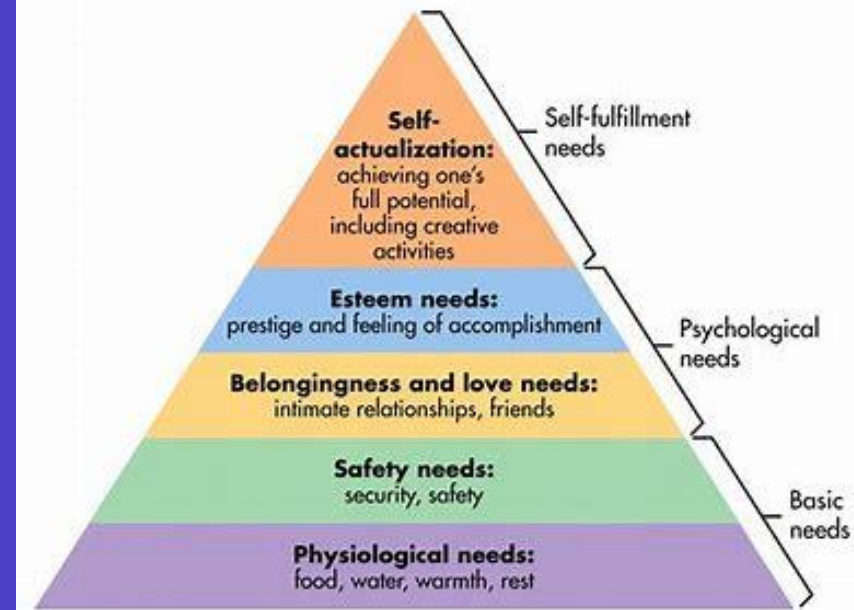
- [Lang Dev - Phonology](#)
- [Lang Dev - Child Pragmatics](#)
- [Lang Dev - Semantics](#)
- [Lang Dev - Syntax and Morphology](#)

[Social Emotional Development](#)

[Visual Language Development](#)



## Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



# Supporting Families

**#3 Parental Resilience**

**#4 Social Connections**

**#5 Concrete Support for Parents**

**ALABAMA**  
**HANDS & VOICES**

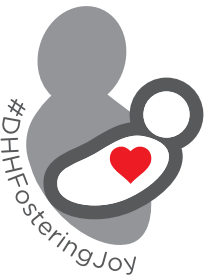


<http://www.alhandsandvoices.org>

Fostering Joy for Professionals



## Fostering Joy



- Family/professional effort celebrating the joy of raising a child who is deaf or hard of hearing
- Provides support and resources for families and professionals to positively help the growth and development of a child who is d/hh.
- Encourages families to focus on special moments that bring joy to support natural and loving parent-child connections

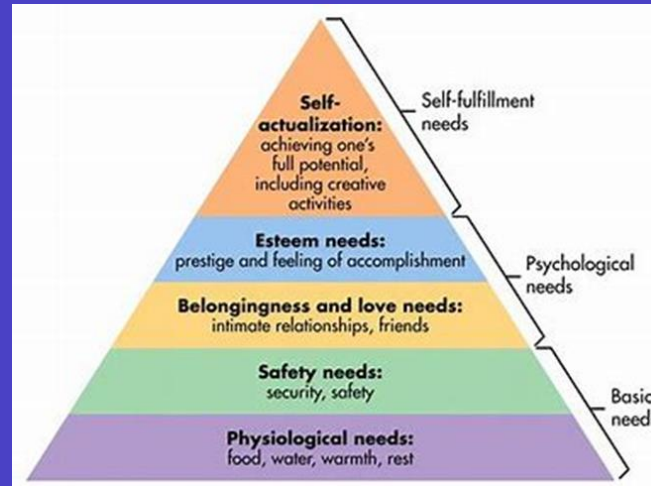




# Supporting Families

## #6 Social and Emotional Competence of Children

*One of the most important ways we can support child safety is to give children language to express needs, wants, and EMOTIONS!*



The **VOOK Club**'s mission is to read, evaluate and recommend books for adults to read or share with children as a tool to create a strong foundation for children's safety. Topics include books that discuss or model **emotions, self-awareness, safety, self-esteem, understanding hearing loss and valuing diversity**, and more.

We know how valuable sharing books with children is, and we hoped this would be another way that parents can create and sustain important conversations about safety between **children, parents and trusted adults.**



# What if you have concerns about the safety of a child?



## Mandatory Reporting

Code of Alabama § 26-14-3 (1975) provides for the mandatory and permissive reporting of child abuse/neglect to a "duly constituted authority," primarily the Department of Human Resources (DHR) and law enforcement, when any person suspects children are being abused or neglected.

Alabama Mandatory Reporter Training

<https://aldhr.remote-learner.net/>

## Childhelp

24/7 Call, Text, Live Chat

1-800-4-A-Child

<https://www.childhelpline.org/>

Ask Questions, Get Resources



*If one caring adult helps a child reach his/her potential,  
imagine what a team of caring adults can do!*

