



PARENTS' THOUGHTS ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

"I learned things I never knew before. It was, in my opinion, a very good experience. These are all people (to whom) I will always be grateful for the way they treated me and my children. I believe a lot of good things will stay with us and we learned a lot to be able to help our children in the future."

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"This was a wonderful and absolutely overwhelming experience. I have learned so much about deafness while here at ISD and have a new appreciation for the deaf."

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"Very well worth our time. Like others I wasn't sure what to expect but I can tell you it exceeded my expectations. All parents of deaf or hard of hearing children should attend."

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This week was great, helpful and educational in so many ways. It was wonderful that this week is available!"



HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE INSTITUTE?

Contact: University of Illinois
Division of Specialized
Care for Children
Telephone: 1-800-322-3722

Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC) and Department of Human Services/Division of Rehabilitation Services (DHS/DRS) do not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, their programs and activities in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Directors are responsible for compliance. DSCC, 217-793-2350 and DHS/ISD, 217-479-4200 (voice or TTY)

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A HEARING LOSS?

Do you have questions about Communication Options, Language Development, Amplification, Social-Emotional Development and School Programs?

All of these questions can be answered in one place!



INSTITUTE FOR PARENTS
OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN
WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

JUNE 12 - 17, 2011



MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide information and support to families, so that they can make informed decisions on behalf of their child who is deaf or hard of hearing.

The Institute was summarized by one parent as: "An incredibly useful week to ... prepare my child for a life of learning."

WHAT IS THE INSTITUTE?

The Institute is a one-week program for parents of children (up to age five) who have a significant hearing loss. The Institute is held during June on the campus of the Illinois School for the Deaf. Parents learn about hearing loss. They also learn about their child's individual strengths and needs. Parents will meet other parents who also have children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

WHERE IS THE INSTITUTE?

The Institute is held at the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville. Jacksonville is 30 miles west of Springfield on Interstate 72.



WHAT ABOUT SIBLINGS?

Brothers and sisters, age seven and under, can come to Institute. They will go to activities for their age group at The Nursery School on the ISD campus. They will also stay with their families in the dorms and go to recreational activities.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

There is no cost for families who come to Institute. The classes, lectures and evaluations are all free. Meals and housing are provided at no charge on the campus of the Illinois School for the Deaf. Scholarships will be given to families for their week of participation.

WHO WORKS AT THE INSTITUTE?

Professionals from all over Illinois come to the Institute. They come from hospitals, schools, colleges, private centers, ISD, DSCC and DPH.

WHAT DO PARENTS DO?

The parents go to classes every day. They learn about children and hearing loss. They also meet in groups to discuss their concerns. Parents attend daily lectures by experts. Lecture topics include child development, types of hearing loss, language development, parent rights, school programs, communication choices, hearing aids, cochlear implants, and Deaf Culture.

WHAT DO CHILDREN DO?

Each morning the children go to classrooms supervised by experienced teachers. They are given otological, hearing, vision, psychological, speech, language and educational evaluations.

WHO SPONSORS THE INSTITUTE?

The Institute receives money and services from:

- *Department of Human Services
Division of Rehabilitation Services
Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD)
- *Department of Public Health (DPH)
- *Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)
- *University of Illinois/Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC)

With additional funding from:

- *Gallaudet University Regional Center
at Johnson Community College
- *Children's Memorial Hospital - Chicago
- *Department of Human Services
Bureau of Early Intervention

