

DEAF/HARD OF HEARING PROGRAM

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program serves students early childhood age through high school. Itinerant/resource teachers support the student in their home district. A teacher of the deaf and hard of hearing travels to the child's school to provide services. The self-contained deaf and hard of hearing classrooms serve students who are early childhood age through high school.

The Itinerant Program goals focus on the development of compensatory strategies. Specifically, a plan is developed to enhance the student's speech reading, auditory training skills and aural rehabilitation skills. A staff member trained in the education of deaf and hard of hearing who functions as part of the home district's educational team assists in the development of a program for these students.

The self-contained instructional classrooms are located in the surrounding district schools. A certified deaf educator teaches classes with support services provided by a speech/language pathologist, audiologist, social worker, psychologist, and nurse.

The instructional program goals focus on developing effective communication skills and teaching academic subjects within total communication. Total communication methods and techniques are the basis for all instruction and every experience. A combination of techniques in spoken language, speech reading, auditory training, fingerspelling, and signs are utilized throughout the day.

Inservices about the implications of a hearing loss are available for the child's classmates, teachers, and the school districts. Diagnostic services are available to all districts through the referral system.