How to Refer to the WBP

- Self-referral
- Parent/family referral
- Community agency
- Schools – counsellors or teacher of the deaf/hard of hearing

*Referrals made by another individual should be done with client/family’s consent

Contact Information

Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Deaf-Well-Being Program

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We are on Social Media:
- Youtube: deafwbp
- Twitter: @DeafWBP
- Facebook: VCH Deaf Well-Being Program
- Instagram: @vchdeafwellbeing

Referral Process

Once the WBP has received a referral, an intake appointment will be arranged to gather information about your child and family, and the areas of need. Depending on the age of the child, they may or may not be included in this appointment. If this program is not the right match for your child or family’s needs, recommendations or a referral may be made to another community agency.

For more copies, go online at http://vch.eduhealth.ca or email phem@vch.ca and quote Catalogue No. FL.420.043
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The information in this document is intended solely for the person to whom it was given by the health care team.
Who Are We?

This program provides mental health and support services for children and youth who are deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind, and their families, across British Columbia.

The program works in partnership with various community service providers and schools to meet the needs of clients.

These services are both bilingual and bicultural.

Our child and youth services support children up to the age of 18. At age 19, individuals can continue to use the WBP through the adult services program.

When appropriate, we provide services to children and youth who have parents/siblings who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf-blind. We also provide services to parents of deaf, hard of hearing or deaf-blind children.

All services are confidential and free of charge.

Does Your Child/Youth Experience?

Children and youth have a range of experiences, some which may be challenging and/or hard to manage. This may include:

- extreme emotions ie. anger, sadness, fear, worry
- behaviour that is not age appropriate (ie. tantrums, sleep problems, difficulty with routines)
- feeling different and isolated from peers and family
- having difficulty paying attention or being interested in activities
- struggles with empathy or self esteem

These feelings, thoughts or experiences may be the root of challenging behaviour seen at home, school or in the community.

For Parents

Both deaf and hearing parents can connect with child & youth staff to focus on family issues, and their child’s needs and/or behavioural concerns. Parents’ involvement in their child’s treatment may vary depending on the type of service needed. At times, it may be important for parents to be more actively involved in learning specific approaches in dealing with their child.

Having a deaf or hard of hearing child can be a big adjustment to the family’s relationships, and their overall family functioning. The WBP provides counselling to parents who would like support in navigating this new experience.

Services Available

- Individual counselling
- Family counselling (positive/healthy relationships)
- Group therapy programs
- Community and school consultation
- Psycho-educational workshops and community education
- Psychiatric assessments
- Support services and system navigation