

Importance of Family Commitment

Based on research, California set language milestones for Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing children from ages 0 - 5 with Senate Bill 210 (2015).



GLAD believes family involvement is crucial for babies to achieve their language milestones.

Effective in-home communication helps children learn how to socialize, create, and maintain relationships. It also provides a healthy outlet to express their emotions, needs, and concern for others.

Through commitment, families build a foundation of the importance of advocacy, and how to approach it.

"When a flower doesn't bloom, you fix the environment it grows in; not the flower."

- Alexander Den Heijer

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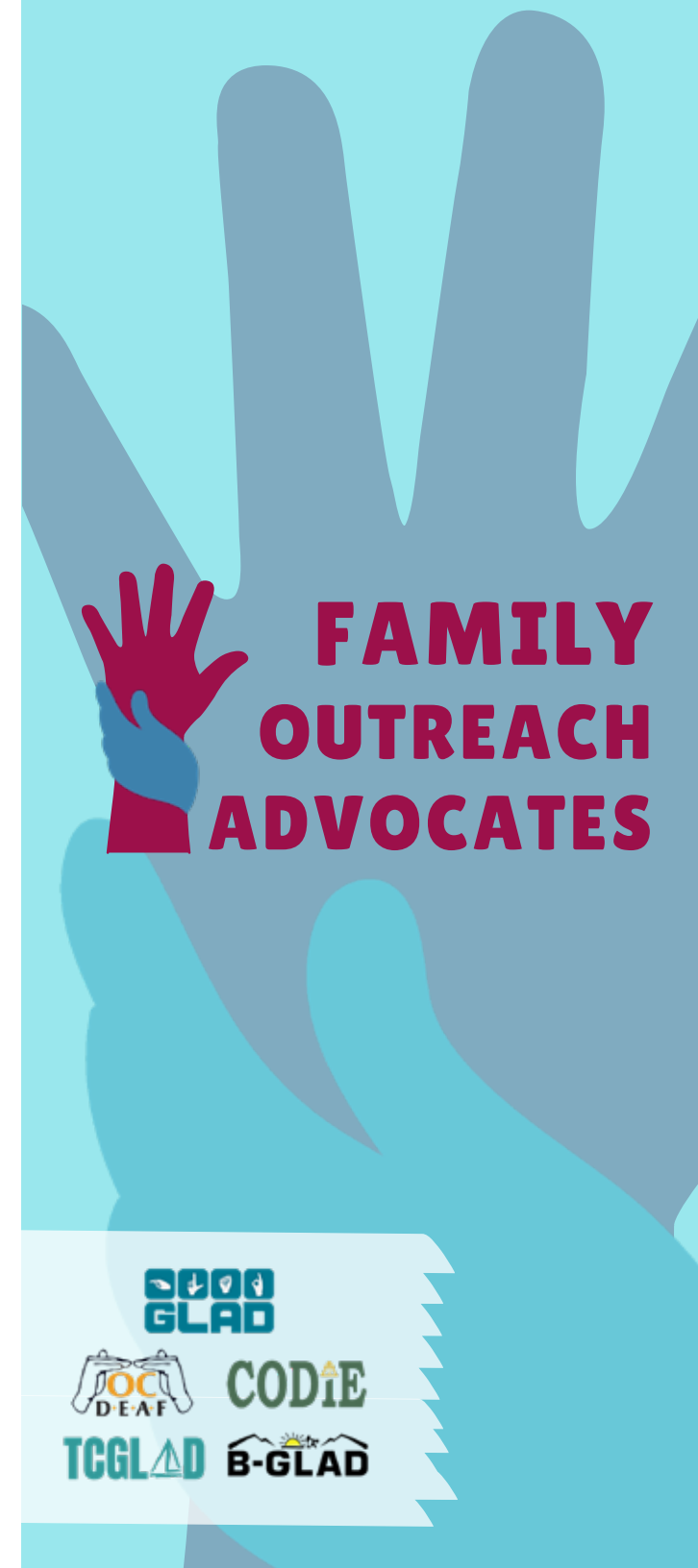


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FAMILY ADVOCACY

We advocate with families of Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing children (DHH) during meetings, such as:

- IFSP / IEP / 504 Plan
- School meetings
- Regional Centers

We also educate about resources and laws that apply to children, including:

- LEAD-K / AB1836
- IDEA
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)



Benefits

- Receive one-on-one consultations and assessments
- Increase family's ability to support child academically
- Connect to other families
- Support group for parents and/or legal guardians
- Learn about rights of DHH children and parents and/or legal guardians



DEAF COACH

We are trained in ASL instruction and interaction with children and families. We work to:

- Involve family members in our ASL sessions with the child
- Educate families about Deaf Culture and Communities through events, workshops, and resource fairs



Services

- Provide regular support sessions at home, library, and/or our office
- Teach the family how to use ASL in daily routines and activities
- Helps the family understand Deaf culture, including facial expressions, body movement, and visual learning importance
- Navigate the family into the Deaf community



Benefits

- Build child's self-advocacy skills
- Provide cultural information
- Strengthen family relationships at home
- Support group for children
- Support child's language development

