Website Resource Guide

Step 2

Decide which areas of your State's EHDI website to improve

Review the guidelines in the EHDI Website Resource Guide for more information about the critical components and suggestions for improvement which can be applied in a pragmatic manner.

The purpose of the EHDI Website Resource Guide is to strengthen the knowledge base of state EHDI administrators in understanding key elements of effective websites. Critical content elements were developed with help of an EHDI advisory committee which included an audiologist, speech pathologist, family EHDI leader. Design and accessibility components were selected through research and accessibility standards of effective websites.

Find the EHDI Website Resource Guide and other website improvement resources at:

www.infanthearing.org/webguide

Website of the Year Award

Step 3

Implement Changes

Talk with EHDI members and the webmaster in your State to determine the best way to implement changes for improvement.

NCHAM recognizes the importance of State EDHI programs in communicating early hearing and detection intervention information to all of its stakeholders. The "EHDI website of the year" award is used to recognize the sites that provide quality content in a user friendly format that is accessible to everyone.

Kansas
2014 Award Winner

Washington
2015 Award Winner

EHDI Website Improvement

Have you Considered.....

Content

Critical content for any EHDI website should include:
- An overview of the State's EHDI program
- Specific information for primary stakeholders
- Content that discusses the EHDI process

Design

A contemporary, user-friendly design encourages people to:
- Use and return to your website
- Remember your organization

Accessibility

Improve the usability of the website for all by:
- Ensuring content reaches those with varying literacy levels
- Implementing web accessibility standards

The EHDI Website Resource Guide is a tool to assist EHDI program administrators in making informed decisions about website improvements that benefit all EHDI stakeholders. The guide can be used in part or in whole to guide improvements for content, design, and accessibility of any EHDI website. Included is a checklist of critical components considered valuable for an EHDI website.

NCHAM
National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management Utah State University™

Website Checklist

Step 1

Review your State's EHDI website

Use the website checklist to find valuable suggestions that could help to improve your State's EHDI website.

Components that meet Section 508 Standards

Content

Overview of State EHDI Program

____ Describe State's EHDI Program
- ❑ Mission statement that defines "EHDI" (Early Hearing Detection Intervention)
- ❑ Describe "1-3-6 goals" in association with the EHDI process

____ Provide information pertaining to the history of EHDI in your state, including legislative history

____ Explain the importance of infant hearing screening

____ Include contact information for your State's EHDI program
- ❑ How to contact your State's program coordinator, address, phone numbers, e-mail
- ❑ TTY information
- ❑ Contact for families who speak a language other than English

Information for Families
(parents, guardians, caregivers)

____ Explain the importance of having a child's hearing screening completed before 1 month of age

____ Describe what to do if a parent or caregiver doesn't know his/her child's newborn hearing screening results

____ Define and explain terms found in a screening result, such as "pass," "fail," "refer," or "incomplete"

____ Describe what to do if a parent or caregiver has concerns about their child's hearing

____ Explain the importance of continued hearing screenings for a child, throughout their childhood

____ Provide a way to email questions and/or provide links to access resources, pay for services, find or locate parent support groups, learn more about assistive technology

____ Provide information on finding a pediatric audiologist

____ Provide information and resources in other languages such as: PDF's, brochures, and web content

Information for Healthcare Providers
(hospital workers/midwives, medical homes/primary care doctors, and audiologists/ENTs)

____ Describe the provider's role in conducting a hearing screening and following up on hearing screenings that have been completed

____ Describe how the provider reports screening results to EHDI and other reporting procedures

____ Explain how to deliver and explain hearing screening/diagnostic results to families

____ Provide referral sites for rescreening, diagnostic evaluations, and early intervention, including contact information for these services

Information for Early Intervention (IE) Providers
(Part C programs, Schools for the Deaf, private therapists, and audiologists)

____ Describe the EI providers role in early hearing screening and diagnostic evaluations–how to partner with Part C

____ Describe how EI providers report results to EHDI

____ Explain the importance of audiological follow-up–how to partner with audiologists

____ Provide contact information/links for families for various agencies and pediatric audiologists in the community

____ Provide information about EI resources for children who are deaf/hard of hearing: family organizations, resource guides to help families learn about communication options, etc.

Content Focused on Screening

____ Explain why screening is important for children

____ Define screening and rescreening

____ Describe when hearing should be screened and rescreened

____ Describe who conducts screenings

____ Provide information on where to obtain a screening

Content Focused on Diagnosis

____ Define diagnostic evaluation

____ Describe when diagnostic evaluation is needed

____ Describe who should conduct diagnostic evaluations

____ Provide information on where to obtain diagnostic evaluation

____ Provide information about how it can be paid for (insurance, public programs)

Content Focused on Early Intervention

____ Define early intervention

____ Identify who to contact (i.e. early intervention services)

____ Provide information on a variety of communication options

Content Focused on Audiological Intervention

____ Describe hearing assistive devices (hearing aids, cochlear implants)

____ Explain the importance of consistent, routine monitoring of assistive devices

Content Focused on Family Support

____ Define family support

____ Discuss why family support is important

____ Provide information on family support organizations and other resources

Content Focused on Surveillance

____ Discuss the role of the state EHDI program in surveillance of health care

____ Discuss the role of providers in reporting to the EHDI program

Design & Layout

Organization

____ **ai** Allow any webpage to be read without the use of style sheets and still be organized

____ Include headings that are consistent and can be identified by screen readers

____ Provide important information first with an option to learn more

Style of Presentation

____ Follow a consistent page design

____ **ai** Have sufficient color contrast between the background and text

____ Provide consistency for all text elements

Navigation

____ Provide several methods to locate a web page

____ **ai** Provide method that permits users to skip repetitive navigation links

Visual Media

____ Reflect cultural diversity for visual content

____ **ai** Use "ALT Text" for all images/graphics

____ **ai** Provide captioning and descriptive text transcripts for audio and video

Browser Compatibility

____ Function in multiple browsers

Accessibility

Keyboard Accessible

____ **ai** Allow users to navigate through the website using only the keyboard

Links

____ **ai** Provide links that make sense out of context

____ Use links that work (No Broken links)

Health Literacy

____ Provide content with the appropriate reading level