



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: May 17, 2019  
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads  
Route To: County Supervisors of Child Study, Directors of Special Education  
From: Carolyn Marano, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Student Services

### **New Jersey Deaf Mentor Kick-Off Event Scheduled for June 8**

The Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN) Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Deaf Mentor Program is a grant-funded initiative developed by SPAN in collaboration with the New Jersey Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program at the New Jersey Department of Health.

Deaf Mentors are adults who are deaf or hard of hearing and communicate using American Sign Language, Total Communication, Listening and Spoken Language and/or Cued Speech/Cued English. Mentors interact with children and their families in their home, via technology or in person, and at social events. They answer questions and share firsthand experiences. All mentors have completed a comprehensive training program.

On June 6, 2019 SPAN will sponsor the first New Jersey Deaf Mentor Program Kick-Off Event for families with a deaf or hard of hearing child aged birth to 5 years to learn more about deaf mentors. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at [Kidz Village](#), 507 King Georges Road, Woodbridge, New Jersey.

Please share this information with parents of students who are deaf or hard of hearing in your school district. [Register online](#) for free. Registrants must bring their Eventbrite ticket with them to the event.

For more information about the event or the New Jersey Deaf Mentor Program contact SPAN at [paasen@spanadvocacy.org](mailto:paasen@spanadvocacy.org).

c: Members, State Board of Education  
Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner  
NJDOE Staff  
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network  
Garden State Coalition of Schools  
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