



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Children's Hearing Aid Program (CHAP) SUNSET REVIEW

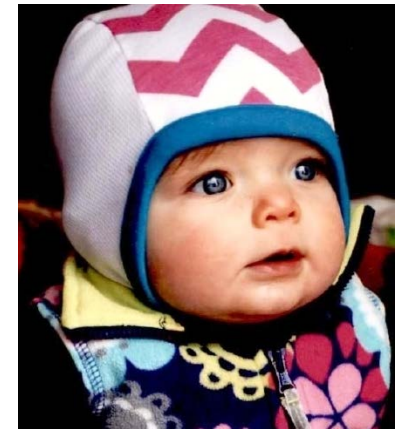


Ari

Jenny Pedersen, Au.D., CCC-A
CHAP Audiology Coordinator

Natasha Lamens, MPH
Epidemiologist II

Stephanie McVicar, Au.D., CCC-A
EHDI/CHAP Program Manager, UDOH



Evie

August 21st, 2019

MISSION & VISION



The Utah Department of Health's mission is to protect the public's health through preventing avoidable illness, injury, disability, and premature death; assuring access to affordable, quality health care; and promoting healthy lifestyles.

Our vision is for Utah to be a place where *all* people can enjoy the best health possible, where *all* can live and thrive in healthy and safe communities.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Healthiest People– The people of Utah will be among the healthiest in the country.

Optimize Medicaid– Utah Medicaid will be a respected innovator in employing health care delivery and payment reforms that improve the health of Medicaid members and keep expenditure growth at a sustainable level.

A Great Organization– The UDOH will be recognized as a leader in government and public health for its excellent performance. The organization will continue to grow its ability to attract, retain, and value the best professionals and public servants.

CHAP Sunset Review



Emily



Taylor



Jude



Evie & sisters



Pearl

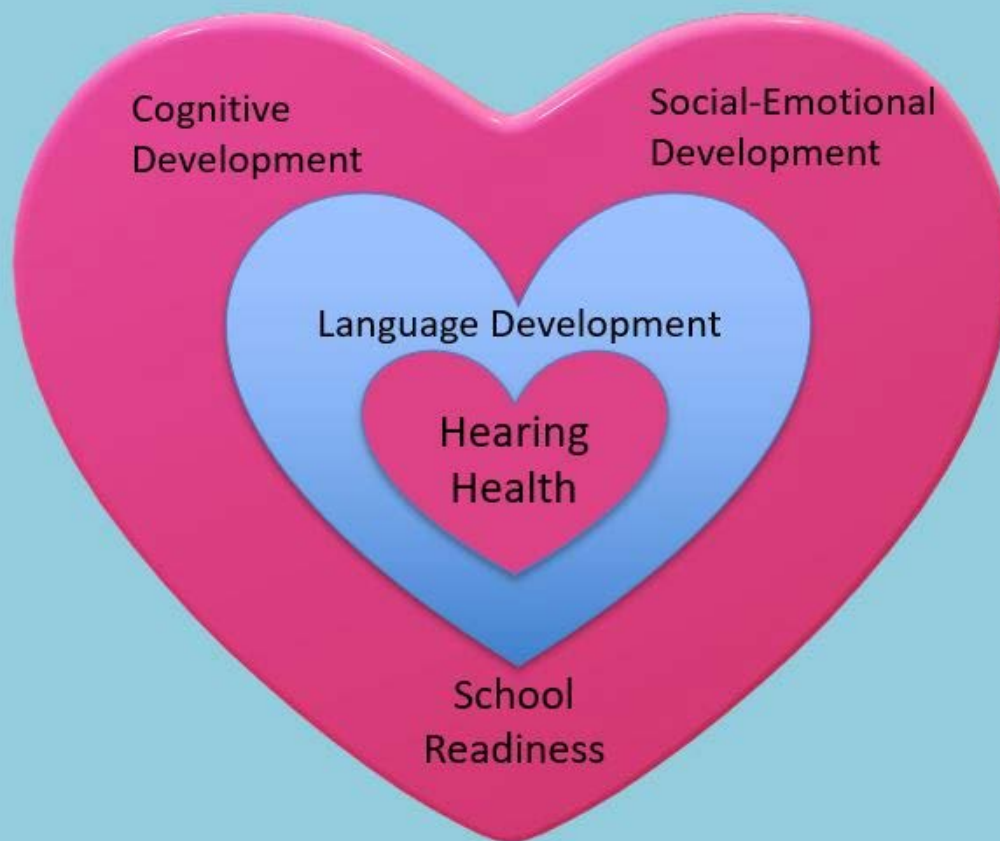
CHAP: Children's Hearing Aid Program

Mission statement To provide early access to hearing aids for hard of hearing infants and young children of financially eligible families, in order to maximize their communication and learning potentials.

CHAP Sunset Review



Hearing Health is at the heart of.....



CHAP Sunset Review



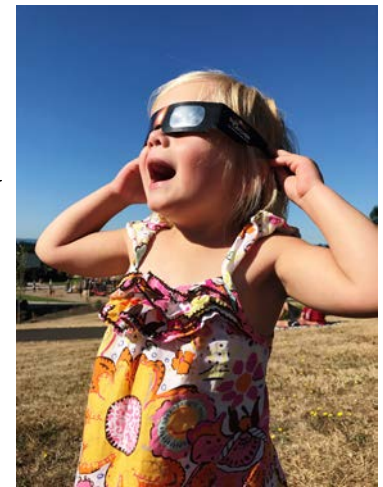
Background:

H.B. 157 (2013 General Session) UCA 26-10-11, whose Chief Sponsor was Representative Rebecca P. Edwards, created a two-year pilot program within the Department of Health to provide hearing aids to qualifying children under three years of age who have hearing loss.

H.B. 16 (2015 General Session), CHAP was converted from a pilot program to a permanent program.

2013-15 Pilot Program

2015-20 Children's Hearing Aid Program



Evie

CHAP Sunset Review



Children's Hearing Aid Advisory Committee:

CHAP has an active and passionate committee that is committed to children's hearing healthcare while also safeguarding Utah tax dollars.

The committee consists of:

- Ear, Nose, Throat Specialist:
Jeremy Meier, M.D.
- Audiologist with pediatric expertise:
Lindsey Tubaug, Au.D.
- Speech-Language Pathologist:
Brooke Edwards, M.S., ^{CCC}SLP
- Teacher for the Deaf/ Hard of Hearing:
Paula Pittman, Ph.D.
- Parent of a Deaf/ Hard of Hearing child:
Kim Frandsen, B.S.



Blakely



Eligibility Guidelines:

- Younger than **six years** of age
- Have hearing loss diagnosed by an audiologist with pediatric expertise
- Medical clearance by a physician
- Utah resident
- Family income <300% FPG
- Cannot be Medicaid eligible
- Cannot have private insurance that covers the total cost of hearing aids



Myla

CHAP Sunset Review

CHAP follows national BEST PRACTICE guidelines:

- Early diagnosis, fitting of amplification, and timely follow-up by an audiologist with pediatric expertise
- Medical clearance by physician
- Enrollment in early intervention if child is under 3 years of age
- Timely follow up with managing audiologist
- Parents agree to maintain routine care of hearing aids and overall hearing healthcare



Taylor

Early Intervention (EI) Information

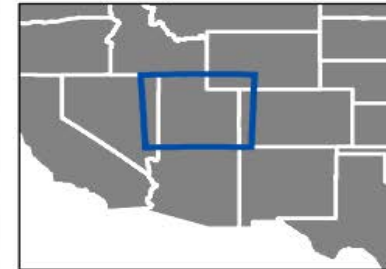
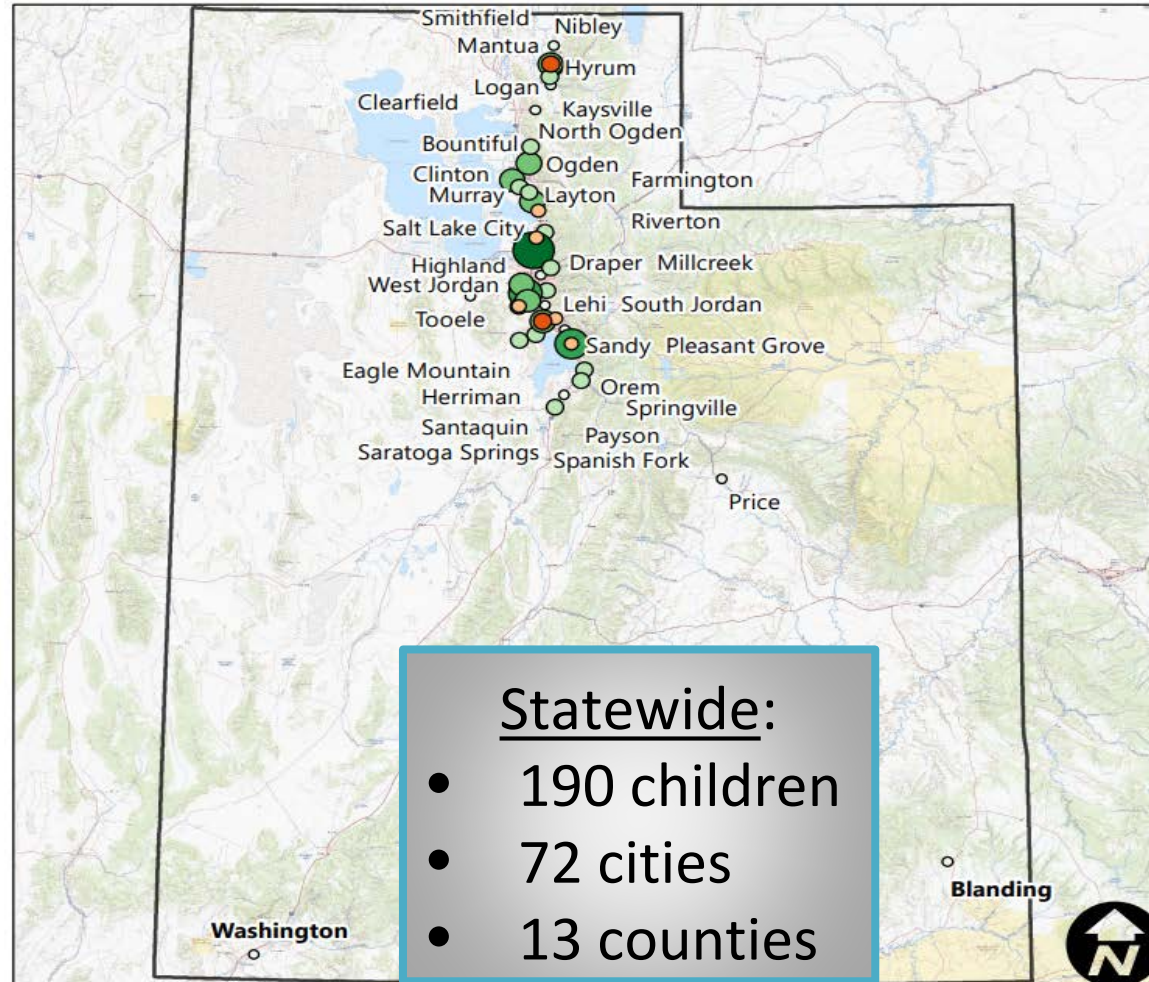
- 100% of CHAP recipients under 3 years of age are enrolled in EI
- 138 participants were under 3 years when they applied





CHAP Recipients (2013-19)

CHAP Participants and Applicants



This map product illustrates the number of denied applicants and eligible participants in the Children's Hearing Aid Program of the Utah Department of Health.

Number of Ineligible Applicants

○ 2

● 3

Number of Eligible Participants

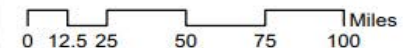
○ 2

○ 3 - 4

○ 5 - 7

○ 8 - 9

○ 10 - 12



Source: UDH, UTAH AGRC, USGS

Date: 8/13/2019

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N

CHAP Sunset Review

Applications
190 Approved
+26 Did not qualify



Ari and Presley

Specifics

- 11 families had 2 or more children with hearing loss that received assistance from CHAP
- 45.5% have a comorbid condition





Various Etiologies

- Absent cochlear nerve
- Auditory Neuropathy Spectrum Disorder
- Atresia/Microtia
- Cytomegalovirus
- Connexin 26
- Family History
- Head Trauma



Jude

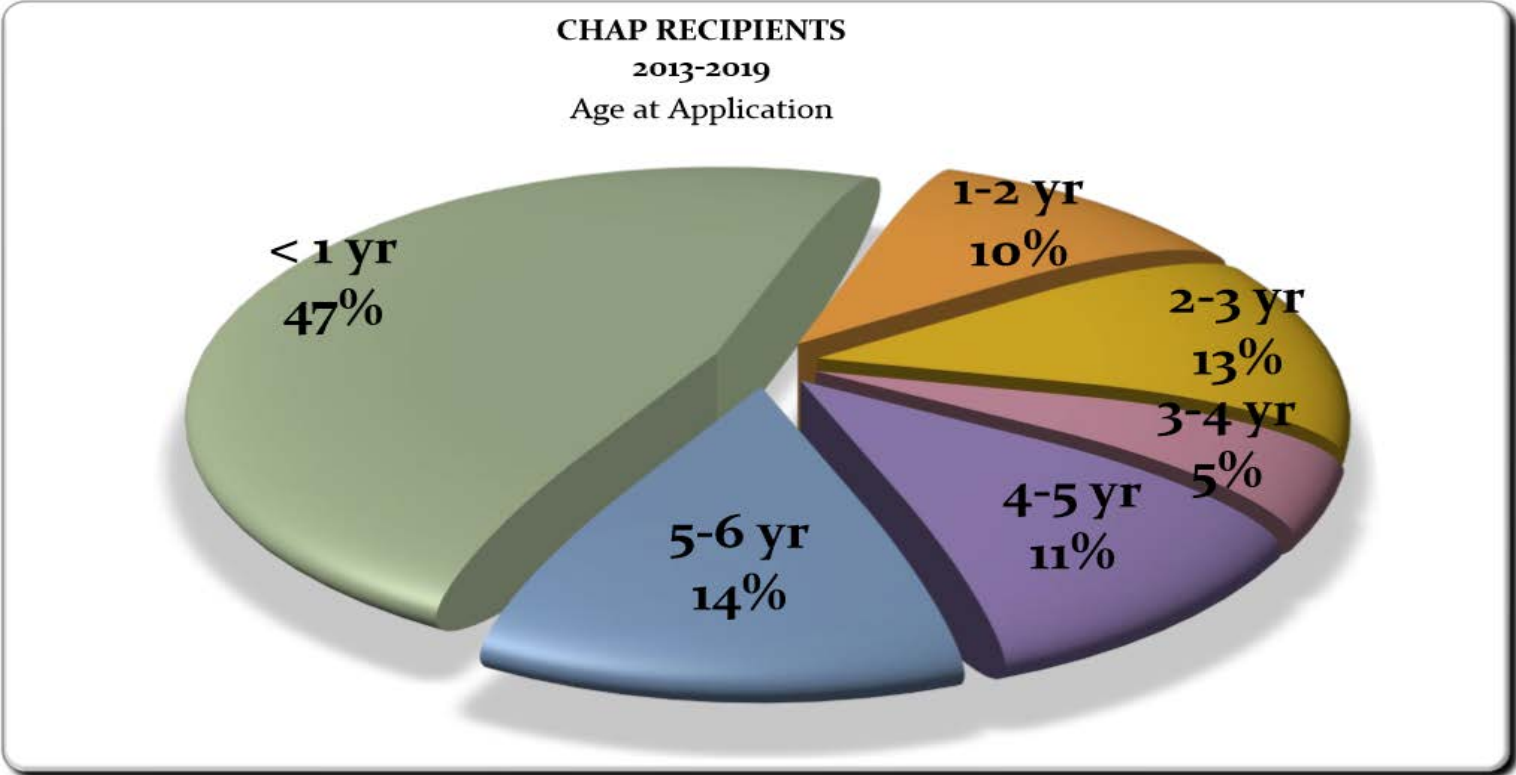
- Enlarged Vestibular Aqueduct
- Medication/Radiation Chemotherapy
- Meningitis
- Metabolic
- NICU stay
- Syndromic
- Unknown

CHAP Sunset Review

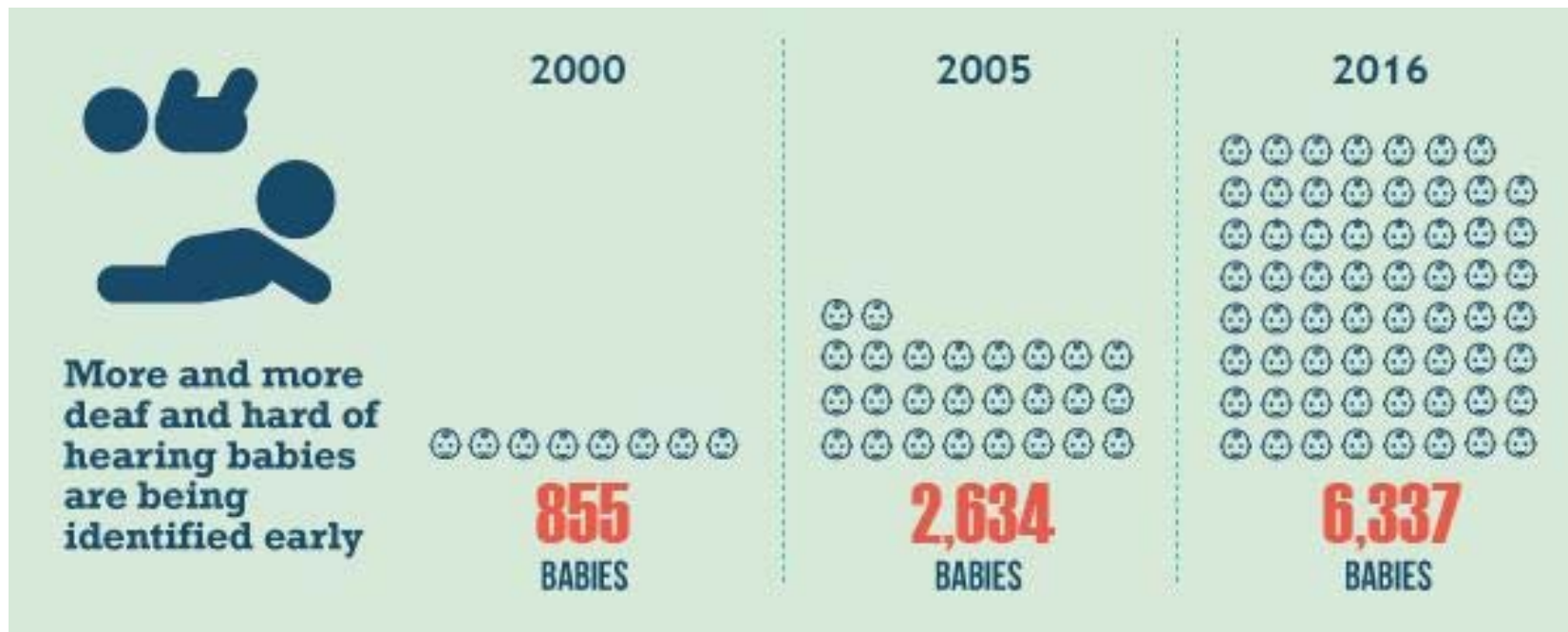


Keaton

Application Age:
88 children under 1 yr
54 children between 1 and 4 yrs
48 children between 4 and 6 yrs

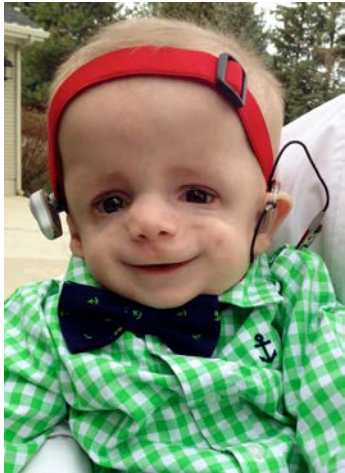


CHAP Sunset Review



- With the increasing identification of Deaf/Hard of Hearing babies in Utah, Utah ENT physicians, audiologists, Early Intervention providers, and parents have been very responsive and excited by the services CHAP offers. Even more exciting is that these groups have pulled together and increased collaboration to fit babies as early as possible.

CHAP Sunset Review



“My son’s speech has made 100% improvement...”

“She does so much better in school and in social situations. We are seeing her personality start to really blossom...”

Zachary

“My son had liver cancer as an infant and he is now in main stream kindergarten loving every minute and while he still needs some speech therapy it is nowhere near what would have been needed had hearing aids been delayed...”

“A direct result of having had our children fitted for hearing aids so young (at 2 months old and 3 months old) they have not had any delayed speech.”



Program Benefits of Early Amplification

- The greater the potential for typical speech and language development, social skills, academic achievement, and future vocational skills
- The greater the savings associated with special education costs (approximately \$112,000 for 12 years of services)
- The greater the savings for significant costs associated with the potential need for long term social and vocational services



Pearl

THANK YOU!



We are very grateful to the members of the legislature to have this program available and respectfully request that it be continued.

Jayden

THANK YOU!



health.utah.gov/CHAP

CHAP Audiology Coordinator
Jenny Pedersen, Au.D., G&C
801-584-8202
jpedersen@utah.gov

EHDI/CHAP Program Manager
Stephanie McVicar, Au.D., C&C
801-584-8215
smcvicar@utah.gov

EHDI Epidemiologist II:
Natasha Lamens, MPH
801-584-8290
nlamens@utah.gov



Emily