



Cochlear Implant Education Center

Cochlear Implants and Sign Language: Building Foundations for Effective Educational Practices

Welcome and Overview



LAURENT CLERC
NATIONAL DEAF EDUCATION CENTER



Welcome and Overview


The printing of this publication was supported by federal funding. This publication shall not imply approval or acceptance by the U.S. Department of Education of the findings, conclusions, or recommendations herein. Gallaudet University is an equal opportunity employer/educational institution, and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, hearing status, disability, covered veteran status, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, source of income, place of business or residence, pregnancy, childbirth, or any other unlawful basis.

Welcome and Overview

Ed Bosso, Vice President, Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center

Ed Bosso, vice president of the Clerc Center and president of the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and programs for the Deaf (CEASD), emphasized that there is no single approach that is right for all children with hearing loss. However, in order to provide children with the most favorable outcomes, it is critical that all the approaches being considered for use provide for early access to language, normal language acquisition, and cognitive development. He stressed the necessity of:

- Challenging personal assumptions, beliefs and values and encouraging open dialogue,
- Evaluating approaches and strategies that view children with cochlear implants first as children and second as children who are using the technology of a cochlear implant, and
- Establishing collaborative networks and partnerships to facilitate identification and sharing of strategies and practices.



The Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center is comprised of two federally mandated demonstration schools for students from birth through age 21 who are deaf. Located on the campus of Gallaudet University, these schools work in collaboration with a national network of exemplary programs and professionals to identify, research, develop, evaluate, and disseminate innovative curricula, materials, educational strategies, and technologies for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Clerc Center also provides training and technical assistance to families and programs throughout the United States, and serves as a model individualized educational program, working in close partnership with its students and their families.

Working for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children Throughout the United States



LAURENT CLERC
NATIONAL DEAF EDUCATION CENTER

