

How to get your partner on board with your child's language goals

Alaine: [00:00:00] Hey, welcome to Raising Deaf Kids. Are you tired of spending your precious time after the kids go to bed googling and scrolling Instagram for answers like, how do I learn sign language? Do you feel overwhelmed by all of the decisions that you have to constantly make for your child? Hey, I'm Elaine. I'm a mom of three littles, two of whom are deaf.

I remember what it felt like to learn that my child was deaf for the first time. It felt like the rug got torn out from under my feet and I was falling without a net in sight. How did I get through those crazy early years of learning new ways of life without completely going insane? By creating solid foundations for my child of communication strategies, academic skills, and routines at home.

And I can't wait to share it all with you. Together, we're going to build a strong foundation that [00:01:00] will support your child and help them thrive. So put down that to do list, close out that ASL app for now, and let's get started.

Did you know that I have a free community of parents just like you? Busy parents who want to parent their child with more confidence while still getting all of the things done in the house each day. In our community, we share strategies to help our kids learn language faster, a no sweat approach to the IEP, and we lean on each other for support and encouragement in this up and down journey of hearing loss with your kids.

If you haven't found your community yet, then welcome home. Come join us at [facebook.com slash group slash raising deaf kids](https://www.facebook.com/group/raisingdeafkids).

Hello everyone. Welcome to the live today. How is everybody doing today? I hope everyone is doing well. I cannot wait to talk to you about how to [00:02:00] get your partner or your husband on board with communication and language goals with your child. I think it's going to be super fun, and a really important piece having everybody on board in your family is super important I know in our family it's like all hands on deck all the time, and I'm sure that's the case with you too so getting your partner slash husband on board with helping with the language goals, helping with the communication is so important to your kids.

Because everybody really needs to be on the same page. It really doesn't help your child who's trying to learn language, and this really goes for all of your children, but your kids who are trying to learn language, doesn't really help if different people are doing different things. We really need to concentrate and have the whole family, even older kids, on board with, this is how we do it, this is the method that we do it by, so that we can get the best language and communication outcomes.

If you are here with us live, [00:03:00] what I want to start out with is asking you a quick question, and you can just put the answer in the chat. And if you are watching this on the replay, hit hashtag replay. And when you answer the question, so I'll know that you're here on the replay. Alright, but my question to you, that I'd love for you to answer while I'm getting started, is What are your current challenges to getting your partner or husband on board with communication and language goals for your deaf and hard of hearing child?

What are the challenges that you are coming across? Put the answer in the chat while I'm talking, and if you're watching this on the replay, hit hashtag replay so I know that you're watching on the replay. And I just want to throw out there at the beginning, this is a This will not be a condemnation towards your partner or husband.

Okay, I'm not about that. This group is not about [00:04:00] that. I understand that everyone is literally doing the best that they can. And everyone is working as hard as they can. You might be staying at home and your partner may be working and shouldering the full responsibility of, the The money in the household like my husband does or you may be both working is that adds another layer where everybody has to work or chooses to work in the house.

So I understand everybody's busy. Everybody in your house is busy. Everybody's trying to work. Everyone's trying to live. Everyone's trying to do with the kids and you're doing the best that you can. And your partner slash husband is also doing the best that they can. Okay, so this is not a condemnation against anybody at all.

I want to help you start finding solutions to communicate better about language and communication skills for your deaf and hard of hearing child. I [00:05:00] want to bring us together and overcome these challenges that you're facing, but I am in no way bashing anybody and I'm going in with the most empathy for you guys because we're doing it too.

In our house that everyone in your house is doing the best that you, that they can, and the partner or husband that you're talking about today may be the provider of your house, and that's certainly a very important role that they play, and, I don't take that for granted in your house, and so we are gonna start working on how to start communicating what you need to your partner and how to get everybody on board so that The language and communication skills can be the same in the home, which will ultimately help your child.

Okay. What I want to say first, now that we got that out of the way. When we're talking about getting your partner or husband on board for the communication goals in your home, or the language goals in your home for [00:06:00] your deaf and hard of hearing kid, the first thing that I want you to do, is to get curious.

I want you to get curious and start asking questions. Okay, and the questions that I want you to ask your partner or husband are things like What is your biggest challenge to helping with this like communication or language goal? What is your biggest challenge? Do you want to help out with this goal? Is there a way that I can help you be more involved in this goal?

Is there something that I can tell you, something that I can give you that will help you be more involved? And I also want you to voice why you want them to be more involved. Because some people some husbands or partners think that they are doing everything that they need to be doing. And so sometimes there [00:07:00] is A barrier such as they work late and you are home with the kids all day.

You are the primary communicator with your kids most of the day. And they get home late, they don't have a lot of time to see the kids before they go to bed during the weekday. And so it may be like a time issue. It may also be that there's a perception issue. They might think that they are doing what they need to do.

And you think that they're not. And so we have a disconnect in the perception of what everybody should be doing. So that's why I want you to get curious. This is not an argument. Okay? I want this to be clear. This is a discussion where you're asking questions and the point of you asking the questions is to see what their biggest challenge is in being more involved in the communication and language goals and how you can help them.

be more involved. What do they need from you? And then you also [00:08:00] communicating what you need, okay, for them to be more involved and why you think it's important for them to be more involved in this. Okay? So get

curious. That's number one. And figure out what is the underlying challenge to begin with.

Number two is make a plan. Okay? So I want you to figure out the underlying challenges you guys have communicated, why this is important to you, why this is important to them. I want you to make a plan. Okay, so what plan works for you? What communication are you going to use in your home? Globally in your home.

How are you going to put that into place? What resources are you going to use? Make a plan that everyone can agree on. Who is going to practice with your child at what time in the day? Okay, so I want you to make an overall plan, a communication and language plan. for your family that inherently includes the whole family in the plan so [00:09:00] that it works for everybody.

And then number three, I want you to communicate that plan. So that we have the plan, we have to put it somewhere where it's not just in our heads. Because if it's in our heads, everybody's going to forget the plan. So you need to have a central place or somewhere that you are communicating What is our communication and language goals?

How does everybody know what we're working on each week? For example, speech therapy, how does everybody know what speech therapy goals we're working on each week? And how does everybody know how to incorporate that into the house? Because as we said, it's very important for everybody in your home to be on the same page with the communication and language goals so that we don't confuse our deaf and hard of hearing kids.

who are already potentially a little bit behind in learning those. To be able to help them learn as fast as possible, we need to be consistent in doing the [00:10:00] same thing, pretty much the same way, with everyone in the hall. Okay? To sum it up, I want you to get curious. Ask the questions about what challenges your partner or husband is coming across, coming up against, to not be able to help you.

I want you guys to, together, come up with a communication and language plan that works for the family. And then I want you guys to figure out how to communicate that plan each week, each month, whatever you want to do, so that everybody knows the plan. And that's it. And I think these three things will get you a long way in helping your husband or your partner be more comfortable with Working on those communication goals, and working on those speech therapy goals.

Because honestly, you may find that they just don't know what to do. Because you may be the primary communicator in the home. You may be the one who is primarily with your child all day long. And [00:11:00] so you know what you're doing because you know the schedule, and then someone else coming in doesn't always know because maybe you haven't communicated that well to them.

Okay? And so we need both parties working together to communicate this and this is so important and I have found this to be very important in my household too when we're raising two deaf and hard of hearing kids, one hearing little girl there are different communication and language plans in our house for every single person in our house and we need to make sure that everybody is learning language, is communicating effectively.

So my husband and I constantly talk about this, talk about our plan, who's gonna do what, who's gonna practice what, at what time, right? We come up with a plan, and we talk all the time, and we communicate about it weekly, monthly, whatever is going on in our house. And I feel so, like this is so important to help you, because this [00:12:00] alone, just getting everybody on the same page, just like I said, this Transcripts can also include the older kids in your family as well.

And getting everybody on the same page with this communication language is just going to help your child thrive even more than they probably already are. It's, I just feel this is so important to get everybody on the same page that I wanted to talk to you about this today. What I want to know is do you want help with overcoming Some of the challenges that you have with getting your partner or husband on board with communication and language plans.

And, do you want help creating a plan? So if you want help doing this, go ahead and put help in the chat. Even if you are watching the replay, you can still put help in the chat. And I will give you more information about how I can come in and help you guys one on one as a family. And we [00:13:00] can go through the different challenges that you might have and we can come up with a plan and come up with a way to communicate and go through those challenges together and come up with a really great way for you guys to communicate in your home and I just know that you're going to see your kids thrive so much when you do this and when everybody is on the same page.

If you are looking for more individualized help in this area, if you want help. Getting your husband or partner on board with the communication and language in your home and you want to feel relieved because everybody is on the same

page and you want to take some stress off of your plate and stress off of your shoulders, then put help in the chat and I will come help you.

And of course if you have any other questions, you know where to find me. Feel free to write in the comments and then just tag me in it or feel free to [00:14:00] send me a message or make a post in our group and I'd be happy to answer any questions that you have about this. Thank you guys for joining me today.

I will see you in a couple weeks for our next live. Bye!

Hey, I hope this episode today bless you big time. If so, would you take 30 seconds and leave a quick review for the show on Apple podcasts? It lights me up to know that this podcast is helping you. And leaving a review helps other parents to find this podcast, too. If you have a friend who needs to hear this podcast episode today, be a pal and text it or share it with them.

Now go check off the rest of your to do list and I'll meet you here for podcast episodes to support your whole family. In language learning and parenting your deaf and hard of hearing child with confidence. Adios!