

Title: Extending Utah's Telehealth Network to Include Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Services: A Feasibility Study (An Evaluation, Education (training), and Public Service Project)

Funding Agency: Utah State University (Community/University Research Initiative-Mineral Lease)

Timeline: July 1, 2001, one year with no cost extension

### Outcomes and Objectives

The focus of the proposed project is to use the infrastructure and expertise of the Utah Telehealth Network to implement and evaluate the value of telemedicine in providing and improving services for infants identified with hearing loss and their families. The services that will be provided include follow-up consultations, training and education of service providers, and DOH coordination activities. The project will also serve to expand the locations in which telehealth technology is available to include remote sites in Southeastern Utah.

Using the Utah Telehealth Network and other technology, the project will implement activities and evaluate procedures to:

- train health-care personnel to conduct hearing screenings for newborn infants and manage the screening data.
- provide inservice training to audiologists throughout the state in diagnosing hearing status of infants.
- conduct regional quarterly meetings and training with hospital-based screening program staff.
- provide multi-disciplinary consultation to parents of children diagnosed with sensorineural hearing loss.