

Rima Lahoud M.E.D, CED

Throughout my professional career, I have demonstrated a steadfast commitment to the education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing children and their families. I have created and implemented listening and language development lessons for infants and young children, addressing their needs in both Arabic and English. My work extended to elementary students within the Regional Day School Program for the Deaf (RDSPD), where I provided sessions focused on phonological awareness, language development, grammar, spelling, listening comprehension, and auditory memory, ensuring that these students received the comprehensive support they needed. I also provided invaluable mentorship to families, guiding them through the complexities of auditory brain development, listening, and language acquisition to prepare their children for mainstream education. In Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Deaf education classes, I designed targeted lessons in language development, listening, phonological awareness, and vocabulary. My dedication to student progress is further reflected in my close monitoring of students' growth and progress through assessments every step of the way.

My active participation in Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) meetings ensured that students' progress was communicated effectively, allowing me to address concerns and mentor new teachers. I also mentored student teachers and Listening and Spoken Language teachers, collaborating with their professors to ensure the highest standards of education. My collaboration extended beyond the classroom as I worked closely with speech therapists, audiologists, and general education teachers to create a holistic learning environment. I gained comprehensive familiarity with the general education curriculum and expectations, ensuring that my students could seamlessly integrate into mainstream settings. My commitment to professional growth led me to actively participate in teacher development classes and deliver presentations on hearing loss, listening, language development, and self-advocacy. I shared my expertise at various forums, including Region 11, the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf (AGBell), and the Statewide Convention of the Deaf. My leadership was recognized within Cyfair ISD, where I served on the Assessment Team, Administrative Team, and Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) team, culminating in the honor of receiving the Teacher of the Year Award at Birkes Elementary. Fluent in English, Arabic, and French, I have leveraged my multilingual abilities to reach a diverse range of students and families, ensuring that language is never a barrier to education.