

2014 Public Annual Report



ABOUT US

The Hanen Centre is a not-for-profit charitable organization that was founded in Toronto, Canada in 1975. Since that time, we've expanded our reach around the globe, striving to fulfil our mission in as many places as possible.

Our mission is to provide parents, caregivers, early childhood educators, early intervention professionals and speech-language pathologists with the knowledge and training they need to help young children develop the best possible language, social and literacy skills. This includes children with or at risk of language delays and those with developmental challenges such as Autism Spectrum Disorder.

How we fulfil our mission:

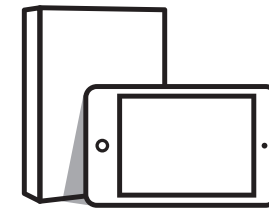
- We create evidence-based programs in which groups of parents and other caregivers learn how to promote children's language development during everyday activities
- We train speech-language pathologists/therapists to lead Hanen Programs® around the world
- We train speech-language pathologists/therapists and early childhood interventionists to use the Hanen approach in their day to day work with families
- We train early childhood educators to create enriched, responsive language learning environments for all children, including those with identified language delays
- We develop outstanding, user-friendly materials for parents and professionals that break down the latest research into practical, usable strategies
- We participate in leading-edge research in our field to ensure that our programs are evidence-based

All profits re-invested

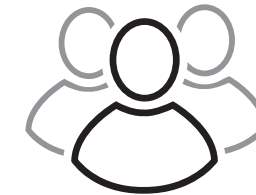
All profits from the sale of Hanen resources and trainings are re-invested in program and resource development and ongoing research. This ensures that we can continue to offer the highest quality support and up-to-date resources to the parents and professionals who make the biggest difference in young children's lives.

HANEN ACTIVITIES IN 2014

2014 was a busy year for The Hanen Centre as we continued to grow in three important ways:



Adding new resources and training options for parents and professionals



Reaching out to new groups of professionals who support young children's development



Increasing the accessibility of our trainings and resources to parents and professionals around the world

Hanen offers a variety of professional development workshops for speech-language pathologists and early childhood professionals who work with young children and their families. These trainings provide an evidence-based, easy-to-use framework for supporting and coaching parents and educators to effectively promote early social, language and literacy skills.

Workshops Around the World

In 2014, 1,368 professionals became Hanen certified by taking one of three entry-level Hanen workshops: [It Takes Two to Talk®](#), [More Than Words®](#) and [Learning Language and Loving It™](#). Once certified, these professionals joined the growing community of Hanen Members around the world and received special [member benefits](#).

Hanen workshops took place in a greater number of countries in 2014 than any previous year. A total of 153 certification workshops were offered in 21 countries.

Hanen also offers three Advanced Workshops to existing Hanen members looking for more professional development: [TalkAbility™](#), [Target Word™](#) and [ABC and Beyond™](#). In 2014, 26 Advanced Workshops were offered to 350 Hanen members around the world.



1,368

Professionals

153

Workshops

21

Countries

Expansion of our New Training for Early Interventionists

In 2014, *SPARK Communication™* was re-branded and revised to include the most recent research on coaching families – a key element of the training. *SPARK* offerings

grew significantly in 2014, expanding beyond North America to Scotland, Denmark and Australia, and training a total 152 early intervention providers.

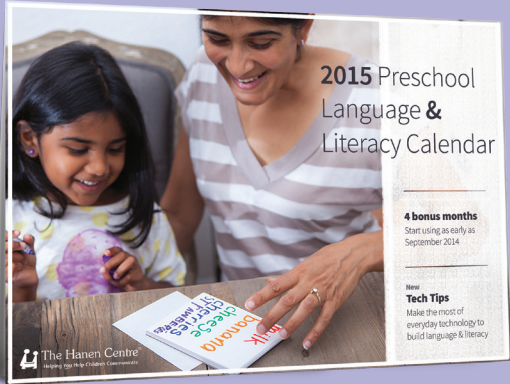
SPARK Communication™: Coaching Parents to Use Hanen Strategies is a new Hanen training designed specifically for early intervention professionals who work with young children with language delays and their families. Participants learn research-based responsive interaction strategies that are known to accelerate children’s early language development, and they learn how to coach parents to apply these strategies during everyday interactions with their child.


Australia
86 participants


Scotland
20 participants

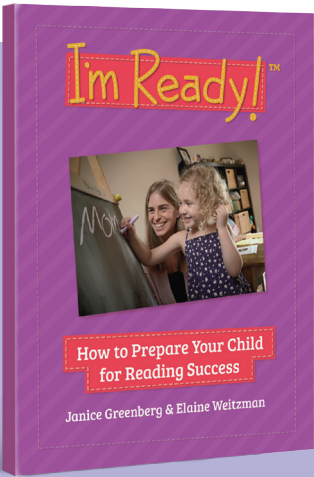

Denmark
20 participants

New Resources



2015 Preschool Language and Literacy Calendar

This resource continues Hanen’s annual tradition of creating a calendar full of fun, simple tips to build the language and literacy skills that set young children on the path to success.



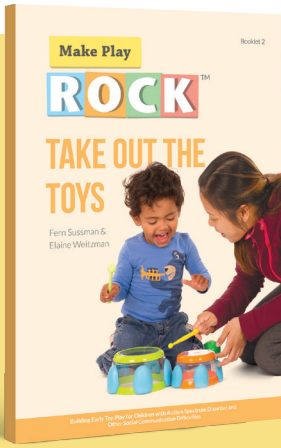
I'm Ready!™ How to Prepare Your Child for Reading Success

This guidebook provides parents with easy-to-use interaction strategies for building the early literacy skills that prepare their child for success in school.



Plan for People Play (Booklet 1 in the Make Play R.O.C.K.™ series)

This booklet shows parents of children with autism how they can build their child’s interaction and play skills during people-focused games.



Take Out the Toys (Booklet 2 in the Make Play R.O.C.K.™ series)

This booklet focuses on building the early toy play skills that are linked to the development of a variety of abilities, including language skills, joint attention skills and advanced play skills.

Hanen resources are designed specifically for the most important people in a child’s life – their parents, caregivers and educators – to help them build communication naturally throughout the day. All Hanen resources are based on current research in early childhood language development and intervention, and are designed to be immediately applicable to real-life situations.

[View the full Hanen catalogue](#)

New Online Training Sessions

[Hanan e-Seminars](#) are convenient online training sessions for professionals who work with young children and their families. These 2-hour sessions provide practical, research-based strategies for supporting the language and literacy development of young children and for working with families to help them implement these strategies with their child.

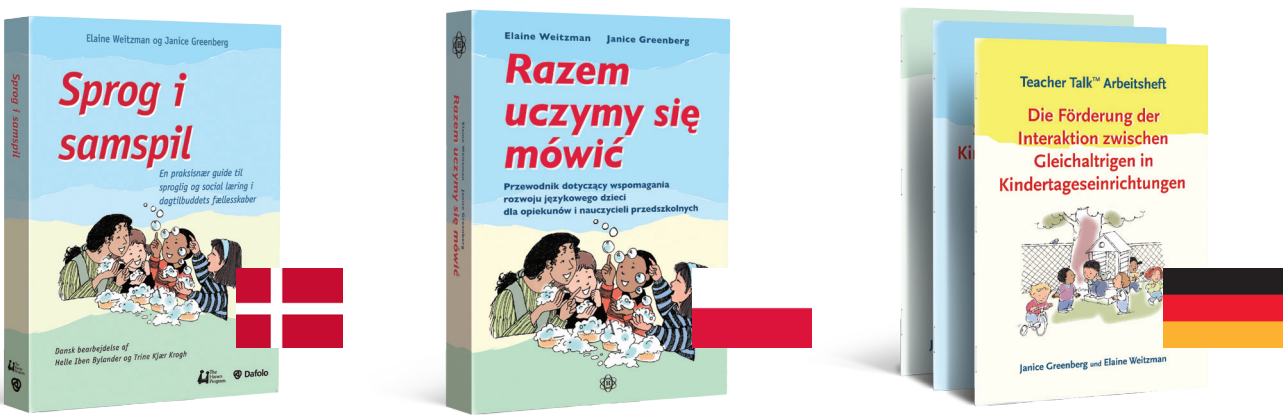
In 2014, we added 4 new e-Seminar topics:

Sharing Sensitive News with Parents
Helping Parents Use Routines to Promote Young Children’s Interaction and Language Skills
Helping Parents of Late Talkers Use Gestures to Support Expressive Language Development
Teaching Tuning In: Practical Strategies to Promote Theory of Mind for Verbal Children on the Autism Spectrum

Translations of our resources

To make Hanan resources as accessible as possible to families and professionals around the world, we collaborate with international publishers to translate our guidebooks and other program materials. Hanan resources have been translated into a variety of languages, including Spanish, French, Dutch, Danish, Polish and German.

In 2014, the following translations were made available:



Danish translation of the [Learning Language and Loving It](#) guidebook

Polish translation of the [Learning Language and Loving It](#) guidebook

German translation of the [Teacher Talk™ workbooks](#)

Conference Attendance and Presentations

To increase awareness of the Hanan approach, The Hanan Centre attends and presents at a variety of professional conferences each year.

North Carolina Speech Hearing Language Association (March 2014)	Presentation by Toby Stephan, Hanan US Representative and Instructor: <i>Getting Parents Involved in Language Intervention: Collaborative Goal Planning</i>
California Speech Hearing Association (March 2014)	Presentation by Cindy Conklin, It Takes Two to Talk Program Director: <i>Helping Parents Use Routines to Foster Children’s Social-Conversational and Language Skills</i>
New York State Speech-Hearing-Language Association (April 2014)	Presentation by Toby Stephan, Hanan US Representative and Instructor: <i>Getting Parents Involved in Language Intervention: Collaborative Goal Planning</i>
New Jersey State Conference (May 2014)	Presentation by Cindy Conklin, It Takes Two to Talk Program Director: <i>Helping Parents Use Routines to Foster Children’s Social-Conversational Skills</i>
Speech Pathology Australia National Conference (May 2014)	Exhibitor
National Association for the Education of Young Children Professional Development Institute (NAEYC PDI) (June 2014)	Exhibitor
Early Childhood Australia Conference (September 2014)	Exhibitor

Division for Early Childhood
(October 2014)

Exhibitor

Council for Exceptional Children
(November 2014)

Presentation by Tamara Stein, Clinical
Program Assistant: *Creating Inclusive
Interactive Language-Learning Environments in
Early Childhood Settings*

American Speech-Language-Hearing
Association Convention (November 2014)

Presentations by:
Cindy Conklin, *It Takes Two to Talk* Program
Director: *Taking Parent Coaching to the Next
Level – Helping Parents Make Behavioral Changes
That Stick!*
Toby Stephan, Hanen US Representative
and Instructor: *Getting Parents Involved in
Early Language Intervention: Collaborative Goal
Planning*

Poster presentation:
Janice Greenberg, Director of Early Childhood
Services: *Training Teachers to Meet Kindergarten
Learning Expectations Through
the Power of Conversation*

Panel:
Cindy Earl, *Target Word* Program Director:
Raising Public Awareness of Language Disorders

Academic Presentations

As part of its student outreach program, Hanen offers complimentary presentations to universities across North America and Australia. Offered by Hanen instructors, these presentations introduce students and faculty to the Hanen approach and discuss the research behind it.

In 2014, Hanen Instructors offered 38
university presentations to a total of 1,011
students.

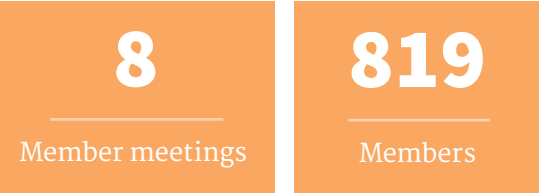


Expansion of Member Benefits

In 2014, we rolled out a new member benefit; Online Member Meetings. These interactive meetings:

- connect our members with Hanen Program Directors to offer extra clinical support and valuable information
- connect our members with each other so they can share case studies and discuss how they’re applying Hanen content in their day-to-day work with families

When professionals attend a Hanen Certification Workshop, they receive a one-year renewable [Hanen membership](#), entitling them to exclusive benefits, such as a member newsletter with frequent research updates, significant discounts on online trainings, and ongoing clinical support.



8 Online Member Meetings were offered in 2014 to a total of 819 members.

New research

The Hanen Centre participates in leading-edge research in our field to ensure that our programs are evidence-based.

In 2014, an important study was concluded on [ABC and Beyond™ – The Hanen Program® for Building Emergent Literacy in Early Childhood Settings](#).

The aim of the study: To assess the value of a key element of the ABC and Beyond Program: video-feedback coaching.

Who conducted it: Dr. Luigi Girolametto, Professor at University of Toronto’s

Department of Speech Pathology, along with co-investigators, Janice Greenberg, Hanen’s Director of Early Childhood Education Services, Elaine Weitzman, Hanen’s Executive Director, and other researchers from the University of Toronto.

What it involved: One group of early childhood educators received the traditional ABC and Beyond program that includes group training sessions and individualized

video-feedback sessions while the other group received only the group training sessions and no video-feedback sessions.

What it showed: Results revealed that the educators in the coached group gained additional skills compared to those who received only group training sessions. They encouraged longer conversations

with the children, used specific skills (e.g. vocabulary teaching) at a higher frequency, and were better able to fine-tune strategies to engage a larger number of children in shared reading conversations. Children taught by the coached group used longer, more complex sentences than the comparison group.

Publications

In 2014, The Hanen Centre contributed to the following research publications:

Hipfner-Boucher, K., Milburn, T., Weitzman, E., Greenberg, J., Pelletier, J. & Girolametto, L. (2014). Relationships between preschoolers’ oral language and phonological awareness. *First Language*, 34, 178–197.

Hipfner-Boucher, K., Milburn, T., Weitzman, E., Greenberg, J., Pelletier, J. & Girolametto, L. (2014). International Journal of Bilingualism, Online <http://ijb.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/06/02/1367006914534330>.

Nanasivayam, A., Hipfner-Boucher, K., Milburn, T., Weitzman, E., Greenberg, J., Pelletier, J. & Girolametto, L. (2014). Effects of coaching on educators’ vocabulary-teaching strategies during shared reading. *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, Early Online: 1–11.

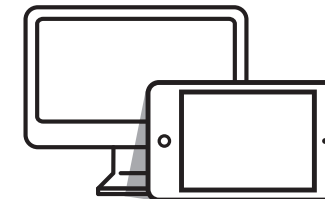
Milburn, T. F., Girolametto, L., Weitzman, E., & Greenberg, J. (2014). Enhancing preschool educators’ ability to facilitate conversations during shared book reading. *Journal of Early Childhood Literacy*, 14(1), 105–140.

LOOKING FORWARD

Following a successful 2014 year, we're looking forward to a number of new projects and developments, including:



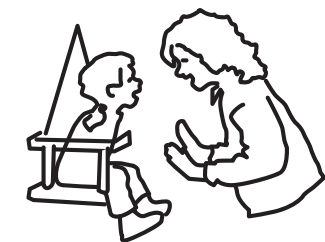
Booklet 3 in the [*Make Play R.O.C.K.TM* booklet series](#) – Put Pretending into Your Child's Play offers practical strategies for building more advanced pretend play skills in children with autism.



Online tutorials – We're excited to launch a series of interactive online learning sessions for parents and educators who work with young children. With the goal of providing easy access to key information and strategies, these tutorials may be used as a supplement or as an alternative to the guidebooks to help parents and educators promote children's communication during everyday interactions and conversations.



***More Than Words* program update** – In 2014, the *More Than Words* program was revised to include the most recent research on play and its relationship to communication in young children with autism. The updated program is being piloted throughout 2015 and will be made available to *More Than Words*-certified speech-language pathologists in 2016.



***Target Word* program update** – In response to new research on the importance of gesture use in building vocabulary in Late Takers, we are revising the *Target Word* Program and accompanying materials. The updated program will be made available in late 2015.

Stay updated on Hanen developments at
www.hanen.org



The Hanen Centre is a Registered Charitable Organization (#11895 2357 RR0001)

1075 Bay Street Suite #515 Toronto ON, M5S 2B1

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