



Arkansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association

SOUND EXPRESSIONS

Vol. 19, Issue 1



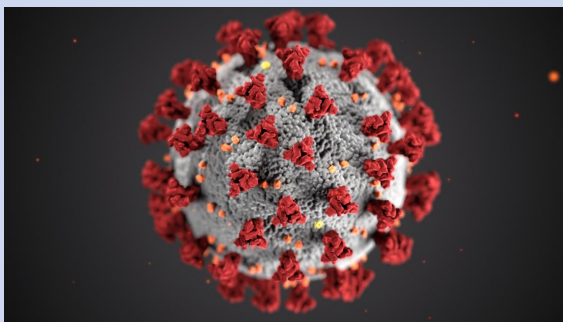
President's Message

Rachel Glade, PhD, CCC-SLP, LSLS Cert. AVT

Hello Awesome Awe-Inspiring ArkSHA Members!

We are eager to share all the wonderful things ArkSHA has been working on during the past few months. We have continued to share content and make connections on our social media outlets. Our Facebook page is reaching more than ever before with almost 750 followers! We published ArkSHA's Advocacy Priorities in January and have been adding content to the ArkSHA website, including "members only" sections with access to specialized content and our newly designed ArkSHA website. [READ MORE]

Community in Crisis



ArkSHA is committed to serving you and the individuals with communication disorders we serve across this state and beyond. As we have all been impacted by COVID-19, we have also seen our communities of professions band together to advocate, to support, to

encourage and to empower. One might argue that though our physical distance has been great, our social connection within our organization and professions may have never been better. Please know that your ArkSHA Board and State Advocates have been volunteering even more time than usual this past month to provide updates to membership, to attend advocacy meetings, and to provide support. Please see our homepage at www.arksha.org for a list of reputable sources with consistent updates. We provided three resource letters to members in March ((1.) School-Based Services (2.) Medicare Providers (3.) Medicaid Providers). If you missed your letters,

please email arksha@arksha.org and we would be happy to resend the information. We will continue to provide updates on our website and social media platforms. Fred Rogers once said, "When I was a boy and I would see scary things on the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'" Thank you for being part of the group of helpers. Thank you for helping our organization to help others. It is our mission to continue in these efforts.

2020 ArkSHA Board of Directors

President
Rachel Glade
University of Arkansas

President-Elect
Aleecia Starkey
Retired

Treasurer
Kelli Watts
Baptist Health Rehab

Secretary
Shayla McCullough
Pediatrics Plus

Vice President for CE
Aletha Cook
Springdale Schools

Vice President-Elect for CE
Miriam Stafford
AR Children's Hospital
NWA

VP for Speech Pathology
Shelly Keller
Miracle Kids Success
Academy

VP for Audiology & Hearing
Donna Smiley
EARS Program, AR
Children's Hospital

Immediate Past President
LeeAnn Griffith
Little Rock School
District

Connect with ArkSHA on Social Media!



Be sure to use #ArkSHA when connecting with us!

Check out our website, www.arksha.org, where we will continue to make updates.

2020 Deadlines

1 hour and 2 hour presentation proposals will be accepted for professionals through April 30. All details required for submission can be found **online**.

Students may also submit proposals for 15 minute and 30 minute presentations.

All selected proposals will present

APPLY AT WWW.ARKSHA.ORG

Call for Papers

Deadline April 30

PRESENT FRIDAY AT
THE ARKSHA CONVENTION

on Friday, October 16, 2020.

Spotlight a colleague/mentor/professional by nominating them!

Who have you helped to make significant gains in therapy? Nominate an individual that has inspired you as a professional!



Deadline July 15

Honors & Awards Nominations

submit nomination online at www.arksha.org or email arksha@arksha.org



Deadline July 15

Poster Ambassador

submit nomination online at www.arksha.org or email arksha@arksha.org



Getting to know ArkSHA's SEAL, STAR, and StAMP

State Education
Advocacy Leaders
(SEALs)

Lauren Rogers
Conway Public Schools

The SEALs network charge is to enhance and perpetuate the advocacy, leadership, and clinical

State Advocates for
Reimbursements
(STARs)

Cheri Stevenson
Access Schools

The State Advocates for Reimbursement (STARs) are ASHA-member audiologists and speech-language

State Advocates for
Medicare Policy
(StAMP)

Portia Carr
UAMS

ASHA's State Advocates for Medicare Policy (StAMP) enhances and perpetuates the

management skills of school-based ASHA members at the state and local levels to influence administrative and public policy decisions that affect the delivery of speech-language pathology and audiology services in school settings.

pathologists who advocate locally with legislators, state insurance commissioners, health plans, unions, and employers on matters related to private health plan reimbursement.

advocacy, leadership, and communication of ASHA members at the state level to influence administrative and public policy decisions that impact the Medicare coverage, reimbursement, and delivery of speech-language pathology services and audiology services.

Now Open

Exhibitor & Sponsor Registration

Thank you to those that have already signed up!

- DuBard School for Language Disorders*
- Miracle Kids Success Academy*
- The Center for Exceptional Families
- The Dysphagia Outreach Project

**2020 Convention Sponsors*

2020 Convention Sneak Peek Sharpen Your Skills October 14-16

Confirmed topics for 2020 will include:

- Autism
- Adult swallowing and language disorders
- Aural rehabilitation
- AAC intervention and best practice
- Articulation intervention (especially for the /r/ sound)
- Supervision
- Ethics and Telepractice

Advocating for Better Hearing Health Care

~ Donna Fisher Smiley, Ph.D., CCC-A
ArkSHA VP for Audiology

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), the

American Academy of Audiology (AAA), and the Academy of Doctors of Audiology (ADA) have been working together to improve Medicare beneficiaries' access to appropriate diagnostic and treatment services provided by audiologists. Specifically, these organizations have been advocating for:

- Audiologists to be able to provide (and be reimbursed for) both diagnostic and treatment services (NOTE: Currently, audiologists cannot be reimbursed by Medicare for any treatment services, such as vestibular rehabilitation or aural rehabilitation, even though it is within the scope of practice).
- Reclassification of audiologists as "practitioners" which would allow audiologists the autonomy to make clinical recommendations and practice the full scope of practice (as allowed by state licensure)
- Provide Medicare recipients with direct access to audiology services eliminating the need for a physician order

Audiologists and speech-language pathologists can advocate for improved hearing health care for seniors by going to the ASHA Take Action Center and emailing your members of Congress (<https://takeaction.asha.org/asha/AccessstoAudiology?2>).

Want more information about this issue? See these links for the 3 professional organizations:

American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA)
American Academy of Audiology (AAA)
Academy of Doctors of Audiology (ADA)

ArkSHA Charitable Fund

In December of 2019 the ArkSHA board started the 'ArkSHA Charitable Fund' with the Arkansas Community Foundation to provide our members and supporters with a tax-deductible way to support ArkSHA's initiatives. This will allow ArkSHA to provide grant funds for educational/research purposes as requested and the board sees fit.

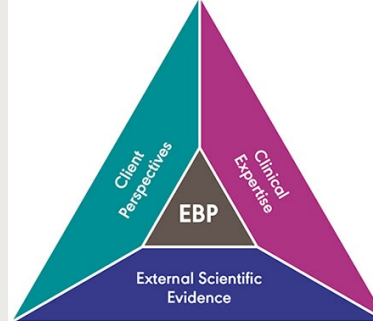
This fund is not going to replace the **Betty Bass Scholarship Fund** at this time. We would still like to encourage members to donate to ArkSHA directly so that we can continue to give out a \$1000 student scholarship each year.



EBP Corner

The Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD)
Evidence Map
~Mariel Solomon, MS, CCC-SLP*

In 2019, ASHA's Office of Multicultural Affairs celebrated their 50th anniversary. Their mission is to address issues related to the cultural and linguistic diversity of clinicians and people with communication disorders and differences. These issues include increasing ASHA members' cultural competence; which ASHA defines as the ability to consider how cultural variables and dimensions of diversity can affect professional and client/caregiver interactions. The anniversary celebration may be over, but the goal to increase ASHA members' cultural competence continues.



To help you through the journey to cultural competence, ASHA's National Center for Evidence-Based Practice in Communication Disorders (N-CEP) created the Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD) Evidence Map. Our world is becoming more diverse and every day we encounter clients and patients from many different communities each with their own set of unique experiences. The information in the CLD Evidence Map is just as diverse as the people we serve with a total of 95 articles including systematic reviews, clinical practice guidelines, and ASHA policy documents.

Those 95 articles encompass a wide range of clinical populations, such as voice, spoken language disorders, hearing loss, and many others. All clinical populations intersect with one or more aspects of cultural and linguistic diversity like multilingualism, race, gender identity, and socioeconomic status. So, if you want more information about which aphasia assessments have valid translations in other languages or want evidence on cultural considerations for use of augmentative and alternative communication, then the CLD Evidence Map can help.

The map also includes articles that address communities that don't immediately come to mind when you think of CLD populations, such as veteran status or individuals living in urban or remote areas. The individuals in these communities can add another layer of unique experiences to consider. But no matter the background or language, you should always consider your client's distinctive experiences when making an evidence-based clinical decision. Visit our new CLD Evidence Map today and tell us what you think at ncep@asha.org.

**Mariel is an SLP and clinical research associate for N-CEP at ASHA's National Office.*

ArkSHA State of Affairs Webinar

We are hosting our first "ArkSHA State of Affairs" webinar in April. We will be providing more information soon for registration but wanted to make sure you could go ahead and save the date. The

SAVE THE DATE!

**ArkSHA
State of Affairs
Webinar**

When: April 23, 2020
Time: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

webinar is open to the public; however, all attendees will need to register to get the presentation link. We will be discussing ArkSHA's efforts to advocate for audiologists and speech-language pathologists, leadership opportunities, advocacy efforts and more. Our 1 hour presentation will be offered for professional development too. We hope you can join us.

Member of the Moment

Professional



Danni Welch, MS, CCC-SLP

Nominated by: Rachel Glade

Danni began as a speech-language pathologist in 2000 within skilled nursing facilities in Springfield Missouri. She gained a wide range of experience with a diverse caseload early in her career as a travel therapist in Southern California. After returning to the Midwest, she has continued to practice cutting edge therapy techniques within the home health, outpatient and private practice settings. In 2017, a higher calling to make a difference in the lives of dysphagia patients led her to FEES (Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing) training and ultimately to opening her own Mobile FEES business, Mobile FEES of NWA, servicing Southwest Missouri and Northwest Arkansas. She recently married and moved to Alma, Arkansas. She tries to keep up with her blended family of 5 children and enjoys reading and learning. She is a certified member of ASHA and a member of Medical SLP Collective.

Student



Tori Morris, University of Arkansas

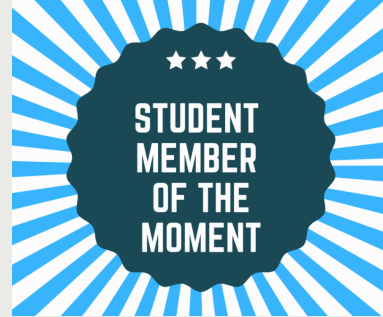
Tori currently serves as the President of NSSLHA at the University of Arkansas and served as the Junior Officer last year. In October 2019 she had the honor of presenting her research " Caregiver Training for Intervention with Autism" at the ArkSHA convention. Tori is a member of National NSSLHA and ArkSHA. She also serves as an EMPOWER mentor and a member of Alpha Chi Omega at the University of Arkansas.



Nominate Today!

Want to nominate a student or professional member of the moment?

Select the image to the side to be taken to the nomination form.



Nominate Today!

Sharpen Your Skills

SAVE THE DATE

ArkSHA Annual Convention

 Embassy Suites Little Rock

 October 14 • 15 • 16 2020



ArkSHA Mission Statement

Connecting, learning and communicating with audiologists, speech-language pathologists, future professionals and consumers through:

- Advocacy
- Education
- Mentoring
- Networking
- Resources

Connect with us

