

# the **KSHA** *Communicator*

a publication of the  
Kentucky Speech-Language-Hearing Association

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## President’s Message

### Building the Future: One Block at Time

**Lacey Back Lane, MS, CCC-SLP**  
*KSHA President*



As a preschool speech therapist collaborating in the classroom one of my favorite centers to utilize was the block center. There was not a single goal that I could not incorporate while building a tall tower or house with my kiddos. The shared experience of constructing a new and exciting structure while learning and growing together was one of my favorite activities. As your KSHA president I feel like I am right back in the block center creating, learning and innovating. Your KSHA leadership team has been diligently building upon our history and reimagining the future for our association by developing a three-year strategic plan. During our work the team discussed what all good builders know, a solid foundation is the key to a strong structure. Luckily, past leaders of our association have truly built an impressive legacy and a solid foundation. Your leaders then identified the building blocks that have made us a strong organization and developed new goals to move us forward. These building blocks are **Advocacy**, **Branding** and **Communication**. With a strong foundation under us, KSHA leaders are charged to construct a future for our association that allows us to remain relevant, robust and innovative in growing

our membership and stature as **PACE Setters** in the fields of speech pathology and audiology. The blueprint has been set and the materials selected, let’s take a look at the vision set for the future of our association.



**Advocacy Goal:** KSHA members advocate at all levels to influence legislation, regulation and institutional policies to support our mission and to advance our professions. A key priority identified to build our ability to influence change was to develop advocacy networks. KSHA is proud to have established a statewide advocacy network called iKAN. The specially designed programming provided to iKAN members provides both in-person and online training focused on developing leadership and advocacy skills. Oh, and the best part, it provides free continuing education credits! If you are interested in joining the 2020 iKAN training cohort, be on the lookout for the application coming soon. We are also developing online tools and professional resources to assist you in advocacy so, look for those on the website in early 2020. Whether it’s for students, clients, patients, or professionals, KSHA will continue steadfastly advocate at the local, state and national levels.

Mary Grace Starks, MS, CCC-SLP  
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<http://ksha.info/index.php/communicator>

# President's Message

Continued from pg. 1

**B** **Branding Goal:** The KSHA brand will be recognized through consistent and cohesive messaging to ensure KSHA is identified as the leading association representing speech-language pathologists and audiologists in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Branding goes far beyond logo and color scheme—it influences how we are perceived by our members and stakeholders. In the fall, a committee of KSHA leaders and member volunteers will meet to begin the work to develop KSHA's unique branding position and develop messaging to distribute to stakeholders. The branding work being done now will help us construct a deliberate plan to extend our reach to a broader audience. We hope you will notice our progress on this goal as we unveil branded messaging at our 2020 KSHA Convention February 19-22. We hope to see you there!

**C** **Communication Goal:** Clearly communicate the value of KSHA membership to better connect with members and the public using targeted, effective communication channels. We currently have a website, YouTube channel, social media accounts and, recently, we introduced a KSHA podcast. We are also very proud of our long-standing publication, the *KSHA Communicator* which has been a valued source for information in our field for many years. KSHA strives to develop content that is multifunctional and available on a number of platforms. Our work now focuses on ensuring the content and quality of information shared with our diverse audiences is both valuable and improves communication channels between our association and our stakeholders. If you have not yet found a way to connect with KSHA, I encourage you to engage with one of our social media accounts. They are a great way to stay up-to-date and informed!

Follow KSHA on Twitter at [https://](https://twitter.com/kyspeech)

[twitter.com/kyspeech](https://twitter.com/kyspeech), Instagram at [kshakyspeech](https://www.instagram.com/kshakyspeech) and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/KYSPEECH>.

Our association has been able to evolve over the last 50 years because of the strong foundation set for us. Now, we look to build our future with the same innovation and excitement of my past preschoolers. The building blocks are in place. Our strategic plan will allow us to construct a strong future for our association. The blueprint is set. Now we begin to build the future, one building block at a time. Growing. Learning. Innovating. I hope you'll join me in the block center and help our vision become a reality.



Photo credit: Back Snaps Photography

## Professional Development Most Valued by Members! Guess What Came in Second?

**Kelly Kleinhans, PhD CCC-SLP**  
*Past-President, KSHA*



An exceptional state annual convention for professional development has always been the cornerstone of KSHA member benefits. In 2019, KSHA surveyed members and found that although professional development continues to be the most valued member benefit, advocacy was a close second. Representing audiologists and speech-language pathologists before the Kentucky Legislator is an important part of KSHA's mission. The Executive Council works hard to provide input on the laws and regulations that will impact your practice. We surveyed legislators on a number of issues, and the raw data suggests legislators are

noticing the efforts of KSHA and KSHA members. We asked legislators to compare their interactions with KSHA members compared to other similar state trade associations before this spring's legislative session and then again after the session. Member visits, letters written in the empowerment zone, our legislative reception, tri-alliance day, student advocacy day and Governor Bevin signing the May is Better Hearing and Speech Month proclamation all enhanced our footprint in Frankfort.

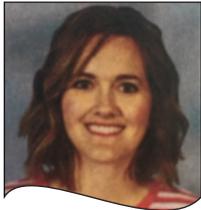
We also discovered that on both the legislative survey and public survey a significant number of participants reported they were only somewhat familiar with our disciplines. People across the commonwealth need

to know what an audiologist or speech-language pathologist does. Now is the time to take advantage of your KSHA member benefits and participate in advocacy efforts. Unsure of where to start? Apply to the next iKAN (Kentucky Advocacy Network) cohort run by our vice president of healthcare and vice president of schools. KSHA will continue to offer robust professional development and unique advocacy opportunities. We are open to new ideas and enjoy meeting members from across the commonwealth. I encourage you to sign up for one of our many micro-volunteering opportunities. If you want to know more, send an inquiry to [kshaoffice@ksha.info](mailto:kshaoffice@ksha.info).

# Let Me Introduce Myself ...

Mary Grace Starks, MS, CCC-SLP

Publications Chair



I wanted to introduce myself to you! Why, do you ask? I am the new KSHA publications chair and we want to hear from you.

I want YOU to reach out if you have any content or ideas you think other speech-language pathologists (SLPs) or audiologists across the state want to hear, or should hear. You have a great story to share with other KSHA members, and I am excited to help you tell that story.

First, let me tell you a bit of my story. I am a Murray State University (MSU) alumnus, all six years. After graduating in 2014, I began practicing as an educational-based SLP in Murray. I have been married to my husband for seven years (I wish you all could meet him; he tries so hard to speak SLP—it's funny!). We have a spunky two and a



half year old daughter. Our family loves sports, particularly college basketball and NFL football. I probably shouldn't admit this openly and I may even get some negative feedback from you Cats fans, but I am a Tar Heel fan ... There, I said it.

As far as my professional career, I supervise graduate students each semester and have served as an adjunct lecturer for MSU in the past. I really enjoy teaching future SLPs and the community about the career I chose and why what we do is so important and impactful. I am currently in the KSHA 2019 iKAN (Kentucky Advocacy Network) cohort which is teaching me the best ways to advocate for my preschool students at the local level and the profession at the state level. Applications for the next cohort are coming out soon, so be on the lookout if this is something that interests you or if you know someone who would be an asset.

When I was asked to serve as KSHA's publications chair, I didn't think twice



about it. I am overjoyed that I get to serve KSHA and KSHA members in this way. My role is to curate content for a fall and spring *Communicator* and assist with other KSHA publications. So, here's what I'm asking of you: if you are at all interested in writing a short article (and I am talking four to five, single-spaced paragraphs), please submit something to me at [mary.starks@calloway.kyschools.us](mailto:mary.starks@calloway.kyschools.us). If you, yourself, are not interested, I am asking you to send me names and contact information for individuals who would willingly submit pieces for us to include in the *Communicator*. We want to hear from you—what you're doing and how it could be helpful for others.

If you're still with me, I want to say, "THANK YOU!" Thank you for serving our state, for being a KSHA member and for taking an active role in your amazing state association! I look forward to hearing from you!

## October is AAC Awareness Month

Share with KSHA what you're doing for your clients, patients, students and families to increase augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) advocacy efforts and/or increase functional communication for all.

Use **#kshaaac** so we can share to audiologists and speech-language pathologists across the state.

# OTC Hearing Aids – What is Next for Audiology?

Sunni Shepherd, AuD, CCC-A  
Audiology Chair



In a world where health care is easily accessed via telemedicine, whether it be in an office or from your mobile device, it is clear that patients

want convenience. It is expected, and often encouraged, that patients and consumers shop for the “best deal.” It was only a matter of time before the world of audiology began to change, as well. While we have been able to provide some services remotely, a hearing health care provider completes most hearing aid fitting and adjustments in an office. With the introduction of the Over the Counter (OTC) Hearing Aid Act of 2017, that is all about to change.

Accessibility and affordability, along with evidence regarding the coexistence of hearing loss and other health conditions (depression, dementia, etc.), led to the recommendation that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) implement a new class of OTC hearing devices. Proposed regulations for these devices will not be available for review and comment until August 18, 2020. For now, we know that the new category of hearing devices “is intended to be used by adults age 18 and older to compensate for perceived mild to moderate hearing impairment.”

To help ensure the safety and efficacy of these devices, representatives from the American Academy of Audiology (AAA), Academy of Doctors of Audiology (ADA), American Speech-Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) and International Hearing Society (IHS) came together to develop five key recommendations for the FDA to consider. These include:

1. Establish product requirements appropriate for OTC hearing devices

targeting mild-to-moderate hearing impairment.

2. Define concise, outside-of-the-box labeling appropriate for OTC with a strong recommendation to consult with a hearing health care provider.
3. Define comprehensive, inside-the-box labeling appropriate for OTC hearing aids.
4. Define the new OTC category so that it is easily comprehensible and in line with risk class requirements for safety and effectiveness.
5. Adequate provisions for consumer protection, in coordination with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

While OTC hearing aids will not be available for purchase until at least late 2020, audiologists are already beginning to ask, “What about me?” OTC hearing aids are only a small piece of the hearing health care puzzle. We, the audiologists, will continue to be the expert. As Dr. Kim Cavitt states, “We need to inform consumers that we offer more than just hearing aids; that we are full-service providers for hearing health care services.” We must continue to provide evidence-based care and proper counseling. We should continue to be heavily involved in complex and pediatric cases. We must continue to educate consumers

about appropriate device selection and what may or may not provide benefit. We must also educate on when it is appropriate to seek medical attention.

The effects of offering a “self-fitting” device will not be known for some time; however, the introduction of this new category of hearing aids has forced audiology into the spotlight and may provide us with the perfect opportunity to prove our value as hearing health care providers.

## References:

- American Academy of Audiology. (2019) American Academy of Audiology Regulatory Recommendations for Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids: Safety and Effectiveness. (<https://www.asha.org/uploadedFiles/Consensus-Paper-From-Hearing-Care-Associations.pdf>) (Accessed September 16, 2019).
- Miller, E. (2019) Embracing Change in Audiological Treatment: Over-the-Counter Hearing Devices. *Audiology Today*, vol. 31, no. 1, July/August 2019, pp. 29-35.
- Special Report: Part 1 Audiologists Get Real on Impact of OTC Devices. *The Hearing Journal*, vol. 71, no. 6, June 2018, pp. 20, 22–23.



# "You Do You"

**Kathleen Carrillo, MS, CCC-SLP**  
*VP of Health Care*



It's a popular catch phrase in 2019. *The Urban Dictionary* defines the phrase as "the act of doing what one believes is the right decision." Yes, there

are other definitions that can be taken from this phrase, but I would like to use this specific phrase definition as an empowering message to speech-language pathologists across the state of Kentucky who work in long-term care.

As I am sure all of you are aware, the Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM) went into effect on October 1, 2019. PDPM is a new Medicare Part A reimbursement program for long-term care setting. It is a switch from volume-based care to patient-driven and outcome-based care. In theory it sounds wonderful because it looks at the whole patient, including complex medical diagnoses and not just their ability to participate in a certain number of therapy minutes. The key thing to remember about PDPM is that it is a change in the way that our facilities are getting reimbursed, **NOT** a change in the way that we should be providing speech-language pathology services to the residents that come to us for rehabilitation.

This major event, the first major reimbursement change to rock the therapy world since the Prospective Payment System (PPS) hit in 1999, is going to impact the bottom line in every facility across the country. There is no denying that fact. Companies have been preparing for this change for years, doing projections and collecting data in order to brace for the financial impact and figure out ways to save on spending. Sadly, some of you may have even already lost your job, had your pay cut or have been moved to part-time from a full-time position as an initial "step one" in this money-crunching process.

One of the most significant financial incentives of PDPM is the allowance of up to 25 percent of the total stay to be completed in concurrent and/or group treatment. I am sure that many of you have had recent discussions with your

direct supervisors about implementing more group/concurrent treatment into your treatment plans.

Under PDPM, group therapy can be completed with two to six patients at once who are working on the same or similar tasks. In the scope of SLP, there are two possible Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes that are recognized as a group code, which are 92508 and 97150. The following is "a coding considerations excerpt from the ASHA website:

## Coding Considerations

CPT code **92508** is used to report group therapy for speech, language, voice, communication, and/or auditory processing disorders. There are no CPT codes that describe group therapy for other disorders, such as dysphagia or cognition. However, CPT code 92508 should not be used to report treatment of disorders not described by the code **unless** specifically permitted under the local coverage determination (LCD). Some LCDs may also allow speech-language pathologists to use CPT code **97150** (therapeutic procedure(s), group) to describe group therapy for other disorders, such as dysphagia.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) also has the following statement written in bold on their website regarding group therapy:

**"Group therapy should never be provided for the convenience of the clinician or the facility."**

Given this information from ASHA, be sure that you are doing your part to make sure that you are using the appropriate coding for group therapy. Make sure to ask your supervisors if they have checked with the LCD to ensure that you are using the appropriate codes. Some LCDs allow for you to use 97150 for dysphagia and there are some that will also allow you to use the 92508. You do not want to unintentionally use the incorrect code for any of your group sessions.

Let me follow this statement by saying that there are some fantastic ways that you can incorporate group therapy into your skilled nursing facility (SNF). I am not bashing use of groups at all. I know that groups can promote socialization, increase functional language use and let's face it, they can be FUN! I do believe that there are many residents out there who could

benefit greatly from a once a week group session. I am happy that we are now in a place where we can provide that type of treatment for residents who need it.

All of that considered, we need to make sure that we are providing medically necessary and appropriate treatment interventions for our residents. We are the skilled clinicians. We have the education and skillset to set the parameters for our plans of care. We are the ones who determine if a resident is appropriate for three times a week or if they need five times a week. We are the ones who determine if the patient is appropriate for a group therapy session or not. We are **NOT** our employers. I am begging you to make sure that you are doing your due diligence to remind these companies that mandating group therapy is **NOT** ethical. Making groups mandatory is 100 percent a convenience to the facility and not a benefit to the patient as it will help to increase their profit margin. If you are working for a company that is forcing you to complete groups that are not appropriate for your patients, I strongly suggest that you get in contact with your compliance program at your facility. I want SLPs in the state to be empowered to stand up for what is right and not just do something because you are told to. Please remember that these residents are coming to you so that you can help them reach their goals. If participating in a group SLP session will not help that patient get to their goal, you should keep treating them individually. If your director cuts back your treatment time with a patient who could benefit from additional treatment, you should request more time. Remember as I said before that PDPM is a change in reimbursement only and should not have any impact on the way that you are providing skilled SLP services. If you are providing 720 minutes to a patient on the last week of September, you should still be providing those 720 minutes in October because you reported that 720 minutes was medically necessary and appropriate. It should not change because the reimbursement changes.

In closing, I would like to circle back to my opening catch phrase "You do you." Remember that you are the skilled clinician and that you need to do what is right for the residents that come into your SNF. I hope that this empowers you as a professional in your SNF, and I wish all of you the best of luck as we navigate through these changes.

# Getting Ready for the 2020 Standards

Stephanie Schaaf, EdD, CCC-SLP



“Change” is something we are continuously required to do, but that does not make it any easier. The word alone comes with anxiety unless

provided the opportunity to adequately understand upcoming changes and prepare. Luckily, KSHA has been **“Setting the PACE”** and preparing us for the new 2020 standards with targeted continued education and resources in required areas starting in 2018. We are all in this together as the 2020 speech-language pathology certification standards will impact academic programs, supervisors, students and clinical fellows by adding some quality updates and revisions.

One of the positive changes resulting from the 2020 standards is the focus on qualified supervisors. Being a supervisor can be reenergizing and rewarding, but it can also be hard work. Knowing the long-term impact supervision can have on our future professionals, it is a role that should be taken very seriously and will now require continued education. As a supervisor and clinic director, I believe the new requirements are a step in the right direction. During the 2018 KSHA Convention, a two hour continued education session on supervision was offered and during the 2019 convention a total of four hours were available. KSHA was not only ahead of the game in recognizing the importance of training in supervision, but also in preparing for the upcoming standards changes. If you were able to attend supervisor sessions from the 2018 or 2019 conventions, you have

already met one of the new standard requirements!

The 2020 standards require supervisors to complete a minimum of two hours of continued education in supervision and have nine months work experience after being awarded the CCC-SLP prior to supervising. Supervision continuing education hours do not have to be completed annually. Once a supervisor has completed the two hours, the requirement will be met. If you were not able to attend KSHA sessions on supervision last year, do not worry because the 2020 convention will have a session focused on supervision. Even as an experienced supervisor, being required to take a training can provide motivation to explore new strategies and promote reflection to facilitate best practices in supervision.

Heads up for those of you scheduled to supervise a graduate student or clinical fellow in 2020; you have to meet the continuing education requirements and it must be documented with ASHA prior to supervision. Reporting completion of the required hours on ASHA is easy. If you are a member of the ASHA CE Registry, they will take care of it for you. If you are not a member of the registry, you can simply log on to your ASHA account and manually select that the requirement has been met. The 2020 standards will also require continued education on ethics but for those of us in Kentucky, that will not be a problem as it is already a state requirement and KSHA has been offering ethics CEUs yearly at the convention. University clinic directors will need to begin verifying that

supervision requirements have been met before a student can complete their clinical placement under a supervisor; therefore, it is essential that supervisors understand the new requirements and are prepared.

While it might seem as if supervisors have become the focus of the new standards, they are not the only individuals who need to be ready. Students and recent graduates need to be prepared, as well. Students who graduated in 2019 and will be applying for CCC-SLP under the 2014 standards that were in place during their academic programs, should submit their applications prior to January 1, 2020. If an application is not received by the end of December, the student will be required to seek certification based on the new 2020 standards and there will be some differences in addition to the supervision requirements. For example, the knowledge and skills areas were updated to reflect evolving practices and current terminology and now include areas such as literacy and feeding within the current nine core content areas and applicants will need to demonstrate knowledge in those areas.

In conclusion, let’s roll out the red carpet and welcome the change that 2020 will bring because the new standards have arrived. Understanding the key impacts the new certification standards will have on supervisors, educators, students and clinical fellows will help make the transition easier. Fortunately, KSHA’s proactive planning and continued guidance has many of us ready to embrace the positive changes.

## Supervision Session Available at KSHA 2020

### **Supervision: School, SLP and Student Perspectives**

Wednesday, February 19 | 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Presented by Stephanie Schaaf, EdD, CCC-SLP, Murray State University; Bethany A. Berry, MA, CCC-SLP, Ephraim McDowell Health; Adair Keyton, BS, Eastern Kentucky University

This presentation will engage participants in exploring supervision through a panel discussion with a professor, medically-based supervisor and a graduate student. The panel discussion will include topics such as the new ASHA requirements for supervision, supervisory styles, strategies for effective supervision, learning stages, student feedback and student perceptions.

# 2020 KSHA Convention: Today's Vision, Tomorrow's Reality

**Donna Goodlett-Collins and Tina Brock**  
*Co-Directors of the 2020 KSHA Convention*



Although 20/20 vision is considered normal, there is nothing normal about the 2020 KSHA Convention being held at the Lexington Center, on February 19 – 22! Our theme this year is **2020: Today's Vision, Tomorrow's Reality**. We,



the Convention

Committee and the Executive Council, have set our sights on offering our members the most engaging and fulfilling Convention experience possible! We are so excited to provide for you cutting-edge presenters and poster sessions with a variety of

progressive and enlightening topics. These offerings will definitely guide you in developing a vision to grow and cultivate your professional knowledge and then make those visions a reality in your job settings and careers.

Since all work and no play would make this Convention quite boring,

we have also made sure to add some fun and fitness to our week! On Thursday of the Convention, we are inviting all attendees to wear their college sweatshirts and t-shirts during the day and then celebrate with a tailgate party along with the Golden Brain Competition and silent auction in the evening! We are anticipating

an amazing time of fun and excitement! We will also be offering fitness breaks with walk/runs, yoga and Zumba throughout the week!

Overall, if you want to learn, network and have a fantastic Convention experience, the 2020 KSHA Convention is the place to be in February! We look forward to seeing you!



Kentucky Speech-Language-Hearing Association

## Ethics CEUs Available

***Navigating Ethical Dilemmas Faced by Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists***

**Presented by Donna Euben, JD**

**Wednesday 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm and Thursday 9:00 am - 11:00 am**



This session will discuss how to engage in ethical decision making and apply those understandings to case studies involving potential ethical violations. The ethical scenarios will include examples from schools, private practice and other healthcare settings (e.g., hospitals, SNFs).

## Keynote Presentation

***Using Endorphins Wisely: The Science Behind Laughing, Meditating, Reducing Stress and Managing Your Emotions***

**Presented by Matt Bellace, PhD**

**Thursday, 7:45 am – 8:45 am**



Dr. Bellace will use humor, inspirational stories, audience participation and current research in the neuroscience to deliver a powerful message, ***It's not enough to just tell people what not to do, we need to empower them to create an environment that fosters positive mental and physical health.***

## Interdisciplinary Session

***The Power of a Horse: Equine Movement as a Therapeutic Modality***

**Presented by Toby Scott-Cross, MOT, OTR/L**

**Saturday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**



Space is limited. Attendees will meet at an offsite

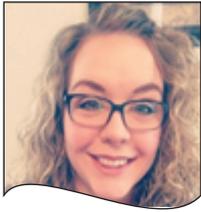
location and enjoy a session that will provide an introduction to the specialty modality of Hippotherapy. Through the use of the dynamic platform of the horse, a variety of treatment goals can be addressed by PTs, OTs and SLPs.

## KSHA Members: Have You Been Impacted by the Shift to the Patient Driven Payment Model?

Anecdotal stories about cuts in pay and layoffs are popping up on social media daily since the implementation of the Patient Driven Payment Model (PDP) on October 1. AHA even issued a statement of concern as PDP was intended to be a revenue-neutral item. KSHA wants to hear from you. Reach out to Katie Carrillo, KSHA VP of Health Care with your story and take this three-item survey found here: [https://apsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_20jn1YpCX7euFmd](https://apsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_20jn1YpCX7euFmd).

# SEAL Report

Cali Sills, MS CCC-SLP



The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is supporting the creation of the Audiology and Speech-Language

Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). According to ASHA, audiologists (AUDs) and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) will be required to abide by state licensing laws in which they are licensed, but the compact will facilitate interstate practice of professions to improve access to services through cooperation of member services. The

compact will benefit AUDs or SLPs who live in border states and those who frequently relocate to become licensed to practice across state lines. At least 10 states must agree before the compact goes into effect. More information is available on the ASHA advocacy page at [www.asha.org/advocacy](http://www.asha.org/advocacy).

Statewide, SLPs and AUDs should begin planning to make a trip to Frankfort in February 2020. Although the specific date has not yet been released, KSHA's advocacy day will be taking place at the capitol and we need all hands on deck. Current SLPs and AUDs and future SLPs and AUDs

will team up and meet with legislators to educate them about what bills are coming to the congressional floor that affect our profession. We will let them know why OUR PROFESSION is important to their constituents. If you can't make it in person, please take the time to find out who your local representatives are and contact them. You can find out who your legislators are under the advocacy tab on the KSHA website.

Always remember to use your social media accounts to find out the latest information. KSHA and ASHA have very active Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts!

## KSHA Social Media

Mary Grace Starks, MS, CCC-SLP

Publications Chair



Social Media. It has its place and it seems to be where more news gets shared, tweeted or posted to the world. Throughout the last year, KSHA

has been increasing our efforts to consistently disseminate information with members and the public across

our social media platforms. We, as the KSHA social media team, are vigorous in our attempts to share pertinent information related to audiology and speech-language pathology across the state of Kentucky. We like to have fun, so every now and then, you catch a hilarious or #reallifestruggles meme. While we do not post job opportunities to our social media platforms, we do share those on the

KSHA website. Please complete the "Job Opportunity" form located on the website.

On a final note, we want to hear from you. If you have something you'd like KSHA to share via social media, please send it to [jake.walker@thekidspotcenter.com](mailto:jake.walker@thekidspotcenter.com)

We look forward to hearing from our members!

### Find Us Online



### Connect With KSHA

Visit the KSHA website, [www.ksha.info](http://www.ksha.info), and make sure your KSHA membership is up-to-date. Log on to the Member Center of the website, enter your last name and your member number. Once logged in, you are able to edit your membership information, such as mailing address, email address, professional information and more.

The Member Center also gives you access to renew your membership, register for an event at the member discounted rate, search for a member, access member-only resources and print your membership card.

You can always check out the current and past editions of the **KSHA Communicator** online at <http://ksha.info/index.php/communicator>.

Follow KSHA on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/kyspeech>, Instagram at [kshakyspeech](https://www.instagram.com/kshakyspeech) and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/KYSPEECH>.



# iKAN ...Advocacy in Action

**Lacey Back Lane, MS, CCC-SLP**  
*KSHA President*



The Kentucky Speech-Language-Hearing Association (KSHA) leaders have developed the Kentucky Advocacy Network (iKAN) initiative to foster

advocacy skills among our members and to advance the mission of KSHA. Advocacy is a central component of KSHA's mission and our vision outlined in our strategic plan. KSHA leaders recognize the need to prepare the membership to participate at all levels of advocacy—individual, local, state and national. Members of the executive council worked together to build a systems approach to the initiative to ensure sustainability and utilization to support the mission of KSHA using the following rationale:

- Professional advocacy and outreach are part of the ASHA Scope of Practice and advocacy skills must be fostered and developed among members of our profession.
- Grassroots advocacy is one of the easiest and most important strategies that can be utilized within an organization because it is driven by the members.
- The development of a network within your state association empowers members to work together to share in a common advocacy agenda.
- The relationships built through an established network can improve the

quality and the quantity of work by state associations allowing new opportunities for members to contribute ideas, expertise and resources.

- When advocacy efforts are successful, all members benefit.

The structure for the iKAN is a year-long program designed for KSHA members who have a desire to further develop their leadership and advocacy skills. The training provides opportunities to practice new (or growing) skills, empowering members to be advocates at all levels as well as promote the state association and profession. From iKAN's inception, our first priority has been to engage members directly with the executive council to build relationships by providing opportunities to share in the Association's current advocacy efforts. The program includes built in accountability for participation and development of leadership skills at both cohort and council levels. To date, we are in our second cohort of the iKAN network and the impacts are noticeable, members have participated in advocacy efforts at the local, state and national level and we are excited to see that many members of the program are choosing to take on KSHA leadership positions. If you have an interest in growing your leadership skills to drive change and influence policies, programs and services then you should consider participating in KSHA's Kentucky Advocacy Network!

The application period to be a participant of the next cohort of the Kentucky Advocacy Network closes on January 15, 2020. The program, designed for 15 KSHA member audiologists and

speech language pathologists, kicks off with an opening workshop at the KSHA Convention on Wednesday February 19. The program consists of one onsite training and continues over the course of a year with three online webinars and graduation and recognition at the Annual KSHA Convention. Participants have an opportunity to earn up to 7.5 hours of continuing education credits. During the course of the program, participants will develop a personal advocacy plan and participate with program peers to develop advocacy skills and participate in statewide KSHA advocacy initiatives. In identifying and developing a personal advocacy plan, each participant applies the leadership techniques and personal development goals established during the program. The personal action plan developed through the training focuses on developing skills for advocacy at the grassroots, state and national level. Applications for this program are available under the Advocacy tab on the KSHA website at [www.ksha.info](http://www.ksha.info). For more information, contact Kathleen Carrillo, VP of Healthcare, at [kathleenntaylor@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenntaylor@yahoo.com) or Kinsey Chambers, VP of Schools, at [kinsey.chambers@jefferson.kyschools.us](mailto:kinsey.chambers@jefferson.kyschools.us).



## Congratulations to KSHA Members Who Are ASHA ACE Award Winners

The following ASHA members and /or certificate holders were presented the Award for Continuing Education (ACE) by the Continuing Education Board. The ACE is a formal recognition of professionals who have demonstrated their commitment to lifelong learning by earning 7.0 ASHA CEUs (70 contact hours) within a 36-month period. Join KSHA in congratulating Kentucky's SLPs and AUDs who earned their ACE awards by June 2019!

Megan Allen	Shaina Eubank	Susan Kelly	Sarah Reynolds-Sparks	Alisha Spinks
Miranda Bullock-Davidson	Mary Forbes	Lindsay Manis	Danita Roberts Osborne	Catherine Starr
Lauren Cosentino	Jill Fulks	Candace Moberly	Erin Salmons	Kim Swett
Jacqueline Dale	Jessica Kay Gravil	Carrie Montgomery	Tami Scott	Esther Volmer
Stephanie Druen	Kristy Hampton	Anne Olson	Sunni Shepherd	Robyn Wahl
Rhonda Durbin	Jill Head	Tracie Jarvis Raich	JoAnna Sloggy	Susan Waters
	Lauren Hinton	Elizabeth Raley	Mallory Smith	Kaycee Woods