



PO BOX 1065  
Glasgow, MT 59230

## January 2018 Communicator

**MSHA**  
[www.mshaonline.org](http://www.mshaonline.org)  
Email: [msha@fmdh.org](mailto:msha@fmdh.org)

### President's Message

#### Our Commitment and Connection

*"A child is a person who is going to carry on what you have started. He is going to sit where you are sitting and when you are gone, attend to those things which you think are important. You may adapt all the policies you please, but how they are carried out depends on him. The fate of humanity is in his hands."* -Abraham Lincoln

As a parent, professional and a volunteer, these words ring true. The challenges that face our children and families seem ever increasing, while the challenges that face our communities loom as large as ever. Today our children are more worldly, more intelligent and certainly more fearful. In days of old, we feared monsters under the bed, dragons and the dark. Today, children's fears are much scarier. Unfortunately, these words still ring as true today as when I first wrote them in a newsletter article twenty years ago.

As professionals dedicated to providing and promoting education, networking and advocacy for professionals and the public with quality and compassion; MSHA has a long history of working on behalf of children and their families and will continue to do so in the coming year. It was a pleasure to communicate and interact with so many of our members at the fall conference. The recently updated MSHA by-laws presented at that conference reflect an effort to increase communication and participation with our MSHA membership. Thank you to all of our many volunteers. Continued on Page 2.....

#### Special points of interest:

- ACE Award Recipients
- Fall Convention Summary & Pictures
- Membership Updates Remember to renew for 2018....
- Generous Scholarship Donation
- Mission & Vision Statements
- Joke
- 5 MSHA Regional Representatives
- Independent Study Changes
- Continuing Education Changes

**Please take time to renew your membership...  
WE NEED YOU!**

December 31, 2017  
 20 Audiologists  
 4 Dual (Speech Path/Aud)  
 151 Speech Pathologists  
 3 Speech Aides  
 100 Students  
**TOTAL:**

**278**

January 16, 2018  
 7 Audiologists  
 3 Dual (Speech Path/Aud)  
 98 Speech Pathologists  
 2 Speech Aides  
 74 Students  
**TOTAL CURRENT:**

**184**

#### Dates To Remember

Montana Audiology  
Guild Meeting  
May 4 & 5, 2018  
In Chico Hot Springs

MSHA Fall Convention  
October 2018  
will be in  
Helena

The governing body of this Association; the Board of Directors, is now composed of up to seventeen voting positions. These include:

President – Lezlie Pearce-Hopper

President-Elect – Kathleen DeLapp-Cohn

Immediate Past President – Catherine Drescher

Secretary – Shelby Midboe

Treasurer – Sharlene Schmidt

Two elected members at large – one being the current President of the Montana Audiology Guild – Kristy Foss, and the other a speech language pathologist – Emily Stafslie

University Representative – Julie Wolter

Student Representative - TBD

Five Regional Representatives - #1 Mary Thaden, #2 Laurie Grisham, #3 Emily Stafslie, #4 Jennifer Pierce & Lezlie Pearce-Hopper, #5 Alida Wright

Chair of the Political Action Committee – Jessica Reynolds

Chair of the Scholarship Committee – Shelby Midboe (will appoint a member of committee for voting)

Over the holiday break I had time to reflect a bit more on our past year, the amazing amount of progress made on our Strategic Plan, and about the future. I want to extend a huge thank you and congratulations for a job well done to Catherine Drescher for her year as President and for an outstanding Fall Conference. I also want to thank Jennifer Rindal for her three years of very caring and capable service. I shall be seeking, utilizing, and welcoming the knowledge and experience of the past presidents of this association. MSHA's first Board of Director's Meeting of the year is an electronic meeting on the morning of January 20<sup>th</sup>.

I very much look forward to the wide positive impact we can make during this coming year. In the coming months MSHA will conduct surveys for caseload number and current position openings in the state for our professions. MSHA will continue to work closely with our lobbyist, Abigail St. Lawrence, as we address issues of importance to our members and clients. This work with our lobbyist is funded in part by a grant from ASHA and we will soon be seeking to renew this grant. Please check in frequently with our website for updates and opportunities.

The continued strength of our organization depends on YOU. My passion of 40 years in this profession has been primarily children. I will continue to serve as an advocate for all professionals and the public; but for mothers, friends and neighbors I believe the children must come first. We must read to them, hug them, guide them, respect them and love them. Our success as a community depends not on what happens somewhere else but on what happens right here at home. That will enable us to tell the children of tomorrow, "It will be alright."

Please look at the poem on Page 3.

### Vision

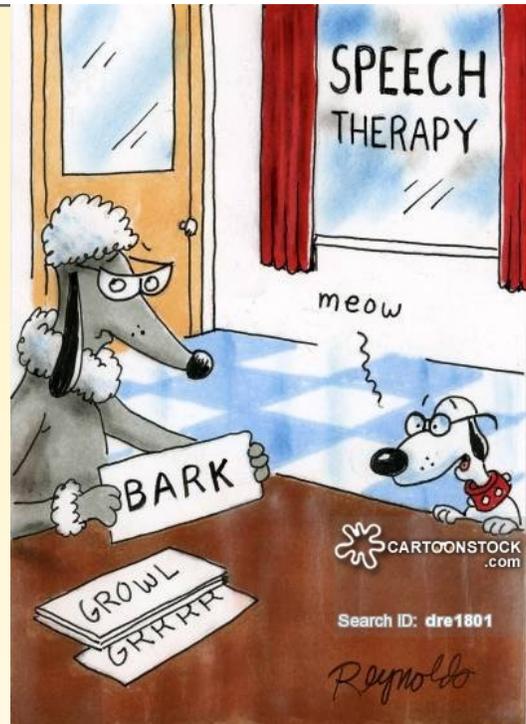
Montanans will access speech, language, and audiology services from the highest trained professionals.



### Mission

Provide and promote education, networking and advocacy for professionals and the public with quality and compassion.

Take a moment to listen today  
 To what your children are trying to say;  
 Listen today, whatever you do.  
 Or they won't be there to listen to you.  
 Listen to their problems, listen for their needs.  
 Praise their smallest triumphs,  
 Praise their smallest deeds;  
 Tolerate their chatter,  
 Amplify their laughter.  
 Find out what's the matter,  
 Find out what they're after.  
 But tell them you love them,  
 Be sure you hold them;  
 Tell them "Everything's all right;  
 tomorrow's looking bright".  
 Take a moment to listen today  
 To what your children are trying to say.  
 Listen today, whatever you do,  
 And they will come back to listen to you.  
 -Dennis Waitley, *Seeds of Greatness*



We had great volunteers for the MSHA Fall Convention. Thanks so much to all of you.

### Fall Convention Survey and Pictures

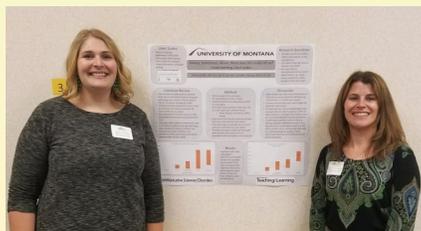
#### 2017 Missoula Conference Evaluation Feedback

(Rate 1-5 with 1 as poor and 5 as excellent), Average of 43 evaluators for the following feedback.  
 Overall Conference Evaluation: Average 4.23, This event will help me perform my job more effectively: Average 4.27, Conference was at the education level I expected: Average 4.30, Conference content matches description: Average 4.36, Conference length relative to amount of content: Average 4.59, Would you recommend this event to a friend or colleague? Average 4.26, Number of years in the industry: Less than 1: 4, 1 to 3: 3, 4-6: 3, 7-10: 3 and 10+: 27, Your age range: Under 25: 2, 25-34: 7, 35-44: 8, 45-54: 6 and 55+: 17

#### Sampling of Comments:

"This was my 1<sup>st</sup> MSHA conference and it was incredible. I listened to a wide range of lectures and I truly believe I am in the right field of education." "Can we move to on-line CE entry?" "This is one of the best MSHA conventions I have attended. The mix of local presenters and experts from other places was great." "Really enjoyed the poster sessions." "Grateful for organization and clear communication before the conference." "I was disappointed in Day 1. I felt it was mostly information I had learned during school/previous CE opportunities. LOVED Day 2! Day 2 made up for my disappointment." "Would have been nice to have more space, better microphone set ups and downtown." "I liked having choices, but didn't feel you gave some speakers enough time to provide more than an overview of the topic." "Loved the selection of short sessions on Thursday. Excellent speakers. Great participation.." "Web materials were very confusing." "Thank you for Saturday popcorn bowls. Genius."

### Poster Sessions & Awards



**Mail this form and your check to: MSHA; P.O. Box 1065; Glasgow, MT 59230  
You can also become a member or renew your membership online at [www.mshaonline.org](http://www.mshaonline.org)**



PO BOX 1065  
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# Montana Speech - Language - Hearing Association

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Please take time  
to renew your membership  
WE NEED YOU!**

**Full Membership (licensed) - \$75.00**

**Aide/Assistant—\$25.00**

**Student Membership—\$25.00**

**If you are Retired—Lifetime Membership for \$125.00**

**Membership dues include January 1 through December 31 of each year**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYER INFORMATION**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please circle all that apply: SLP AUD DUAL AIDE/ASSISTANT STUDENT  
HOSPITAL SCHOOL PRIVATE PRACTICE**

The information may be published in the directory **yes / no** on the website **yes / no** (please circle yes or no on each) \_\_\_\_\_ (signature).

Year you first became a MSHA member: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to volunteer to work on a committee **yes / no** or be nominated for an office **yes / no**. If so, which one(s)?: \_\_\_\_\_

Consider a Financial Contribution to one or both the Community Outreach Program and/or the Scholarship Program. These are both great ways to help students and clients needing MSHA support.

Dues (Full Membership \$75.00) or \$125.00	\$
Dues (Aide/Assistant or Student \$25.00)	\$
Contribution to Community Outreach	\$
Contribution to Scholarship Fund	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$

## Upcoming Board Meetings

**January 20, 2018** – Electronic Meeting  
**March 3, 2018** – Face to Face and Electronic Meeting in Billings (weather permitting travel)  
**May 19, 2018** – Electronic Meeting  
**August 4, 2018** – Face to Face and Electronic Meeting in Helena  
**September 8, 2018** – Electronic Meeting if indicated  
**October 17, 2018** – MSHA Conference Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Radisson, Helena, MT to be followed by President's Hosted Reception

## MSHA Assistant Straw Poll October 2017

**Compiled by Lezlie Pearce-Hopper**

37 members responded to this poll. Questions were related to where you spend most working hours, your occupation, would you support the use of trained and license speech and language assistants and/or audiology assistants in your practice. The comments gleaned from this survey would be interesting for everyone to review.

Please find full Straw Poll Results online at:  
[www.mshaonline.org](http://www.mshaonline.org)

### Scholarship Fund Balance...

**\$2,581.50 thanks to the funds raised at the MSHA Fall Convention and also a generous donation by Mary Hardin-Jones**

### Community Outreach Fund Balance is \$1,407.10

Contact Leah Jacobsen with questions [leahjacobsen@hotmail.com](mailto:leahjacobsen@hotmail.com)  
**MSDB sent a note thanking MSHA for the donation to help with their request for the Deaf Mentor Program.**

### MSHA adopted ASHA's position on Auditory Integration Training

<https://www.asha.org/policy/PS2004-00218/>

Submitted By: Jennifer Schoffer Closson

**Continuing Education News:** Changes to the board's CE rules were adopted went into effect 8/19/17 per [MAR 24-222-26](#) (see proposal notice for amended rule language). Some changes include:

Speech-language pathologists and audiologists must get 10 CE hours annually. Dual licensees must get 15 hours annually.

There are no CE requirements until a licensee's first full year of licensure.

Please contact the board if you have any questions. The Secretary of State's official online administrative rules have not yet been updated to reflect these amendments.

## ASHA—Independent Study Changes

ASHA has made a change in the paperwork for Independent Studies that will take effect on January 1, 2018. The new electronic paperwork to be completed by an Independent Study participant (along with the CEA-Continuing Education Administrator, Anne Juel) includes two new documents: an Independent Study Participant Worksheet and a new Independent Study Participant Time Log for documenting learning time in your Independent Study. Both of these documents will be uploaded to the MSHAonline website soon. These new documents are user friendly, and will help the participant better develop their study plan collaboratively with the CEA, and allow for ease of processing the Independent Study course in the online continuing education system with ASHA. Remember, you must pay into the ASHA CEU registry to do an Independent Study for ASHA credit. Submitted By: Anne Juel, CEA

## Congratulations ACE Award Recipients

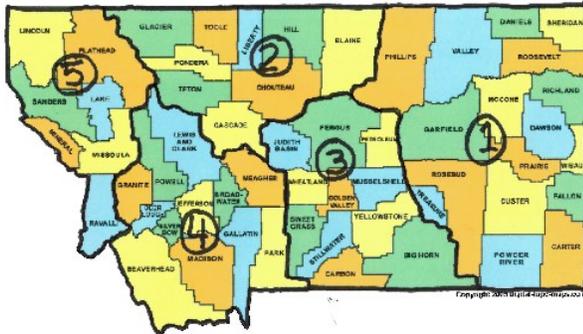
MSHA received notification from ASHA that there are some professionals in our state who earned an Award for Continuing Education (ACE). They earned 7.0 ASHA CEUs within a 36 month period. Please join MSHA in congratulating the following individuals from Montana who were recognized. These listed individuals are also members of our state MSHA organization.

Name	Award Presented	City, State
Suzanne Bender	September 2017	Billings, MT
Alane Dobie	September 2017	Missoula, MT
Megan Eandi	June 2017	Missoula, MT
Tricia Opstad	August 2017	Missoula, MT
Crystal Pardy	June 2017	Billings, MT
Alison Peterson	June 2017	Colstrip, MT
Sally Smith	August 2017	Great Falls, MT



Thank you all for your obvious dedication to this profession.  
Thank you also for your dedication to MSHA.

### Regional Representatives & Territories



MSHA Members please feel free to contact any MSHA Board member listed on the back of this newsletter or please be in touch with your MSHA Regional Representative. We are all willing to help with any questions or concerns that arise.

**Thanks to everyone on the MSHA board and those serving committees and other MSHA Board efforts. We have an organization with several dedicated volunteers and progress cannot be made without all of you! Thanks for your service to MSHA.**

- Region 1 - Marilyn Thaden from Miles City  
m.thaden@hotmail.com or 406-234-1957
- Region 2 - Laurie Grisham from Great Falls  
laurieg5289@gmail.com
- Region 3 - Emily Stafslie from Lewistown  
emily.stafslie@gmail.com or 406-538-9012
- Region 4 - Lezlie Pearce-Hopper from Helena  
pearcehopplk@gmail.com or 541-953-4178  
Jennifer Pierce from Butte  
cmatters@bresnan.net or 406-490-1264
- Region 5 - Alida Wright from Kalispell  
alida@bresnan.net or 406-892-5507

There have been 76 new memberships for MSHA since August of 2017 - Names and locations are too numerous to list so information will be sent to area representatives.

There is strength in numbers and we can make a louder voice if we continue to forge together as a strong organization. Continue to encourage friends and coworkers to join MSHA in support of our professions.

## Montana Audiology Guild—MAG

All audiologists in the state of Montana are welcome to join this meeting. We will be meeting on the 4th and 5th of May. This year it will be held at Chico Hot Springs south of Livingston, MT near Pray, MT. To arrange a room please call 406-333-4933; there is a block of rooms currently on hold for MAG. If you have never been involved in this group we always have a great time and we look forward to meeting new audiologists in the state.

If you have questions or need more detailed information please contact Kristy Foss at [kfoss@billingsclinic.org](mailto:kfoss@billingsclinic.org)

## GENEROUS DONATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Mary Hardin-Jones, who spoke at the MSHA Fall Convention wrote to say “I noticed that MSHA awarded a couple of scholarships to University of Montana graduate students during the award ceremony on Friday night. I would like to donate my honorarium of \$1000.00 to the scholarship account. Please extend my thanks to the MSHA Board and the 2017 Convention Committee for the invitation to talk at your fall conference. I enjoyed seeing old friends and meeting new ones.”

**Scholarship Recipients in October 2017 were:  
Cailen Bosch - \$750.00 & Erin Powers - \$750.00  
Congratulations Ladies!**



### Fall Convention Summary

#### Income

Fall Convention Registration	\$18,081.46
Vendor Income	393.90
Scholarship Income	2,092.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$20,567.36</b>

#### Fall Convention Attendance Summary

Students = 74  
Speech Aides = 2  
SLP attendance = 93  
Audiology Attendance = 9  
Dual = 3

**FYI**

**181 Participants**

#### Expenses

Food	\$6,529.17
Meeting Room Rental	1,200.00
Printing	163.80
Speaker Fees	3,350.00
Speaker Lodging	738.88
Speaker Meals	113.41
Speaker Travel	2,217.56
Convention Supplies	204.26
Speaker Gifts	511.13
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,028.21</b>

**Overall Total Profit \$5,539.15**

Special Thanks to the students who did a great job organizing the silent auction:

**Beth Sutter, Lindsay Hutton,  
Carlee Johnson, Emma Bozarth,  
Sarah Popp, and Taylor Perius**

We appreciate your spirit of volunteerism:)

**We are still waiting to receive the funds from an OPI Grant for Fall Convention.**

**Thank you to Kitty Griffin for all of her work on the MSHA Public Relations Products.**

Special Thanks to the professionals who helped out with the speed-networking student luncheon:

**Kim Kaftan, Amy Anderson,  
Catherine Drescher, Christina Hansen,  
and Annie Ellingwood.**

Please send your suggestions to Lezlie for 2018 speakers for October 2018 conference and for webinars, etc. throughout the year if you did not already make suggestions on conference feedback forms.



Montana Speech-Language &  
Hearing Association  
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Email: msha@fmdh.org  
Website: www.mshaonline.org  
Check us out on Facebook



***Improving communication for life...***

**Check on your membership status here!**

You ARE a current MSHA member for 2018 \_\_\_\_\_  
 You ARE NOT a current MSHA member for 2018 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Does MSHA need your membership support? **YES** Please renew your membership soon!

## MSHA Voting Board of Directors

Title	Name	Contact Information
President	Lezlie Pearce-Hopper	pearcehopplk@gmail.com
Past President	Catherine Drescher	cdrescher@rmeec.com
President Elect	Kathleen DeLapp-Cohn	rcna.kds@gmail.com
Secretary	Shelby Midboe	shelby.midboe@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sharlene Schmidt	sharlene.schmidt@fmdh.org
Audiology Member @ Large	Kristy Foss	kfoss@billingsclinic.org
Speech Path Member @ Large	Emily Stafslien	emily.stafslien@gmail.com
UM CSD Chair	Julie Wolter	julie.wolter@mso.umt.edu
UM CSD Student Liaison	TBD	
Region #1 Representative	Marilyn Thaden	m.thaden@hotmail.com
Region #2 Representative	Laurie Grisham	laurieg5289@gmail.com
Region #3 Representative	Emily Stafslien	emily.stafslien@gmail.com
Region #4 Representative	Jennifer Pierce	cmatters@bresnan.net
	Lezlie Pearce-Hopper	pearcehopplk@gmail.com
Region #5 Representative	Alida Wright	alida@bresnan.net
Political Action Committee	Jessica Reynolds	mshapoliticalaction@gmail.com
Scholarship Committee	Shelby Midboe	shelby.midboe@gmail.com

**Please rejoin us—With your support MSHA can do great things!**