

We are CSAP!



Molly Thompson, President

SPONSORS



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UPCOMING MEETINGS



*Byron Glacier
Near Anchorage
Anchorage, AK*

May 18-19, 2012: Anchorage AK
November 14, 2012: Atlanta, GA
May 2013: ASHA Headquarters in
Rockville, MD

President's Message

My first CSAP meeting was in the fall of 2006. I had been elected president-elect for 2007 to the Alaska Speech and Hearing Association (ASKHA) just one month before. As soon as I got a run-down on all the responsibilities I was looking forward to, I booked a flight to CSAP in Miami Beach.

The collaboration, specific presentations on leading an association and board were invaluable. With each meeting, I felt more capable. By the time I took office in 2008, I had the low-down on non-profits 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(6), taxes, lobbying, boards, social media, membership growth, convention planning and the list goes on. The collaboration with other CSAP members gave the meeting a "think tank" atmosphere. My training at CSAP meetings took (most of) the anxiety out of leading AKSHA. I looked forward to implementing the innovations I had learned. Our two annual meetings are the core of what is CSAP.

We are the premiere organization for educating leadership in speech and hearing organizations. This May looks to be another great opportunity for our members. This is a changing world in our field. Our members are dealing with new service delivery options, the economy and struggling with being ethical in the face of all these changes. We need to know how to create conferences that are economically feasible. This meeting will give us insight and methods to tackle these issues.

By now you have received the brochure for the Anchorage meeting. Which session are you most looking forward to? Leadership? Ethics? Convention planning? Support personnel? Roundtables? Old/new friends? The social at the museum and auction? Alaska?

As you prepare for the meeting, take a look at who we are at our website www.csap.org. Check out the meeting blog at <http://csap2012anc.blogspot.com>. We frequently post updates on our Facebook page: Council of State Association Presidents.

See you in the land of the Midnight Sun!

Molly
Molly Thompson, MS, CCC-SLP
CSAP President



Editor: Regina Lemmon

Bring and Brag — News From Ohio



At the May CSAP meeting, Colleen Visconte shared the success of their initiative to engage new professionals. In a follow-up e-mail interview, Colleen reported that Ohio created this committee as a way to increase involvement of younger members. “We seemed to do a pretty good job of having students members, but then lost them after that. In addition, our belief was if we could hook them when they were young and new professionals, then we would have a better chance of keeping them in the future.”

Ohio has had a New Professionals Committee for about a year, comprised of members in the profession from zero to three years and the Chair is appointed by the Vice President of Association Management to serve a two-year term. The committee’s charge includes surveying new professionals each year to determine need; keep the membership updated on issues relevant to new professionals via the newsletter and website; and provide a presentation at Convention relevant to new professionals. The committee planned and organized a presentation at the Convention called *Beyond the CFY*.

Colleen reported that “it was not very hard to get the new professionals to join the committee. We did this by extending an invitation to students who had participated in our Student Leadership Program and who had recently graduated. Then we added members as LC members made suggestions. For example, we wanted the audiology voice on this committee and so we invited a past student of mine who had completed her AuD about two years ago. She was very excited about being involved.”

The Student Leadership Program has been in place for two years and information is on the OSLHA website at http://www.ohioslha.org/r_studentLeadershipProgram.htm.

Colleen reported that since this is a new committee, they have not yet been able to document a change in the membership for this group. However, it is something that Ohio is tracking. Colleen is happy to answer any questions and can be contacted at 440-826-5909 or cviscont@bw.edu.

Submitted by: Lissa Power-deFur, ASHA Representative to the Joint Committee on State National Association Relations

Alaska ... A New Frontier!

What better place to explore new frontiers than in the last frontier of Alaska! The land of the midnight sun awaits you in Anchorage. You will be surrounded by the beautiful Chugach Mountains and Cook Inlet as you collect more tools for leading your state association. You will hear from experts in the field of convention planning, ethics, leadership and service delivery. We appreciate that you have traveled far to attend. Each day you will have lunch on your own so you can explore downtown Anchorage or Saturday market across from our hotel. We have combined the auction and social for the Friday night event at the Anchorage Museum. The museum’s 2nd floor Alaska history collection is all ours Friday evening. From our native Alaskans to our oil pipeline, the exhibits are inspiring. Saturday evening is on your own. We hope you take some extra days to explore Alaska while you are here. No matter where you venture outside Anchorage, you will find wilderness and wildlife. Bring your camera and sense of adventure. Alaska awaits you!

Action of the Joint Committee to the State National Association Relations

The Joint Committee includes the President, Past President and President-Elect of CSAP, plus three ASHA members (two of whom are prior association Presidents). We met the morning after the CSAP meeting to celebrate the success of the meeting and conduct our business. We reviewed our work plan, timeline and the memorandum of understanding between CSAP and ASHA. We enjoyed our preliminary review of the HELP forms, identifying issues that require further discussion and action. Committee members will be contacting selected states based on the Bring, Brag and Moan sessions to follow-up on successful new initiatives. The information we gather will be shared with the CSAP membership at large to facilitate replication of these great ideas.

Submitted by: Lissa Power-deFur, ASHA representative to the Joint Committee

Spring Social and Live Auction



The CSAP Social/Live Auction will be held on Friday, May 18 at 7:00 pm at the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center. Dinner will be served at the museum and CSAP attendees will have the opportunity to explore the Alaska floor of the

Museum! You won't want to miss this exciting social/auction! Each state association is asked to bring an item representative of their state for the Live Auction. The item should be at least \$50-\$100 in value. Jewelry, pottery, professional team sportswear and artwork have always sold well. Consider "travel ability and uniqueness" of the item you bring.

State Favors

Only hosting states (Region I) are asked to bring or ship a state memento to be placed on tables in the meeting rooms for attendees. As always, this is a voluntary contribution.

Region I includes:

- Alaska
- Hawaii
- Washington
- Oregon
- California
- Idaho
- Nevada
- Utah
- Wyoming
- Colorado
- Arizona
- New Mexico
- Montana.

Advisory Council Members Attended ASHA's Capitol Hill Advocacy Day

Audiologists and speech-language pathologists participated in American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Capitol Hill Day on March 16, 2012, in Washington, DC. Many of these individuals were state association presidents and past presidents. The purpose of ASHA's Advocacy Day is to educate and inform legislators and their aides about the key issues affecting both professions of audiology and speech-language pathology. The events began on the evening of March 15, 2012. Advisory Council, Political Action Committee Board of Directors (PACB) and Board of Directors were briefed on the legislative issues. These issues and actions were:

- **Protecting IDEA Funding from Sequestration.** Members of Congress were asked to protect federal education programs for children with disabilities from automatic federal budget cuts. Confess should not further harm students with disabilities by shifting the financial burden onto states and local governments, which are already cash- strapped.
- **Medicare Outpatient Therapy Caps.** Congress was encouraged to support H.R. 1546/ S. 829, the Medicare Access to Rehabilitation Services Act of 2011. Passage of this bill would ensure Medicare patients continue to have access to medically necessary speech-language pathology, occupational therapy and physical therapy.
- **Hearing Aid Assistance Credit.** Members of Congress were implored to co-sponsor H.R. 1479/ S. 905, the Hearing Aid Assistance Tax Credit Act.

- **Medicare Coverage of Audiology Services.** Congress was requested to support legislative efforts to provide senior citizens with a Medicare audiology benefit that would allow access to both diagnostic and rehabilitative services.
- **Congressional Hearing Health Caucus.** Members of Congress were urged to join the Hearing Health Caucus.
- **Paperwork Stifles Services to Children with Disabilities.** Congress was requested to address ways to reduce cumbersome administrative and paperwork requirements in the reauthorization of both ESEA and IDEA. They were also encouraged to contact schools in their district and schedule visits to meet with SLPs and audiologists to hear first-hand about the paperwork and administrative burden.

Submitted by: Regina Lemmon, PhD, pictured here with Molly Thompson



Letter From ASHA

Dear CSAP members,

The healthcare landscape is changing and will have a significant impact on the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology. The changes are significant and vary across the country. I would like to share some of the challenges and opportunities and hear from you about changes being discussed or implemented in your state. As presidents of the state associations, you are key leaders that have information and to share with each other and your colleagues across the country.

In 2011, ASHA conducted an SLP Service Continuum Summit that addressed issues specifically related to educational settings and the role of support personnel in the delivery of services. Several of you were in attendance. Some of you are collaborating with various stakeholders in your states to meet the needs of children with communication disorders. We are interested in hearing about the challenges and opportunities that you are experiencing in educational settings.

ASHA will conduct a brief survey to get your feedback regarding the challenges you are facing in health care or school settings. Additionally, please share any experiences that you are having related to service delivery options, functional outcomes, eligibility or reimbursement issues. Your feedback is valuable to ASHA; results will be shared in May.

Thanks,

Lemmietta McNeilly, PhD, CCC-SLP
 Chief Staff Officer, Speech-Language Pathology
 ASHA

Those HELP Forms

What a great CSAP Conference in Charleston! Our heads were filled with new ideas and we made lots of new connections. The Joint Committee met Sunday morning and began our review of the HELP (Help Evaluate Listen Purpose) forms you completed. We are sorting these into themes and will continue our review during our summer conference call(s). Some of your comments will return as topics at future CSAP meetings, some will be forwarded to ASHA to provide technical assistance to the association, and others will be formed into recommendations to ASHA from the Jt. Committee. Thanks so much for sharing your ideas and sparking action!

Submitted by: Lissa Power-deFur, ASHA representative to the Joint Committee

Autism Today With Dr. Pat



Autism Today With Dr. Pat starting March 6, 2012, Dr. Patrick J. Rydell began a national-international online radio show, Autism Today with Dr. Pat.

About The Host: Dr. Patrick J. Rydell is the Founder and Director of Rocky Mountain Autism Center. With more than 30 years of practice in the field of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), he has provided international and national training, workshops and program development to government agencies, medical facilities, universities, school districts, professionals and families. His doctorate was earned through a National Institute of Health Leadership in Autism grant (1989) and he has a double Masters Degree in speech pathology and special education with a program emphasis in early childhood and autism spectrum disorders. He is also a U.S. Fulbright Senior Specialist Grant recipient (2005). In addition to his co-authorship of the *SCERTS Model* and development of the *Learning Style Profile*, Dr. Rydell has co-authored five book chapters and numerous peer-reviewed research articles on topics related to autism spectrum disorders. Dr. Rydell is an ASHA member and holds a CCC-SLP.

About The Show: The purpose of **Autism Today With Dr. Pat** is to offer practical intervention strategies, methods and information to professionals and family members regarding their day-to-day interactions with children and adults with autism spectrum disorders. The show will focus on developing a sense of trust, personal relationship, genuineness and respect with the listeners so that they feel supported by someone who has been on the floor with the kids for more than 30 years of ASD practice. Dr. Pat will offer guidance and an informed roadmap to professionals and families who deal with the difficult challenges of autism spectrum disorders. **Autism Today With Dr. Pat** is broadcast live every Tuesday at 10 am Pacific Time on the **Voice America Health and Wellness Channel**, which has a global listenership of more than 270,000. **Autism Today With Dr. Pat** will draw from the empirical research in communication disorders in ASD as well as his practical experiences as a speech pathologist. Opportunities for professional development hours (ASHA CEUs) associated with this radio show will be available in the future once our shows are archived.

Radio Show Direct Link and information: Autism Today With Dr. Pat: <http://www.voiceamerica.com/show/2056/autism-today-with-dr-pat>



Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Rocky-Mountain-Autism-Center/300202530020089>

Connecticut's Legislative Session Update



The 2012 legislative session has gotten off to a roaring start. Many thanks to Meghan Krodel, Vernice Jury and Susan Edwards for their help with education and insurance issues so far this year.

Governor Malloy has called 2012 the Education Session, taking on education reform, aspects of which may affect our colleagues working in Connecticut schools, the employment setting for the majority of the licensed professionals in Connecticut, and our CSHA membership. CSHA is monitoring the bills coming from the Education Committee for language related to teacher evaluations, and monitoring for other language tucked into bills, which may affect school life and special education services. Schools around Connecticut continue to report a chronic shortage of speech-language pathologists to fill services stated on IEP plans.

In addition to education reform, the 2012 legislative session is taking on health care reform, in preparation for having a 'centralized health insurance exchange' set up by 2014. These exchanges would provide affordable insurance options for people who do not have health insurance through their employer. This also does not apply to people who are currently covered by Medicaid or Medicare. The legislators are currently deciding what requirements plans within the exchange will need based on recommendations from the federal government. They are also looking at what private health plans within the state are currently offering as a guide. Will speech therapy and audiology services be included under basic coverage plans?

CSHA's executive board and the CSHA School Affairs Committee are discussing developing a position statement on the importance of oral language skills as a factor in pre-literacy development and future reading success.

The Insurance and Real Estate Committee has already proposed SB 202, An Act Concerning Insurance Coverage for Hearing Aids. This is a topic which CSHA has advocated for more than 15 years. The language this year requires health insurance companies in Connecticut to cover one hearing aid, every two years, for adults, ages 55 to 64. CSHA and ASHA have submitted written testimony in support of SB 202, as well as suggesting that the bill would be stronger if it included child language to extend the mandate to cover children 13 to 18

years old. Currently in Connecticut, health insurance only covers hearing aids for children from birth to 12 years old. In addition, we suggested they lower the age for the benefit to 45, as this is the age when hearing loss in adults often begins.

Our professions need your support here in Connecticut!

Find your legislators for home and work, and links to SB 202, a fact sheet and template for writing a letter/email to your legislators on the CSHA Legislative Updates link here: http://www.ctspeechhearing.org/legislative_updates.html.

It's easy and important.

Mallory Buckingham
VP Government Affairs for Connecticut

CSAP Teleseminars

Leadership: Adjusting the Sails

Presented by: Melaine W. Hudson, MA, CCC-SLP

Replay Teleseminar

Cost \$20

For the aspiring and seasoned leader alike!

- What are the basic qualities of an effective leader?
- How to deal with difficult situations that confront leaders.
- Stories and examples to inspire and motivate.

Thinking Outside the Box: On-line Solutions for Your Association

Presented by Michael Shollenberger, founder of AuthWire

Replay Teleseminar

Cost \$20

Topics include:

- Website management/donations
- Online voting
- Online membership dues processing
- Conferences/Seminars - signups and payment
- Continuing education/online courses

Registration is available online at csap.org

Connecticut's President's Message



Everyone at CSHA looks forward to our Spring Conference, a great time to get together, see long-time friends and former classmates and get some great continuing education. When you come to CSHA conferences, please don't forget to bring your ASHA membership number for ASHA

CEUs and your EIN for SDE CEUs. We must collect CEU forms at the conference, so you won't be able to get your numbers to fill in later. Be prepared to bring them with you and complete paperwork at the conference. Please be aware, too, that we cannot take credit cards at the conference, so if you don't register ahead of time, you will have to pay with cash or a check. Please note there is a \$25 fee for on-site registration. So, please register early and consider taking advantage of our easy on-line registration, where you can use any credit card and receive the full member discount.

This year our conference again has two great days in store, with a potential total of .9 CEUs available for SLPs and .5 for AUDs. On Thursday, April 12, join our own Mary Purdy for a discussion of Cognitive-Communication Disorders and Diana Newman for a workshop on vocabulary instruction. Both these CSHA members are very generously donating their time and expertise to CSHA, for which we are very grateful! And take the opportunity to bid farewell to Diana, who will be relocating to be near her new grandchild! Friday's program is also stellar. For both SLPs and AUDs, **Kathleen Cienkowski** will discuss aural rehabilitation. **Robert Hillman** from MGH in Boston will present on *Current Trends and Future Directions in the Assessment and Treatment of Voice Disorders*, and **Sean Sweeney** will take us on a guided tour of *Apps for Language*. He encourages participants to bring their iPads! These full-day presentations will be punctuated with a luncheon at which you can network and visit. Also remember to visit our exhibitors and collect an extra .1 CEU by visiting our Poster Presentations. We will again hold the conference at the convenient COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT in Cromwell, CT, just off I-91. Don't miss it!

At the Spring Conference, we will also be electing new officers for the CSHA Executive Board. Our slate consists of:

- **Meghan Krodel** — stepping up to be VP for Governmental Affairs, to replace retiring Mallory Buckingham.
- **Anne Bartelmo** — replacing retiring VP for Planning, Joan McNulty.
- **Megan DeRita** — taking over as VP for Public Information for Susan Munroe, who has agreed to serve as your new CSHA President!

I want to express my personal gratitude to all our new and retiring Executive Board members—they are the people that make CSHA work. Since we are all volunteers, CSHA could not

exist without their selfless service. Please take a moment to vote for our new slate, to say a word of thanks to the new and retiring Board members at the conference, and consider stepping up yourself in the coming years! You can always contact me (PaulR4@sacredheart.edu), or our nominations chair, Jane Seibert (myengset@comcast.net), if you have questions or an interest in a particular Board position.

Not long after Spring Conference, on April 26, CSHA holds its third annual Lobby Day. Join us at the state capitol to learn about advocacy for our clients and their families, as well as for our profession, earn CEUs, meet legislators and lobbyists, and find out how laws are made on the state level. It's a very educational and enjoyable day, and CSHA provides the refreshments, too. This year we will be focusing on legislation for hearing aid coverage and education of deaf children. Contact Mallory Buckingham (VPGovt@ctspeechhearing.org) to arrange to come, to carpool, or to find out how you can help!

One piece of good news that has come our way is that the State Dep't. of Education has re-opened the search for a state-wide coordinator of school SLP services. We are hopeful this position will be filled with a top candidate, so that SLP services around CT can be adequately supported at the state level. Watch this space for further news! CSHA's active Legislative committee, headed by Mallory Buckingham and Vernice Jury have been instrumental in keeping the state DOE aware of the errors and issues that arise without this position, and this persistence has been instrumental in convincing the DOE of the importance of this position. This is the kind of difference CSHA can make to you and your clients and families.

Please remember that all the benefits of CSHA membership, including discounted continuing education, legislative vigilance and advocacy, and connection to your colleagues across the state. Remind you colleagues of the importance of CSHA membership, and encourage them to go to www.ctspeechhearing.org to join. They'll find it's easier to navigate than ever, but if you have any trouble at all, don't hesitate to call or email our Association Manager, Don Munroe, who can be reached by phone at 860-377-9066 or by Email at CSHA@ctspeechhearing.org. He is more than glad to help you. E-mail works best, but if you include a phone number he can call you back and talk you through the process over the phone. Please encourage all your colleagues to join CSHA so we can represent the broadest segment of our professions. You'd be surprised how much you can influence your colleagues with your example and enthusiasm. I look forward to seeing many of you at Spring Conference, and be sure to bring your friends!

Keep communicating!

Rhea Paul

President of Connecticut Speech-Language Hearing Association

Mississippi 216 Bachelor Level License



How the idea evolved

On July 9, 2010, the Commission on Teacher and Administrator Education, Certification and Licensure and Development in Mississippi approved a five-year standard license for speech-language teachers. The current license for speech pathology, the 215 speech-language clinician, is only granted on the master's level per licensure guidelines. The rationale for the development of this license was that *"the school districts cannot find candidates who meet these requirements thus many districts will not be able to offer services to students as required by law."* The proposal that the Commission is being asked to approve and recommend to the state board is a standard five-year license on the bachelor's level for speech-language teacher with an endorsement code of 216. These teachers would hold a bachelor's degree from an approved speech pathology or communicative disorder program and pass the Praxis I. The license would limit these teachers to provide service to students in articulation therapy only and be supervised by a masters-level speech-language pathologist.

What has happened

On October 21, 2010, the Mississippi Board of Education met and approved the action of the Commission *and* noted the license *"would give tremendous assistance to Mississippi school districts."* The license, as approved by the Board, will go into effect on July 1, 2013.

Prior to the vote, Gloria Kellum, PhD, CCC-SLP, retired Vice Chancellor, University of Mississippi and Jayne Buttross, Educational Advocacy Attorney were introduced as the co-chairs of the Task Force for the 216 that would examine the 216 license before July 1, 2013, and advise the Board on implementation and other issues that should be considered in the best interest of Mississippi's school children with special needs.

The Task Force was created by agreement of the Board and the State Superintendent of Education. Task Force members were selected and appointed by the State Superintendent and by the Commissioner of Institutions of Higher Learning. The Task Force is supported by Department of Education and IHL Staff.

At the first Task Force meeting on March 30, 2011, the State Superintendent predicated his charge to the Task Force with his assurance that the emergency and interim licenses currently in Mississippi would be eliminated by 2013. The Task Force was asked to consider and determine how speech-language pathology services could be supported by personnel with a limited license; the appropriate tasks for personnel holding this license; the appropriate supervision model; appropriate models for academic and clinical training; the requirements for transitioning from an emergency and interim certificate to a 216 license; and ways to advance the skills of 216 license holders and transition them into 215 master's level license holders.

At the first meeting, the Task Force began to develop a statement of issues, concerns and challenges to address. By summer of 2011, the Task Force had been divided into five work groups to facilitate collection of information. These work groups include: (1) Supervision of 216 License Holders; (2) Recruitment and Retention for 215 License Holders; (3) Undergraduate Curriculum Review and Development; (4) Scope of Practice; and (5) Finance.

The Task Force's guiding principal in developing the plan and recommendations to the Board, has been to do what is in the best interest of the school children of Mississippi. Whether through screening, testing, providing direct services, supervising, or other roles and practices, speech-language pathology services impact children and their educational successes, and ultimately their transition from school to work. Eliminating emergency and interim certificates must be replaced with aggressive and creative recruitment of 215 licensed, master's level speech-language pathologists, and, recruitment of 216 licensed, bachelor's level support personnel, as needed.

What will happen next

At the time of the CSAP newsletter going to print the report and plan has been submitted to the State Superintendent for presentation to the State Board of Education and the Task Force is moving toward implementation of all parts of the plan by July 2013.

The first steps (May 2012) are to train a cadre of masters level speech-language pathologists (SLPs) to supervise the 216 licensees, based on the premise that SLPs do not graduate from training programs knowing how to supervise. The second step, to be completed by June-July 2012, is to offer summer workshops and institutes to Bachelor level SLPs who have already graduated and are working in schools, but will become the 216 licensees as of July 2013. This training will include additional clinical experiences, IEP information, and opportunities for enhanced skill training.

In addition, the Task Force is starting an aggressive and intensive recruitment and retention program to attract Masters level SLPs to the schools in challenged areas. Our first step has been to introduce a bill in the 2012 Legislature for the loan forgiveness of graduate students who accept a two year position in the schools in the challenged areas. This bill has passed the House and is in the Senate at this writing with the expectation of enabling legislation for 2012 but the hope of funded legislation.

With the permission of the CSAP newsletter editor, the writer will submit an update to the Mississippi 216 Bachelor Level License process and progress in each of the five areas in the next newsletter.

*Dr. Carolyn Wiles Higdon
2012 Past MSHA President*

CSAP EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COMMITTEES 2012

PRESIDENT

Molly Thompson (AK)
polarspeech@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Paulette Gentry (TN)
paulette.gentry@mnps.org

PAST PRESIDENT

Carol Fleming (AR)
cbflem@swbell.net

SECRETARY

Dawn Merth Johnson (WI)
rivcoach.johnson@gmail.com

TREASURER

Tara Gregori (SC)
taragregori@bellsouth.net

MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Craven Management Associates, LLC
 Liz Thomas, Account Manager
 Robert Craven, Business Manager
 700 McKnight Park Drive, Suite 708
 Pittsburgh, PA 15237
 412-366-1177
 412-366-8804 (fax)

COMMISSIONER ON ISSUES AND PLANNING

COMMISSIONER ON COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY
Rachel Williams (FL)
rachwill@hova.edu

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Regina Lemmon (SC)
lemmonly@gmail.com

E-NEWSLETTER

Regina Lemmon (Editor)
lemmonly@gmail.com

TIME AND PLACE COMMITTEE

Susan Benson (Chair), (OK)
susan-gilmore@ouhsc.edu

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Amber Heape (Chair), (SC)
aheape1979@gmail.com

Yolanda Miller, (HI)
ymiller@hsha.org

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS SPRING 2012

Anchorage, AK
Molly Thompson
polarspeech@yahoo.com

The Mission of CSAP is to:

1. *provide leadership training for state Speech-Language-Hearing association presidents.*
2. *be a forum for collaboration and networking among these leaders.*
3. *promote communication of professional matters between state Speech Language Hearing associations, ASHA and other related national professional organizations.*

CSAP Vision

CSAP is the premier organization where state leaders meet to cultivate a unique culture of growth and knowledge through collaborative efforts.

CSAP is a related association of the [American Speech-Language Hearing Association](#)