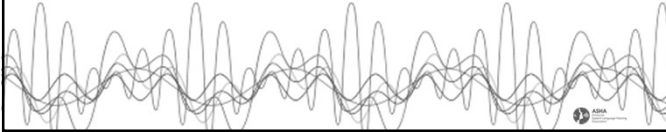


ASHA State Association Grants

Eileen Crowe, Director, State Association Relations, ASHA
CSAP Spring Conference, May 18, 2019



Disclosure

- Financial-I am an ASHA employee
- Nonfinancial-None



What Makes an Association Eligible for an ASHA Grant?

- ASHA Recognition



How much ASHA Grant Funding has been Provided to ASHA Recognized State Association's since 2008?



More than \$630,000



What are the Components of a Good Grant Application?

- Well thought out grant project and implementation plan
- Limited scope of project
- Reasonable time frame for completion
- Funding contribution from state association



What Can Grant Funds Not Be Used For?

- Personal gain of any type
- Equipment or supplies that are (a) gratuitous because they are not primarily required for grant activities or (b) primarily given or used as someone's personal possession, rather than being the association's possession loaned for just for the duration of grant activities
- Education or training of audiologists, speech-language pathologists (or other providers) in clinical practice
- Travel to attend meetings and conferences that don't directly further the goals of the grant project



What Can Grant Funds Not Be Used For?

- Travel expenses (e.g., days, hotel, mileage, meals) for any more than is required to attend a grant-related meeting
- Services of external consultants, lobbyists, or others, except when necessary to carry out grant activities that can't be reasonably accomplished otherwise
- Projects related to any type of federally funded government health care program, such as Medicare, IDEA-mandated school programs, non-Medicaid state programs, military, or veterans' programs



What Can Grant Funds Not Be Used For?

- Projects that fund what is typically a state or local government funded expense such as faculty salaries
- Projects designed to solely increase the membership of a state association



Can State Association's Apply for a Part Two Grant?

- 2019-California



2019 Grant Funding Awardees

- CA, CO, IN, MA, MN, MO, MT, NJ, NH, NM, OR, PA, and VA



2019 Grant Funding Examples

- New Mexico-Hire a consultant and create a NMSHA project team to educate SLPs statewide about SLPA licensure and practice
- New Jersey-Hire a videographer to film 4 town hall meetings of panel discussions on interprofessional education and interprofessional practice
- Missouri-Provide trainings at regional professional development centers statewide on new speech-language eligibility criteria
- Oregon-Improve the state association web site to showcase documentary short videos developed on the role of SLPs and train volunteers in the maintenance of the site



ASHA Resources

<https://www.asha.org/Advocacy/stateleaders/StateAssocGrants/>



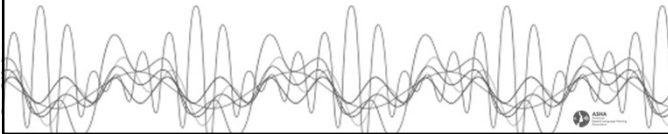
Other Grant Funding Examples

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CJfTCwwNn5E>



2019 State Trends

Janet Deppe, MS CCC-SLP FNAP -ASHA
CSAP Spring Conference, May 18, 2019



Disclosure

- Financial-I am an ASHA employee
- Nonfinancial-I support ASHA's public policy initiatives and serve as the ex-officio to ASHA's School Finance Committee



State Issues

- Professional Practice
 - Occupational licensure reform and private certification
 - Interstate Licensure Compact- Update
 - Regulation of Assistants
- Scope of Practice Issues
 - Music therapy
 - Role of the Audiologist/SLP in the treatment of Autism
- Consumer Issues
 - LEAD-K
- Patient, Client and Student Issues
 - School Choice



State Issues

- Health Care Issues
 - Medicaid Managed Care
 - Telepractice
 - Changing eligibility requirements for audiology and SLP services
 - Interstate sale of insurance plans
 - Short Term Limited Duration Plans



Occupational Licensure Reform (OCL)

- 55 state bills in 2019 to enact burdensome OCL reform/Government vs. Private Certification
- 4 categories
 - Criminal re-entry
 - OLR and Right to Earn a Living
 - Government vs., Private Certification
 - Unlicensed Consumer Choice
- 2 bills passed in 2018 (MO and OH) and HB 1302 in AR in 2019



Interstate Licensure Compact Update

- The draft has been approved by the advisory committee
- Conference calls were held with 17 states to elicit support and identify legislators to attend an educational summit
- Toolkit is being developed
- An educational summit planned for early fall, 2019



Assistant regulation

- States have introduced legislation to regulate assistants: (MN, NM)
- ASHA's assistant certification program:
 - include several pathways and;
 - a national exam
- ASHA's certification will help states who wish to regulate assistants set standards based on ASHA requirements
- Over time, states will achieve uniform standards which will help insurers consider coverage for assistant services



Scope of Practice Issues

- Music therapy licensure
 - 12 states introduced 18 bills
 - VA passed SB 1547 that requires the Board of Health Professions to determine whether or not MTs should be regulated. Report due 11/19
- Therapy for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
 - 2018 autism awareness campaign using Google, LinkedIn and Twitter
 - Targeted pediatricians and other healthcare professionals, early intervention and school administrators, policy makers and families
 - 2019 developed a toolkit for families:
<https://www.asha.org/uploadedFiles/ASHA-SLP-ASD-Flyer.pdf>



LEAD-K

- 16 states introduced LEAD-K legislation in states this year
- Three bills appear to be still active in IN, TX, NY
- ASHA supports:
 - A families right to decide the best language and /or communication method for the child who is deaf/hard of hearing (D/HH)
 - Including ASL, spoken language or a combination
 - The development and distribution of a comprehensive parent resource
- ASHA has information on its website:
<https://www.asha.org/Advocacy/LEAD-K/>



School Choice

- US Department of Education supports state efforts to expand school choice
- Active school choice programs in FL, AZ and IN
- ASHA support families right to select the school program that meets their child/family needs, as long as families understand the benefits/drawbacks of their choice
- ASHA supports school choice programs that:
 - Do not decrease funding from public system
 - Maintain the same quality standards for teachers and other staff (meet state credentialing standards)
 - Maintain the same standards for student achievement
 - Uphold equal access to the full range of services for children with disabilities
 - Comply with applicable laws (IDEA, ADA, 504)
 - Maintain privacy protections under HIPAA and FERPA



Growth of Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO)

- 37% of school-aged children are covered by Medicaid/CHIP
- Nearly 2/3 are enrolled in MCOs
- MCOs may be able to set reimbursement rates lower than Medicaid (determined by state)
- MCOs will be implementing prior authorization so providers will need to know the requirements
- Laurie Alban Havens at lalbanhavens@asha.org is the contact



Telepractice

- 2017 nearly all states and DC have some Medicaid coverage
- Audiologists/ SLPs primarily use live video which is accepted by most states
- Unless state guidance or state licensing rules specifically require in-person therapy, telepractice can be utilized
- Payer may choose to reimburse for the service



Changing Eligibility Requirements in Medicaid

- Work requirements passed in several states- (mostly those that expanded Medicaid) AR, KY NH
- Work requirement rules challenged in the courts
- Rescinding optional coverage for adults- TN
- New limits on frequency/duration
- More frequent re-authorization requirements



Interstate Sale of Insurance plans

- ASHA submitted comments in early May sharing concerns
 - Lack of consumer protections- depending on the state
 - Lack of oversight ability of state insurance commissioners
 - Lack of enforcement of state mandates
 - Habilitation/Rehabilitation
 - Hearing Aids
 - Autism services coverage
- For more information contact Daneen Sekoni at dsekoni@asha.org



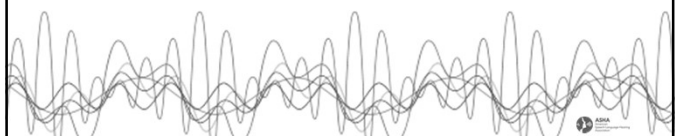
Short Term Limited Duration Plans (STLD)

- Designed as a short term gap in insurance
- Exempts Affordable Care Act (ACA) protections
 - EHB coverage
 - Cap on coverage
 - Preexisting conditions
- 2018 rules prohibited sale of STLD beyond 3 months
- New rules allow plans extended for up to three years
- Consumers and providers need to be aware of the limitations of these plans
- ASHA has a toolkit with an FAQ, issue brief and resources to help associations oppose/mitigate these plans
- Contact your state liaison for more information



POLITICAL CLIMATE 2019 Impacts on Congress, States, and ASHA

Jeffrey P. Regan, MA, Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy



Agenda

- 2018 Mid-Term Election Results
- Election Takeaways
- Election Impacts
 - Congress/States
 - ASHA
- ASHA's Public Policy Agenda and Issue Objectives
- Looking Ahead to 2020
- S.I.G. Advocacy
- Questions and Discussion!



2018 Mid-Term Election Results

- **House of Representatives:** Democrats picked up 40 seats (+17 majority)
- **Senate:** Republicans picked up 2 seats (+3 majority)
- **Governorships:** Democrats won 7 additional governorships nationwide
 - Republicans hold 27 seats
 - Democrats hold 23 seats
- **State Legislatures:** Democrats flipped 350 seats and 6 chambers
 - Republicans hold 23 "trifectas"
 - Democrats hold 14 "trifectas"
 - 13 states have divided government
 - 1 state (MN) has divided legislature



Election Takeaways

- Voter turnout (50.3%) was the highest since mid-term elections in 1914
- \$5.2 billion spent – a 16% increase over the previous record (\$4.4 billion in 2016)
- The President was clearly a political liability in suburban Congressional districts
- 127 women won races in Congress
- This was an election of "firsts"
 - youngest woman elected to Congress (Ocasio-Cortez in NY)
 - first Muslim women elected to Congress (Omar in MN, Tlaib in MI)
 - first Native American women elected to Congress (Davids in KS, Haaland in NM)
 - first openly gay Governor (Polis in CO)



Election Impacts

Congress/States

- **House of Representatives**
 - Democratic majority is difficult to lead; strong disagreements exist over party direction, priorities, and policies
 - Republican minority is more conservative than the Republican majority in the previous Congress
- **Senate**
 - Republican majority is more conservative than in the previous Congress with leadership showing deference to the President
 - Democratic minority is more liberal than in the previous Congress
- **Administration**
 - notably diminished support among swing voters; base support remains steady around 35%
 - no political leverage in House; limited leverage in Senate – leverage remains strongest for judicial appointments
- **States**
 - Red and Blue "trifecta" states likely to pursue divergent agendas with some exceptions (e.g., Medicaid)
 - Democrats gain some political leverage in Congressional redistricting in 2020



Election Impacts

ASHA

- **Congressional** passage **very unlikely** for bills that repeal/replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA), implement "Medicare for all," reinstate the fine for the ACA individual mandate, end Medicaid expansion, eliminate Essential Health Benefits, or restrict states' ability to implement work requirements for Medicaid.
- **Congressional** passage **unlikely** for bills that reauthorize the Higher Education Act and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- **Congressional** passage **possible** for bills that address coverage of services under Medicare.
- **Congressional** oversight action **likely** on state implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act.
- **State** action **very likely** on so-called short-term limited duration insurance plans, Medicaid expansion, Medicaid work requirements, occupational licensure review, and private certification.



ASHA's Public Policy Agenda

- developed annually by the Government Relations and Public Policy Board with input from volunteer leaders, members, and staff; adopted annually by the ASHA Board of Directors
- functions to identify the "what" in terms of what are ASHA's advocacy priorities for the year
- guides ASHA staff to identify the "how" in terms of how those priorities are advanced
- maximizes staff utilization of resources on behalf of ASHA
- maximizes ASHA's influence and relevancy on behalf of members



ASHA's Public Policy Agenda

- Priorities for 2019 are categorized into 4 issue areas:
 - Health Care Issues
 - Schools Issues
 - Professional Practice/Workforce Issues
 - Patient, Client, and Student Issues
- The Government Affairs and Public Policy cluster advances advocacy priorities by identifying and collaboratively achieving meaningful objectives in the current political and fiscal climate.



ASHA's Public Policy Agenda

Objectives of Relevance to CSAP

- Engage state associations on STLDI plans and continued coverage of habilitation and rehabilitation services
- Secure "report language" that requires the Department of Education and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to identify strategies designed to mitigate caseload/workload burdens in schools
- Identify sponsors of model interstate license compact legislation in targeted states.
- Engage state associations and state licensing boards to ensure that music therapists and hearing aid dispensers do not infringe upon the scopes of practice of speech-language pathologists
- Engage state associations on legislation that seeks to place unnecessary burdens on occupational licensure, or private certification
- Engage state associations on model legislation being promoted by the LEAD-K coalition



Looking Ahead to 2020

"This is a multilevel chess game with more candidates than anyone has seen..."

Joe Trippi
Democratic Strategist



Looking Ahead to 2020

Democrats

- multiple "hopefuls" in a very crowded field: **Biden**, Booker, Brown, Castro, Delaney, Gillebrand, Harris, Klobuchar, Hickenlooper, Merkley, O'Rourke, **Sanders**, Warren
- The successful candidate will need, among other things:
 - Appeal across a broad and divisive base of voters
 - Unprecedented cash flow to sustain a lengthy primary season and the general election
 - Mastery of digital and social media

Republicans

- Trump is not a shoe-in for the 2020 nomination, but his prospects are improving
- Can a so-called "establishment" candidate gather enough populist support?



ASHA Advocacy

We are all advocates with important voices!

- ASHA's advocacy portal: <http://www.asha.org/advocacy>
- ASHA Headlines: <http://www.asha.org/Publications/ASHA-Headlines>
- ASHA's Take Action service: <http://takeaction.asha.org/20>
- ASHA-PAC: <http://www.asha.org/Advocacy/PAC>
- visits to Capitol Hill
- support for visits to state capitols



Questions

