

# Celebrate Speech and Hearing!

## May is Better Hearing and Speech Month (MBHSM)

May is the *perfect* time for all of us to work together to increase consumer and public awareness of the services provided by speech-language pathologists and audiologists. No matter the setting, we can all make a difference by spreading the word!

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

	<b>Speech-Language Pathologists</b>	<b>Audiologists</b>
<b>Birth-3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ Volunteer to talk to a local day care program or parent group about the signs of delays and where to find help</li> <li>☆ Provide information for parents to take about developmental norms at day care facilities, places of worship, pediatric offices, etc. (Free info is available to print at <a href="http://www.asha.org">www.asha.org</a>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ Volunteer to talk to a local day care program or parent group about signs of hearing loss and where to find help</li> <li>☆ Provide information about signs of hearing impairment and the services of Audiologists at day care facilities, pediatric offices, etc.</li> <li>☆ Seek out a parent group of children with hearing loss and offer to attend a meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Preschool</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ Visit a local preschool and talk to the teachers about signs of a communication delay</li> <li>☆ Provide developmental norm information for parents and teachers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ Visit a local preschool and talk to the teachers about signs of hearing impairment</li> <li>☆ Provide information for parents and teachers about healthy listening habits</li> </ul>
<b>School Age</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ Post a sign in your school office stating “May is Better Hearing and Speech Month”</li> <li>☆ Ask your students to brainstorm ideas for a brochure on how to be a good communicator</li> <li>☆ Ask your students to develop an informative banner regarding what they learn in speech for the students who are not receiving speech therapy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ Contact the school nurse at your local/child’s school. Ask for their help in promoting good aural hygiene</li> <li>☆ Volunteer to speak at the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) meeting in May about the importance of ear protection</li> <li>☆ Suggest a “Career Day” in May at a local high school where you provide information about audiologists</li> </ul>
<b>Adult</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ Make sure your consumers and/or their caregivers know May is Better Hearing &amp; Speech Month</li> <li>☆ Ask your patients/clients if they would write a letter to a legislator about the importance of speech therapy services</li> <li>☆ Contact a local TV/radio station and ask if they would be willing to promote MBHSM through a public service announcement (PSA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ Make sure your consumers and/or their caregivers know May is Better Hearing and Speech Month</li> <li>☆ Ask your patients/clients if they would write a letter to a legislator about the importance of audiological services</li> <li>☆ Contact a local TV/radio station and ask if they would be willing to promote MBHSM through a PSA</li> </ul>