

CLD Corner: Q&A for the CLD Experts

The CLD Corner is a regular column written by members of the TSHA Task Force on Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD).

The CLD Corner was created in an effort to respond to questions on cultural and linguistic diversity (CLD) and is answered by members of the TSHA Task Force on Cultural and Linguistic Diversity. Members for the 2008-2009 year include **Lynette Austin, Gina Glover (co-chair), Katsura Aoyama, Ellen Stubbe Kester (co-chair), Nelcy L. Cardenas, Catherine Carrasco-Lynch, Benigno Valles, Julia Peña, Erica Dinkins, and Jacqueline Lopez.** Submit your questions to ginamglover@yahoo.com. Look for responses from the CLD Task Force on the TSHA website and in the *Communicologist*.

The CLD Task Force is now offering half- and full-day trainings for school districts, education service centers, university programs, and other agencies on **Assessment and Intervention with CLD Populations.** For information, contact Gina Glover at ginamglover@yahoo.com

The Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD) Task Force has undergone a few changes. We have some new members and will be tackling some new issues related to serving clients from CLD backgrounds.

The Task Force would like to acknowledge the great work of two members. **Roxanna Ruiz-Felter** has rotated off the Task Force after 2 years of service to focus on the Companion to the Language Template Task Force. She will be co-chairing that group and we wish her much success. Dr. **Lynette Austin** has been a critical member of the Task Force and has co-chaired for the past 3 years. She has stepped down as co-chair but will continue to be a member of the Task Force. The Task Force completed several major objectives under Lynette's leadership, and we are excited she will continue on the Task Force. Replacing Lynette as co-chair is Dr. **Ellen Stubbe Kester** of Austin. Ellen has been a member of the Task Force and we look forward to her leadership as we work on future projects.

Erica Dinkins and **Jacqueline Lopez** will be joining our Task Force this year. Erica is from the University of North Texas and

will bring a fresh perspective as we begin to expand our focus on cultural aspects of diversity. Jacqueline is a student at the University of Texas-El Paso and will be joining **Julia Peña** as a student member. We are proud to say members of the Task Force represent many of the geographic regions in the state of Texas (North Texas/Dallas and Fort Worth area, Austin, South Texas, West Texas, and the Panhandle). Members also represent a variety of settings including public school, university, private practice, and early childhood.

Members will be working on several new goals and objectives. In the recent past, the Task Force has focused significantly on linguistic diversity issues and will continue to do so. However, one of our goals for the next year will be to shift more attention to the cultural aspects relating to diversity. Future columns will have information and resources to assist TSHA members with cultural diversity issues they may encounter as they serve their students and clients. A second objective for the Task Force is to continue updating the diversity section of the TSHA website. The first major change was completed this past spring, making the section more user-friendly. Future changes are ahead. Suggestions from the membership are certainly welcomed!

Matt Learns to Read



Work Arena Public Relations Task Force Chair **Katie Stoneman** donated *Matt Learns to Read* books on behalf of TSHA to Summer Carr. Carr is coordinating a book drive for the Honors Society in Education at

Collin County Community College. Books are being collected for the children of Austin Street Centre, a shelter for homeless families located in Dallas. The children were able to go home with a new book. What an exciting way to share literacy and a love for language with those that need it most!

To order your free 25 copies today and share the importance of reading with a child, download a *Matt Learns to Read* request form online at www.txsha.org/publications/matt_learns_to_read.asp.



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