

Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association
Annual Report

January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021

TSHA2021 TEXAS SPEECH-LANGUAGE-
HEARING ASSOCIATION
65th Annual Convention & Exhibition

AUSTIN ★ TEXAS



**beyond
BARRIERS**
APRIL 15-17

TEXAS SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION

www.txsha.org

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**Stay
Connected to TSHA All
Year Long**

Keep up-to-date on happenings within TSHA by reading the bimonthly *Communicologist* magazine and biweekly *TSHA Talk* e-newsletter and by following TSHA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#). Also, check the [TSHA website](#) for the latest association news as well as resources for speech-language pathologists and audiologists across all practice settings.

Message from the TSHA President

Dear TSHA Members,

The Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association (TSHA) is an organization that is committed to supporting speech-language pathologists and audiologists in the state of Texas. TSHA, established in 1956, has been striving for more than 60 years to fulfill its mission of empowering members to provide the highest-quality, life-changing care for individuals with communication and related disorders. TSHA has approximately 5,000 members who serve consumers across the state in a variety of settings including schools, universities, hospitals, private practice, home health, and other settings.

The TSHA 2021 Annual Report is a summary of the tremendous work of more than 100 volunteers across Texas who have dedicated their time and effort to ensure that TSHA accomplishes its vision to enhance the quality of life for the individuals we serve. With extraordinary work from these volunteers and continued team work, TSHA continues to grow and provide more opportunities and support to the professions.

I am grateful for every one of the board members and committee chairs I had the pleasure of working with this year and all their efforts to grow our association. It's been exciting and a lot of hard work, but I have truly enjoyed my time serving as president and feel very fortunate to have had this opportunity. Though my term as president has ended, I can step down with confidence and look to our future as I pass the torch to Robyn Martin. Through her leadership and the amazing new board, I know TSHA will continue to support this community of speech-language pathologists and audiologists. We are fortunate to have a professional organization looking out for our interests and providing us with the support we need to successfully and ethically serve our students and clients. Thank you for your continued support and membership in TSHA.

With great appreciation,



Michelle Mendieta, MS, CCC-SLP
TSHA President, 2020-2021

2021 TSHA Executive Board

President	Michelle Mendieta	Vice President for Professional Services . . .	Lisa Milliken
President-Elect	Robyn Martin	TSHF President	Gina Glover
Vice President for Educational and Scientific Affairs	Brittany Hall	Financial Advisory Committee Chair . . .	Cherry Wright
Vice President for Social and Governmental Policy	Jenny McGlothlin	Publications Board Chair	Jan Lougeay
Vice President for Member Engagement	Melissa Liska	Graduate Student Representatives . .	Matthew Randal and Cesar Jaquez
Vice President for Research and Development	Dalan Gore	Director of Governmental Affairs	Larry Higdon
Vice President for Audiology	Michelle Pho	Legal and Legislative Counsel	Mark Hanna
		Executive Director	Kelly Hayes

TSHA Mission and Vision

2021 Annual Report

The 2021 Annual Report of the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association (TSHA) is a summary of the tremendous work that volunteers across Texas have dedicated their time and efforts to in order to ensure that TSHA continues to strive to be the leading organization that supports speech-language pathologists (SLPs), audiologists, and their consumers in Texas.

Mission

Empowering members to provide the highest-quality, life-changing care for individuals with communication and related disorders

Vision

Enhancing the quality of life for the individuals we serve

Purpose

- Encourage and promote the role of the speech-language pathologist and audiologist as a professional in the delivery of clinical services to persons with communication disorders
- Encourage basic scientific study of processes of individual human communication with special reference to speech, hearing, and language
- Encourage clinical research and the interchange of information among speech-language pathologists and audiologists, and other professionals concerned with human communication and its disorders
- Promote prevention of disorders of human communication
- Provide continuing educational activities and opportunities for professional growth and fellowship
- Promote the highest standards of preparation and practice in speech-language pathology and audiology
- Promote public awareness and influence public opinions concerning the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology and the needs of persons with communication disorders
- Encourage affiliation and cooperation with other persons and organizations having similar interests and objectives through legislative and professional advocacy.

TSHA Accomplishments for 2021

By **Melissa Liska, Vice President of Member Engagement**

Reflecting back on 2021, the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association (TSHA) continued to be resilient through the COVID-19 pandemic by providing its members with an alternative means to participate in the TSHA 2021 Convention and expanded the online availability of continuing education (CE) courses. Here are just a few of TSHA's accomplishments this past year:

- Held a successful virtual 65th Annual Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association (TSHA) Convention
- Consistently engaged with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) to ensure the administrative rules continue to make telehealth waivers permanent in order to allow speech-language pathology (SLP) interns and SLP Assistants to practice and to be supervised via telehealth
- Offered quality online CE courses for TSHA members
- Built a strong diversity committee to continue conducting live sessions on social media to discuss diversity, inclusion, and equity within our professions
- Published Café TSHA in the *Communicologist*, which featured tips to assist TSHA members in conducting successful telepractice sessions, student-focused ideas and inspiration, and wellness tips for self-care
- Provided quality resources in all fields of practice for TSHA members

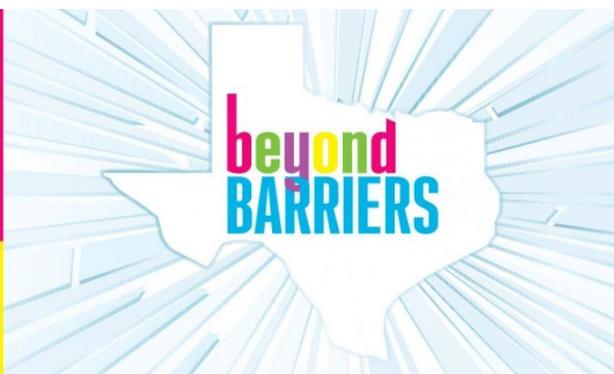


Looking to the future, TSHA will be resilient in brainstorming all avenues to reach our top potential for our members. We continue to be persistent in providing TSHA members with the most current continuing education courses available across a variety of platforms. In addition, TSHA will continue to develop creative resources to support and improve its members' professional careers.

TSHA 2021 Convention in Review

TSHA2021 TEXAS SPEECH-LANGUAGE-
HEARING ASSOCIATION
65th Annual Convention & Exhibition

APRIL 12-15 **ONLINE**



1,869
live virtual attendees

Keynote Speaker
Shola Richards

Unstoppable Resilience: The Keys to Staying Strong During Any Crisis



65
breakout
sessions

8
student teams
competed in the
Praxis Bowl

Highest Rated Sessions

- NICU Feeding Program - Oral Feedings On Respiratory Devices
- AAC and Tele Therapy Tips and Tools - You Can Do It!
- Supporting Literacy in Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Sessions Strands

AAC | Audiology | Ethics | Language | Professional Issues | Student Interests | Swallowing & Feeding

48
virtual
exhibitors

Flexible Attendance

18 session recordings available for on-demand viewing for 41 days

38
poster
presentations

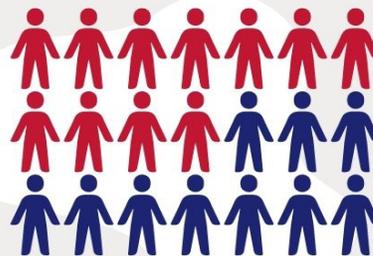
TSHA 2021 Membership in Review



Year-In-Review 2021

Our Community

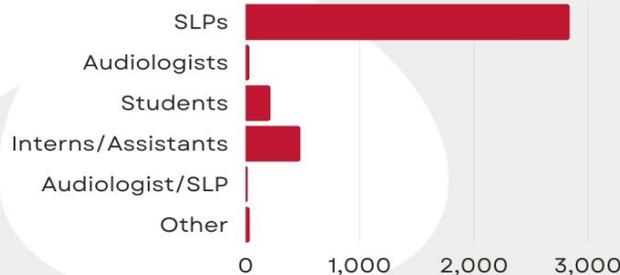
3,619 Texas-based speech-language pathologists, students, assistants, interns and audiologists provide the highest quality, life-changing care for individuals with communication and related disorders.



Membership Growth

Our population of speech-language pathologist members grew by **87%** in 2021.

87%



Continuing Education

TSHA offered **23** webinars in 2021. The webinar with the most attendance was "A Social Emotional Roadmap to Help Kids Navigate Challenging Times".



Advocating for You

TSHA volunteers addressed issues including Medicaid, ABA encroachment, regulatory equity across professions, and equitable funding formulas at the 87th Texas Legislative session in Austin.

Activities of the Association

PRESIDENT: MICHELLE MENDIETTA

Graduate Student Representatives

- **Cesar Jaquez** and **Matthew Randal**
- Placed students on TSHA committees in order to support committees with a student perspective
- Met with each TSHA committee to encourage reception of students on committees
- Communicated with National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association (NSSLHA) chapters across the state
- Completed regular social media outreach on the [student Facebook page](#) and submitted articles for [each Communicologist issue](#)

ASHA Liaisons

- State Advocate for Reimbursement (STAR): **Kristina Kelley**
- State Advocate for Medicare Policy (StAMP): **Lisa Milliken** and **Mendi Lancaster**
- State Education Advocacy Leader (SEAL): **Whitney Dittman**
- Advocated for reimbursement policy for consumers who were receiving speech-language pathology services and audiology services
- Participated in calls from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), disseminated information to the TSHA membership regarding modifications, created presentations, and answered questions from members

Financial Advisory Committee

- Chair: **Cherry Wright**
- Members: **Lynn Flahive, Peggy Kipping, Martha McGlothlin, Margarita Limon-Ordonez, Lisa Milliken, Judy Rich, Brad Briscoe** (public member), **Jennifer Giles** (student member), **Robyn Martin** (ex-officio), **Michelle Mendietta** (ex-officio), **Kelly Hayes** (ex-officio)
- Reviewed the 2020 Audit. The auditors identified no discrepancies.
- Met with the TSHA Financial Advisor to review investments of the Association. As of September 13, 2021, the portfolio totaled \$1,945,063. This included \$418,845.07 in aggressive growth and income for the long term (actively managed) and \$1,526,218.36 in moderate growth for the long term (American Funds). Average Growth was reportedly 6.2% in the Moderate Growth funds and 6.5% in the Aggressive Growth and Income funds. The average total gross weight return for year-to-date was 10.5%. It should be noted that no additional

funds have been added to the portfolio since 2018.

- Reviewed the anticipated year-end budget for 2020. At the time of the adoption of the budget, there was a projected deficit of \$360,902, due primarily to an anticipated decline in membership and cancellation of the Annual Convention because of the pandemic. As of September 2021, the anticipated deficit for the end of the year was \$154,046. The reduction in the projected deficit was a result of less expense related to the virtual convention and wise management of operational expenses.
- Reviewed the projected budget for 2022.

Publications Board

- Chair: **Janice Lougeay**
- **Hillary Klimkowski** and **Lisa Carver** continued in their roles as alternating editors of the *Communicologist*, and **Gillian B. Oliver** also served as a reviewer.
- **Sarah Guineaux** is a new member added to the board in 2021 to create the content for the Cafe TSHA section of the *Communicologist*.
- **Emily Touchstone** and **Tiffany Marie Cruz** served as content editors for *TSHA Talk*, and **Lisa Milliken** and **Candace Bourland Hicks** continued as content reviewers for *TSHA Talk*.
- **Courtney Michaela Hunter** continued as social media liaison.
- **Donise Pearson, Sherry Sancibrian, and Martha McGlothlin** served as the TSHA Publications Board members at-large. The work of the TSHA Publications Board was also supported by **Shelby O'Neill**, who served as the TSHA Publications Editor and as an ex-officio member of the TSHA Publications Board.
- The TSHA Publications Board monitored and directed the production of accurate, timely, and informative publications for TSHA members.
- The TSHA Publications Board will continue to work with members of the TSHA EB to publish the *Communicologist*, *TSHA Talk*, the *Annual Report*, and other publications as assigned by the EB.

Honors and Awards Committee

- Chair: **Donise Pearson**
- TSHA Award of Honors: **Margarita Limon-Ordonez**
- Hall of Fame Award: **Ann Higdon**
- Jack L. Bangs Award: **JoAnn Wiechmann**
- Public Service Award: **Katsura Aoyama**

Activities of the Association

Nominations and Elections Committee

- Chair: **Keri Gonzalez**
- Vice President-Elect for Educational and Scientific Affairs: **Angela Kennedy**
- Vice President-Elect for Research and Development: **Jessica Carter**
- Vice President-Elect for Social and Governmental Policy: **Bobbie Kay Turkett** (*Bobbie Kay agreed to return to the board and fulfill the two-year term of Vice President for Social and Governmental Policy as Kathy Wheat has relocated to Oklahoma*)

Ethical Practices Committee

- Chair: **Bess Sirmon Taylor**
- There were no ethical violations to report
- This committee has been dissolved

Past Presidents' Powerhouse

- Chair: **Martha McGlothlin**
- Communicated with past presidents on tasks assigned by the Executive Board

Past Vice Presidents' Village

- Chair: **Rebecca Linke**
- Completed tasks assigned by the Executive Board

Leadership Development Committee

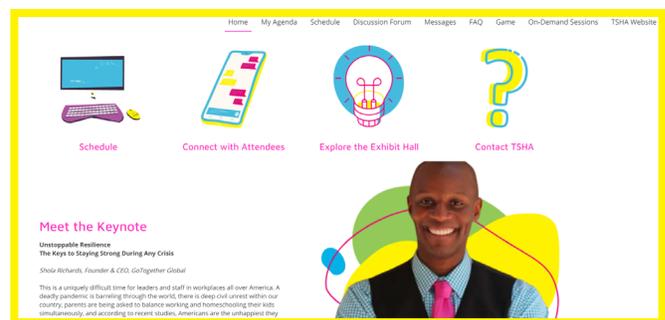
- Chair: **Robyn Martin**
- The third cohort of the TSHA Leadership Academy (TLA) finalized their last meeting in 2021



PAST PRESIDENT: BOBBIE KAY TURKETT

- The Executive Board updated the strategic plan in October 2021. The [updated strategic plan](#) is available on the TSHA website
- Developed a process to streamline volunteer interests

VICE PRESIDENT FOR EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS: BRITTANY HALL



TSHA 2021 Convention

- The 65th Annual TSHA Convention and Exhibition and was held in 2021 as a fully virtual event with live sessions on April 12-15, 2021. There were a total of 38 CE credits available to all attendees, and 47 exhibitors participated in the virtual exhibit hall. The Convention theme was Beyond Barriers.

Councilor for Education

- **Angela Kennedy**
- Supported and assisted with planning details for TSHA 2021 Convention

Spirit Day Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Zeth Collom** and **Erin Keeling**
- Partnered with EBS and planned a virtual Praxis Bowl for university students

Activities of the Association

Volunteer/Scholarship Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Karen Hennington** and **Casey Taliancich-Klinger**
- Assisted with a variety of responsibilities in support of the virtual Convention, including facilitating chat interaction with live and on-demand sessions

Hospitality/TSHA Cares Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Nickole Hines-Staples** and **Holly Ford**
- Had a variety of responsibilities in support of the virtual convention, including facilitating chat interaction within live and on-demand sessions

Career Development Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Diane Longnecker** and **Rachel Wehner**
- Facilitated and coordinated a virtual resume review time for Convention attendees

Programming Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Hesper Holland** and **Lori Cochran**
- Scheduled 38 CE credits of live, on-demand, and poster sessions for attendees

TSHA 2022 Convention

- Co-Chairs: **Hesper Holland** and **Lori Cochran**
- The TSHA 66th Annual Convention and Exhibition is returning to an in-person event on February 24-26, 2022, in Fort Worth Texas. The Convention theme will be Rise Up. Attendees will have the opportunity to earn up to 28 CE credits. Attendee health and well-being will be top priority at this in-person event



VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES: LISA MILLIKEN

Telepractice Committee

- Chair: **Allison Mitcham**
- Published one *Communicologist* article
- Submitted a proposal that was accepted for the TSHA 2022 Convention

Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD) Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Daniel Ibarra** and **Mirza Lugo-Neris**
- Restructured Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD) Committee membership guidelines
- Established sub-committees to work on specific projects (e.g., *Communicologist* articles, SLPA modules, etc.) and assigned members/tasks
- Published four articles in the *Communicologist*
- Conducted quarterly Zoom meetings to discuss CLD Committee projects
- Developed list of article topics and potential authors through December 2022
- Collaborated with Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Committee to initiate/create SLP-Assistant Modules involving CLD topics and developed needs survey
- Met with Research and Development Committee to collaborate in the development of the CLD Articulatory Eligibility Guidelines to peer edit the CLD Language Eligibility guidelines in 2022
- Established connection with Race and Equity Committee and appointed a CLD Committee member to represent within the committee
- Developed list of potential new CLD Committee members who will enhance the diversity of our membership across different dimensions of diversity and locations throughout Texas



Public School Committee

- Chair: **Jessica Alanis**
- Participated in the annual Public School Forum virtually
- Worked with the Public School Advisory Committee to

Activities of the Association

address issues related to public schools

- Published an article in the *Communicologist* responding to a question regarding dismissal from speech therapy and that being tied to the SLP's annual appraisal
- Discussed having a regular Public School Q&A column in the *Communicologist* using questions asked by public school SLPs across the state

Joint TSHA/Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education (TCASE) Advocacy Committee

- Chair: **Cherry Wright**
- Provided information regarding the new SHARS rules and regulations via social media postings and emails to public school SLPs
- Wrote letters to Governor, Lieutenant Governor, House Chair, and chairs of related committees regarding use of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds
- Responded to questions from members via email
- Published response to question from membership regarding parent referrals in Q&A in the *Communicologist*
- Held Annual Public School Forum virtually
- Worked with Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education (TCASE) to monitor legislation related to public schools

Medical Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Melanie Van Noy** and **Shannon Presley**
- Led and organized adult and pediatric medical forums and virtual happy hour networking opportunity during TSHA Convention
- Weekly member engagement of TSHA Medical SLPs Facebook group with one Facebook Live event highlighting interdisciplinary collaboration
- Developed and recorded two webinars for the TSHA website for continuing education credit, adult and pediatric-specific
- Offered nine lunch-and-learn opportunities provided by current researchers with CE credit through the academic series, organized and hosted by the committee

Business Management Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Cathleen Lochte Swallows** and **Mendi Lancaster**
- Published three articles in the *Communicologist*
- Held bimonthly Zoom meetings with committee (six per

year) with additional special project meetings related to website design and TSHA Convention

- Created a new organizational framework for the topics and links on our webpage
- Added new links for resources to include multiple useful links for reimbursement guidelines for different settings and services
- Completed a student and Clinical Fellow-friendly resource guide and posted to TSHA website
- Submitted a proposal for the TSHA 2022 Convention for a comprehensive two-hour ethics presentation

Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP)/Speech-Language Pathology Assistants (SLP-As) Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Kay James** and **Jalily Lopez**
- Answered supervision questions
- Submitted proposal for a TSHA 2021 Virtual Convention course: "Thinking About Implicit Bias in the SLP Supervision and SLP Assistant Relationship"
- Collaborated with the Cultural and Linguistic Diversity Committee to initiate/create SLP-Assistant Modules involving CLD topics

University Issues Committee

- Chair: **Theresa Kouri**
- Surveyed all Texas university directors to determine important academic and clinical issues facing their programs. Compiled survey results to use as guide for establishing agenda for statewide all-directors meeting
- Organized and held two meetings (one in-person/one teleconference) for all Texas university directors and chairs to discuss different contemporary issues and problems facing Texas university programs. Resulted in an exchange of various solutions and ideas subsequently disseminated to all university program personnel
- Article published in June *Communicologist* summarizing specific programmatic and clinical information for Texas university directors that was discussed at all-directors meeting
- Conducted a number of virtual exchanges via email focusing on specific questions and commentary about specific academic and clinic issues
- Elected two new student representatives to serve on University Issues Committee

Activities of the Association

VICE PRESIDENT FOR AUDIOLOGY: MICHELLE HSIEH PHO

Audiology Issues Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Renee Zimmerman** and **Brandi Murphy**
- Formed an Educational Audiology Task Force (headed by **Tori Gustafson**) to pursue efforts in support of educational audiologists through the Texas Educational Audiology Initiative
- Attended regional and statewide meetings to solicit feedback from educational audiologists, leading to multiple initiatives including defining the scope of loaner hearing aid services and defining D/HH status for children with auditory neuropathy spectrum disorder (ANSD)
- Provided educational materials to the public regarding TSHA Audiology's stance on OTC hearing aids, including disseminating flyers and information to contact the FDA with feedback following approval
- Participated in a town hall with the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), American Academy of Audiology (AAA), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to advocate for the Medicare Audiologist Access and Services Act (MAASA), HR 1587/S 1731
- Met with Texas legislators to provide education and support on HB 2566/SB 580 regarding legislation on follow-up to newborn hearing screen referrals. Delivered testimony at the Capitol

Audiology Education Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Jayna Rasmussen** and **Deepa Suneel**
- Recruited speakers for Convention, including featured audiology speaker Dr. Dennis McFadden
- Recruited speakers for three audiology webinars throughout the year for CE credit
- Hosted the first annual Audiology Student Research Symposium with cash prizes
- Contributed two publications to the *Communicologist*
- Added a new student member

VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBER ENGAGEMENT: MELISSA LISKA

- University Visits Committee Chair: **Jennifer Winchester**; Membership Committee Chair: **Victoria Parker**; Social Media Committee Chair: **Sadaf Ali**; May Is Better Hearing and Speech Month Committee Chair: **Alisa Woods**; Diversity Committee Chair: **Jerrold Jackson**; Website Committee Chair: **Peggy Kipping**
- Created a membership drive to include postcard distribution and social media posts in order to boost membership
- May Is Better Hearing and Speech Month successfully held a poster contest with multiple entries from TSHA members. **Robyn Toon** was the contest winner
- Improved diversity awareness to TSHA members through PSA on social media platforms and TSHA Talk
- Conducted University Visits to inform students about TSHA membership benefits in order to boost student membership
- Reached TSHA members through a variety of social media posts to inform about TSHA happenings and promote awareness within our professions

VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT: DALAN GORE

Assistive Technology (AT) Committee

- Chair: **Sara Loving**
- Identified AT resources and information that will be improved and posted to the TSHA website
- Promoted community resources related to AT/alternative and augmentative communication (AAC) supports for patients and their families
- Gauged current knowledge base, experience, and professional development needs of TSHA members

Continuation of Guidelines Committee

- Co-Chairs: **Jessica Carter** and **Judy Rudebusch Rich**
- Published *Disability Determination Guidelines for Speech Impairment* for articulation, fluency, and language as well as

Activities of the Association

the Overview manual

- Ongoing updates are being conducted for the *Disability Determination Guidelines for Speech Impairment* in the areas of voice, articulation for culturally and linguistically diverse students, language and learning disability, language and autism, language and intellectual disabilities, and language for culturally and linguistically diverse students
- *Disability Determination Guidelines for Speech Impairment* recorded webinars have been developed for CE credit and are free for TSHA members. Webinars for the overview manual, articulation, and fluency are available. Webinars for the remaining manuals are in process

Continuing Education Approval Committee

- SLP Chair: **Robin McLeod**
- Audiology Chair: **Sharon Miller**
- Trained new reviewers
- Reviewed hundreds of CE submissions for TSHA CE credit approval

Evidence-Based Practice Committee

- Chair: **Emily Baucom**
- Published EBP Edge articles in the *Communicologist*
- Offered free CE opportunities for TSHA members



Professional Development Committee

- Chair: **Whitney Dittman**
- Researched affiliate partnerships to support TSHA members
- Reviewed and selected submissions for consideration of free webinar CE content for TSHA members
- Organized CE website content

Swallowing and Feeding in Schools Task Force

- Chair: **Lisa Gore**
- Developed task force to investigate needs related to swallowing and feeding in schools, including content experts across the country and consultants for other important professional stakeholders (i.e., occupational therapists, special education directors, nursing)
- Began drafting resources

Webinar Committee

- Chair: **Jyutika Mehta**
- Developed a committee that will schedule, organize, and coordinate webinar needs

VICE PRESIDENT FOR SOCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL POLICY: JENNY MCGLOTHLIN

- Director of Governmental Relations: **Larry Higdon**; Legislative and Legal Counsel: **Mark Hanna**; Political Action Committee (PAC) Chair: **Rolando Vasquez**; Member Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs: **Sara Adams** and **Amy Grant**; Consumer Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs: **Tamika Magloire** and **Cierra Gianni**; ABA Encroachment Committee Co-Chairs: **Courtney Willis** and **Aleah Pace**; Reimbursement Issues Chair: **Kathy Wheat**
- Advocated for and made supportive comments on the proposed rules that implement the telehealth emergency rules on a permanent basis
- Coordinated provision of data and support for legislation regarding infant hearing screenings
- Met with Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) and Texas Association for Behavior Analysts regarding our concerns about the lack of commensurate [rules](#) for Behavior Analysts' supervision of Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs)
- Met repeatedly with HHSC regarding Medicaid reimbursement rates and the effect of Medicaid coverage of ABA on the professions
- Finalized legislative bill and obtained legislative sponsors for legislation that would allow Texas to become a part of the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC). The bill passed through the Texas House but died in committee in the Senate
- Committees continue to work on legislative outreach, consumer advocacy, and scope of practice projects



Activities of the Association

TEXAS SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING FOUNDATION (TSHF)

PRESIDENT: GINA GLOVER

- Past President: **Melinda Corwin**; President-Elect: **Donise Pearson**; Treasurer: **Debbie Sears**; Secretary: **Candace Hicks**
- 2021 continued to be a challenging year particularly with fundraising opportunities limited due to a virtual convention. However, the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation persevered through generous contributions as well as some creative fundraising ideas
- The Foundation awarded \$39,700 in scholarships, research grants, education awards, and service awards to deserving recipients during the virtual TSHA 2021 Convention
- The Foundation is preparing to give \$50,000 in awards in 2022
- Texas universities competed in the first University Challenge to support the Foundation. Thank you to everyone who participated in our 2021 "Give a Little, Help a Lot" campaign. The University Challenge was a huge success, and the Foundation is appreciative of the support received from 11 participating universities: Baylor University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas Christian University, Texas State University, Texas Tech University Health Science Center, University of North Texas, University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas El Paso, University of Texas San Antonio, University of Houston, and University of St. Augustine
- Contributed articles to each issue of the *Communicologist*
- The Julie Beth Noel Leadership Fund was fully endowed in 2021
- Significant contributions also were made to the Frank Brister Scholarship, and it now only needs \$7,700 to be fully endowed
- The Larry Higdon Student Presentation Fund changed to the Larry Higdon Audiology Scholarship Award. This award provides funding to an audiology student who attends an accredited Doctorate of Audiology (AuD) program in Texas
- The first graduate student member of the Foundation began her two-year term in January 2021
- The Foundation continued to increase social media presence via the Foundation website, the Foundation annual newsletter, Facebook, and Instagram
- The Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation Board of Directors gives a huge thank you to everyone who supported the Foundation in 2021 through monetary donations, prize donations to our fundraisers, participation in fundraisers, and kind words to cheer us on



TSHA Member Benefits

AS A TSHA MEMBER, YOU RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS:

Continuing Education: TSHA's Professional Development and Convention Committees work throughout the year to provide you with a challenging variety of seminars and workshops to help you maintain your Texas state license and your ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC). ASHA will accept your TSHA registry as proof of your CEUs! Remember that conference registration fees are considerably reduced for TSHA members. Visit the [Continuing Education](#) section on the TSHA website.

TSHA CE Registry: View your continuing education credits online through the TSHA website. When you attend a TSHA approved course, the hours you earn will be posted on a special page made available to you to print and send to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. This benefit is available only to TSHA members! Visit the [TSHA CE Registry](#) page on the TSHA website for more information.

Disability Determination Guidelines for Speech Impairment (SI): TSHA SI Disability Determination Guidelines trainings are available as recorded webcasts online, along with the manuals and training handouts. SLPs can request 2 hours of TSHA continuing education credit for each of these trainings. The cost is free for TSHA members. Visit the [SI Eligibility Guidelines Courses](#) section of the website for further details.

Online Ethics Courses: Complete your TDLR-mandated ethics requirements for license renewal by participating in online courses from TSHA. The TSHA Professional Development platform currently offers two ethics courses to choose from: Ethics in Audiology: Implications for Billing, Coding, Reimbursement, and Documentation, and Ethical Issues & Ethical Violations. TSHA members can participate in these courses at the reduced rate of just \$40 each. For more information, visit the [Ethics](#) page in the Professional Development section of the TSHA Website.

Legislative Advocacy: TSHA advocates in the legislature and with regulatory agencies for the rights and protection of speech-language pathologists and audiologists and the consumers we serve. TSHA supports legislative candidates for state office whose records and policy positions demonstrate an understanding of our professions and the needs of our consumers. TSHA also supports legislators who are in a position to further the legislative goals of our association. Find out more in the [Advocacy](#) section of the TSHA website.

Publications: TSHA offers [several informative publications](#) to its membership each year. As a TSHA member, you will receive all of these publications at no charge. TSHA's e-zine, the *Communicologist*, is published six times annually and includes current professional news, legislative updates, member news, upcoming events, continuing education opportunities, and much more! Published biweekly, the *TSHA Talk* e-newsletter provides TSHA members with timely information related to TSHA news, the latest in research breakthroughs, national and state policy updates, and mainstream media stories of interest to the professions. *TSHA Capitol Watch* is published as needed and provides TSHA members with a synopsis of state legislative and regulatory activity impacting the professions.

Scholarships, Research Grants, and Education and Service Awards: Members of TSHA may be eligible to apply for certain Scholarships, Grants, and Awards offered through the TSH Foundation. Visit the [TSH Foundation](#) website for more information.

Public Information Exhibit: TSHA now has a Pop-Up-Banner PIE Exhibit available to members at no cost. Shipping cost for the PIE exhibit will be paid by TSHA. More information regarding the [PIE](#) as well as the reservation form are available on the TSHA website.

Career Awareness Information: TSHA acknowledges that there is a shortage of speech-language pathologists and audiologists in Texas. To encourage students to pursue careers in the professions, TSHA developed an information kit with brochures, PowerPoint, and a short 8-minute video. Visit the [Career Awareness](#) page to view and order these materials.

Online Membership Directory: Ability to search for members by name, city, professional setting, and/or employer. Search results include name, city, email, professional setting, employer, and phone numbers. Members can access the [Membership Directory](#) in the Member Center section of the TSHA website.

Upcoming Events and Important Contacts

UPCOMING EVENTS

April

9: Executive Board Meeting, online
12-15: TSHA Convention, online



June

25: Strategic Executive Board Meeting, online

October

21-22: Executive Board/Council Meeting, online

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

General Questions (Including Membership)

staff@txsha.org

Continuing Education Questions

ceprocessor@txsha.org

Convention Questions

convention@txsha.org

Exhibit Questions or Sales

exhibits@txsha.org

Convention Registration Questions or Issues

registration@txsha.org

Speaker Questions

programming@txsha.org

Licensure Questions

CS.Speech@tdlr.texas.gov

TSHA SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/txsha>

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/TSHAtweets>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/txsha/>

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYg8rpYsxwledP7ODImA8GA>