

2025 National Conference: Creating Community Connections Virtual July 9-12th, 2025

SPEAKER GUIDE

All speaker credentials, bios, and disclosures are listed alphabetically by last name.

General Speaker Disclosure:

Apraxia Kids provided compensation to all speakers in the form of a waived conference registration fee.

Mikey Akers, Young Adult with Apraxia, Founder of Mikey's Wish Foundation

□ United Kingdom

Mikey Akers is the founder of Mikey's Wish Foundation, a registered charity based in the UK that raises awareness of childhood apraxia of speech and supports families and individuals with speech, language, and communication needs. He is passionate about sharing his experiences of living with CAS so that others can learn how to overcome obstacles, develop close relationships, and feel empowered and supported on their journey with CAS. Mikey is working with the UK government to gain more funding and change policies impacting speech and language services.

Disclosures: Founder of Mikey's Wish Foundation. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Kristen Allison, PhD, CCC-SLP

Dr. Kristen Allison is an assistant professor and director of the Speech Motor Impairment and Learning (SMILe) Lab at Northeastern University. Her research focuses on improving assessment and treatment of pediatric motor speech disorders, with a particular focus on childhood dysarthria.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Marly Asad, BSpPath. CPSP.

Marly Asad is a speech pathologist who works with children with childhood apraxia of speech and other communication needs at Remarkable Speech and Movement, a private practice in Sydney, Australia.

Joseph Ashenden, SLPD, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Joseph Ashenden is an assistant professor in the Department of Communication Science and Disorders at the University of Pittsburgh. In this role, his primary responsibilities include providing clinical education and classroom teaching in the undergraduate and graduate programs. Ashenden joined the department from Pittsburgh Public schools, where he served as a speech-language pathologist for students in grades kindergarten through 12. His clinical and research interests are focused on educational speech-language pathology and teaching and learning in the field of communication science and disorders. Ashenden received his Doctorate in Speech-language Pathology from Northwestern University.

Disclosures: Receive salary from the University of Pittsburgh. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Becky Baas, MA, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Becky Baas is a pediatric speech-language pathologist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Her clinical and research interests are in the areas of early language acquisition, hearing impairment, velopharyngeal dysfunction and motor speech disorders in children.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Molly Beiting, PhD, CCC-SLP

Dr. Molly Beiting, CCC-SLP, is an Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research focuses on optimizing assessment and treatment for CAS, with a special interest in telepractice and treatment for children with autism and co-occurring disorders. Dr. Beiting is also a certified speech-language pathologist, Apraxia Kids Professional Advisory Board Member, and 2025 Boot Camp Instructor.

Disclosures: Professional Advisory Member and Boot Camp Instructor for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Aaron Blum, Young Adult with Apraxia

Aaron Blum is a 27 year old with apraxia. Growing up with apraxia was very challenging. One of the most challenging experiences Aaron had to face was social settings and making friends. Aaron is eager to share his story about how difficult it can be to make friends growing up, and how life can changed for the better.

Alonna Bondar, MS, CCC-SLP

Alonna Bondar is PROMPT certified and DTTC trained, and listed on the Apraxia Kids SLP Directory. Alonna is a pediatric speech language pathologist with 25 years of experience, specializing in apraxia and other speech sound disorders. Alonna enjoys working with children with various diagnoses, especially those with down syndrome and autism.

Early on in her career as speech language pathologist, there were some children that were not making adequate progress utilizing a language based therapy approach. She began researching other treatment methods and realized that childhood apraxia of speech was the underlying issue. Therefore, these children needed a motor based speech approach.

Over the years Alonna has worked with countless clients with CAS and trained dozens of SLPs. It became apparent that it was difficult for therapists to find a course that is easy to understand, engaging, and fully prepares them to work with CAS clients.

Alonna is passionate about CAS education and her goal is to make the information around CAS easy to understand and implement, so you can start working with CAS clients immediately.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Taylor Brown, MA, CCC-SLP

Taylor Brown is a pediatric speech-language pathologist at Mayo Clinic. Her clinical and research interests are motor speech disorders, velopharyngeal dysfunction, and early language development.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Madison Brumbaugh, MS, CCC-SLP

○ United States

Madison Brumbaugh is a speech-language pathologist and an Assistant Clinical Professor at The George Washington University (GW). Madison specializes in serving pediatric and adult clients with complex communication needs and is licensed to practice speech-language pathology in both Washington, DC and Virginia. Madison has worked in a variety of settings, including private practice, home healthcare, and public school settings, since beginning her career in the DC metropolitan area.

Madison graduated from Georgia State University with master's degrees in Educational Research and Communication Sciences and Disorders and is currently pursuing a PhD in Translational Health Sciences at GW. She is the former Vice President of Governmental and Professional Affairs for the Speech-Language-Hearing Association of Virginia, and during her tenure, she advocated for policy initiatives to support individuals with communication disorders and their caregivers. Madison is passionate about advocacy and public policy and also volunteers with the Virginia-based nonprofit, the Organization for Autism Research, and has collaborated with other national nonprofits, such as Apraxia Kids and the National Stuttering Association, to write state-level proclamations for awareness days and events.

Kathryn Cabbage, PhD, CCC-SLP

Dr. Cabbage is a former school-based speech-language pathologist who is now an Assistant Professor at Washington State University. Her research interests center on the behavioral and neurophysiological indicators of phonological processing in young children. She is specifically interested in identifying predictors related to difficulty acquiring literacy acquisition in children with speech sound disorders and/or dyslexia, including those with childhood apraxia of speech.

Disclosures: Member of Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Sarah Carmody, MS, CCC-SLP

Sarah Carmody is a pediatric SLP who owns a small private practice in southern NJ and is an adjunct faculty member at Widener University. She has a background in broad pediatric service delivery in the medical, outpatient setting. Over time, and through many educational opportunities afforded by Apraxia Kids, Sarah has developed a specialization in assessment and treatment of complex speech production disorders, including CAS. She has a passion for teaching, and enjoys advancing the knowledge of SLPs, other professionals, and family/community members as it pertains to supporting individuals with CAS across the lifespan. A proud graduate of the Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Institute (Boot Camp), Sarah has served on the instructor panel for the 2023 and 2025 cohorts. She is also a member of the Professional Advisory Council.

Disclosures: Private practice owner, adjunct faculty member Widener University, Apraxia Kids Boot Camp Instructor, Apraxia Kids Professional Advisory Council member, ASHA member, NJSHA member, Apraxia Kids Boot Camp graduate. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Erin Carpenter, BSpPath

Erin Carpenter is a paediatric SLP who owns a small private practise just outside of Sydney, Australia. Erin has a special interest in motor speech disorders and general speech sound disorders in children. She is a Certified Practising Speech Pathologist through Speech Pathology Australia.

Disclosures: Private practice owner. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Julie Case, PhD, CCC-SLP

Julie Case is an Assistant Professor in the Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences Department of Hofstra University. In her research program, Dr. Case studies speech motor development and speech motor control in childhood apraxia of speech and other speech sound disorders. Dr. Case also investigates clinical management and treatment efficacy in monolingual and bilingual children with apraxia of speech.

Disclosures: Research funding from NIH and Once Upon a Time Foundation. Member of the Apraxia Kids Professional Advisory Committee. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Heera Chandani, MA CCC-SLP/L

○ United States

Heera Chandani is a multilingual speech-language pathologist, with over 18 years of experience working with children and adults in different countries, in a variety of settings including therapeutic/public/private schools, home health, and inpatient hospital settings. She specializes in assessment and treatment of individuals with complex communication needs, including autism and childhood apraxia of speech (CAS). Heera owns a private practice in Skokie/Chicago and is an adjunct faculty member at Northwestern University. She has advanced training in PROMPT and is recognized by Apraxia Kids for advanced training and clinical expertise in CAS. Heera is committed to serving her clients/families from a functional and cognitive lens, working simultaneously on the child's self-advocacy and executive functioning skills. She loves to see it all come together when facilitating her social pragmatic groups. As a sibling caregiver herself, Heera is committed to supporting apraxia stars and their families globally to further awareness about CAS, while empowering them with the resources that she wishes she had in her journey with her brother.

Disclosures: Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. Private practice owner. ASHA member. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

<u>Line Charron, MOA (french name : maîrise en orthophonie et audiologist), Master's degree in speech-language pathology and audiology</u>

Line Charron is a recognized French-speaking trainer specializing in childhood apraxia of speech in Quebec, as well as in France, Switzerland, and Belgium. With over 37 years of experience working with pediatric clients, she currently operates in private practice after having worked many years at rehabilitation center (IRDPQ), where she focused on clients with severe speech sound disorders, particularly childhood apraxia of speech.

In addition to her practice, Line teaches and collaborates with Université Laval and Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières as part of their master's program in speech-language pathology. Since 2006, she has dedicated herself to enhancing her expertise in verbal dyspraxia, closely working with children diagnosed with childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) and participating in numerous training courses in the United States with leading researchers in the field.

Line was certified for advanced training and clinical expertise in childhood apraxia of speech in 2011. In October 2023, she was selected for advanced training in Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing (DTTC).

Disclosures: Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Karen Chenausky, PhD, CCC-SLP



Karen is a speech pathologist who believes that all people deserve a way to communicate that does not involve hurting themselves or others. Karen has 20 years as a speech scientist performing perceptual, acoustic, and kinematic analyses of disordered, developing, and accented speech. Another decade's clinical experience working with low- and nonverbal individuals aged 2-56 has provided her with a deep understanding of the challenges that people with significant communication challenges face across the lifespan. CAS has been identified as an important part of the phenotype of many genetic or neurodevelopmental conditions and seems to have profound effects on children's expressive language acquisition as well as their speech development. These themes have united in a drive to understand why children with complex communication profiles so often fail to acquire spoken language and what we can do to help them learn to communicate.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Michelle Choairy, MS, ATC Masters Degree, Certified Athletic Trainer

○ United States

Michelle Choairy is a mom of a complex kid. She has been her son's best advocate and has learned through the years what it takes to get the best care for her child. She is the Founder of Collective Wisdom for Complex Kids, a support group for mothers with children with disabilities. She has a passion for helping families re-evaluate and prioritize their dynamics, along with guiding them from confusion to clarity while raising complex children.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Mariana Chuy, Founder, Board Member, and Legal Director for ABRAPRAXIA

△ Brazil

Mariana is one of the founders and Legal Director of the Brazilian Association of Childhood Apraxia of Speech (ABRAPRAXIA) and member of the Board of Directors of the SATB2 Gene Foundation.

As a legal professional, she specializes in Family Law, Successions, and Contracts, bringing a wealth of expertise and compassion to her work. Beyond her professional life, Mariana is a devoted mother to Gabriel (SAS) and Guilhermina. Her journey took a transformative turn when Gabriel was diagnosed with Apraxia of Speech initially. In response, Mariana, alongside her husband Cristiano, rallied with other families facing similar challenges to establish ABRAPRAXIA. Their goal was clear: to equip parents, relatives, and professionals in health and education with high-quality information and training.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Amy Clark, MS, CCC-SLP

Amy is the Director of Clinical Education for the PROMPT Institute and a treatment clinician at Children's Minnesota. She has over 25 years of direct clinical practice experience working in schools, hospitals, and private practice. She is a member of the Apraxia Kids Professional Advisory Council and a nationally recognized speaker on subjects related to motor speech disorders and PROMPT.

Disclosures: Director of Clinical Education for the PROMPT Institute and receives compensation for this role. Member of Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids, ASHA, and NBASLH member for which no relevant financial relationship exists. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Fabiana Collavini, Founder, Board Member, and President for ABRAPRAXIA



Fabiana is business administrator, one of the founders and President of the Brazilian Association of Childhood Apraxia of Speech (Abrapraxia). She is Ana Beatriz's mother, a lovely girl with CAS.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Shina Cook, MA, CCC-SLP



Shina Cook is a PhD student in Communication Sciences and Disorders at Temple University as well as a licensed speech-language pathologist. Her research and clinical interests include understanding CAS from a holistic perspective and supporting individuals with CAS from a whole-person lens.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Nanette A. Cote, MA, CCC-SLP

Nanette A. Cote is a seasoned speech-language pathologist with nearly three decades of experience and a focus on childhood apraxia of speech and related motor speech disorders since 2019. As the owner of Naperville Therapediatrics, she has built a thriving private practice that emphasizes individualized therapy, caregiver education, and evidence-based approaches, such as PROMPT and Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing (DTTC).

Nanette's dedication to advancing the field extends beyond clinical practice. She is a published author, an engaging national presenter, and a mentor to aspiring clinicians. Her presentations at ASHA conferences and other forums focus on innovative therapy techniques and collaborative strategies for success. Her interdisciplinary work includes developing aquatic therapy programs, leading parent-child enrichment groups, and training educators on enhancing language development in young children.

With a passion for empowering families and fostering professional growth, Nanette blends practical strategies with clinical expertise to create meaningful communication outcomes. She is thrilled to share her insights at the upcoming national conference to support colleagues in delivering effective therapy for children with apraxia.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Elina Csapo, Young Adult with Apraxia, Founder of Young Able Voices



Elina Csapo, a 19-year-old college student, is the founder of Young Able Voices, a global peer-to-peer support group that empowers children and teens with hidden disabilities. Her organization provides a safe and supportive space where young people can connect, feel less alone, and be reminded of the bright futures ahead of them. Drawing from her personal experience with Apraxia, Elina saw the need for a community where individuals could share their stories and find encouragement. In 2022, she turned this vision into reality by launching Young Able Voices. Since then, Young Able Voices has expanded and offers weekly initiatives such as Apraxia Weekly Chats and Dyslexia Weekly Chats. While working on her studies Elina is a part of the university presidential council of inclusion and serves as a student government senator and a part of a leadership cohort.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Mary Dawoud, Honours

Mary Dawoud is a newly qualified Australian speech-language pathologist. The research she is presenting was conducted during her honours degree at The University of Sydney, under the supervision of Dr. Maryane Gomez and Dr. Donna Thomas.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Kendra Decker, COTA/L

Kendra is a dedicated Pediatric Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) with a passion for supporting children and families. She founded a non-profit organization aimed at helping families in need fund Speech-Generating Devices (SGDs), ensuring that every child has access to the tools they need to communicate effectively. Kendra has also shared her expertise by presenting at the Colorado Speech-Language-Hearing Association (CSHA) conference. Outside of her professional endeavors, she is a proud mom to two children, balancing her career with family life.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Hannah Deschaine, MS, CCC-SLP

Hannah is an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist and a graduate of New York University with a special interest in speech sound disorders in children. She is a treating clinician on a study conducted by the Case Speech Lab and the NYU Motor Speech Lab investigating the effects of caregiver training on DTTC treatment outcomes in children with childhood apraxia of speech.

Disclosures: Employed by New York University as a treating SLP for a research study. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

<u> Ariska Drogt-Groen, BA</u>



Ariska Groen has been working as a music therapist at Revalidatie Friesland since 2007. She graduated as a music therapist from Utrecht University of Applied Sciences in 2003. She has been working with the SMTA method since 2007. Over the years, she helped develope the method for children together with the team of speech therapists and music therapists at Revalidatie Friesland. Together with Mirjam she provides the training: SMTA for children.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Calyn Evans, BA

Calyn is a PhD/MA-SLP student at The Ohio State University, specializing in motor speech disorders. In the Child Language and Motor Laboratory, her research concentrates on the early and differential diagnosis of childhood apraxia of speech. By focusing on refining diagnostic techniques, Calyn aims to enhance intervention strategies and improve long-term outcomes for children with motor speech disorders.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

José Marcio Fernandes, Co-Founder, Board Member, and Research Director for ABRAPRAXIA

☐ Brazil

José Márcio is mechanical engineer, co-founder and R&D Director of the Brazilian Association of Childhood Apraxia of Speech (ABRAPRAXIA). He is Giovana's father, a lovely girl with CAS.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Vivienne Finche, MA, CCC-SLP

Vivienne Finche provides neurodiversity-affirming, child-led speech and language therapy as a traveling speech-language pathologist and through her private practice, Finche Speech Therapy, in the California Bay Area. She is trained in the Hanen It Takes Two to Talk program, Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing for Childhood Apraxia of Speech, and the Meaningful Speech framework for gestalt language processing. Vivienne specializes in working with toddlers and preschoolers as well as supporting clients of all ages with alternative and augmentative communication needs.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Meredith Forster, MS.Ed. Literacy Specialist, Orton Gillingham Practitioner

○ United States

Meredith is a Literacy Specialist and Elementary Educator working in Portsmouth, RI Public Schools and in her private practice. She is an Orton Gillingham Practitioner and enthusiast, teaching students with dyslexia and other neurodivergent differences. She is committed to educating and supporting teachers, parents and professionals to ensure all students have equal access to reading instruction.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Ana Cristina De Sanctis Girardi, B.SC, Masters in Genetic Counseling, PhD Candidate



Ana Cristina is a researcher at the Human Genome and Stem Cell Research Center, specializing in the genetics of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and apraxia of speech (CAS). She also works as a next-generation sequencing data analyst at the center's genetic testing laboratory (CEGH-CEL) and serves as a genetic counselor, providing support to families of patients with neurodevelopmental disorders.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Maryane Gomez, PhD

Maryane Gomez is a researcher and clinician affiliated with The University of Sydney. Her research and clinical practice both focus on improving treatment for children with childhood apraxia of speech (CAS). She is a certified practising speech pathologist (CPSP) through Speech Pathology Australia and currently resides in Australia.

Disclosures: Director of a private practice in Brisbane, Australia. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Maria Grigos, PhD, CCC-SLP

Maria Grigos is a Professor and Chair in the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders at NYU. Her scholarly work combines perceptual, acoustic and kinematic methods to pursue two lines of research. The first centers on the study of speech motor control and motor learning across the lifespan in both impaired and non-impaired speakers. The second focuses on translational research where she studies the efficacy of motor-based intervention in childhood apraxia of speech.

Disclosures: Salaried faculty member at New York University; Research support from NIH (NIH R01DC018581) and the Once Upon a Time Foundation; Member of Professional Advisory Council and Liaison to Board of Directors for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Ewa Grzelak, SLP, Freelance Lecturer

○ Poland

Ewa Grzelak is an SLP, AAC Trainer, co-author of AAC book, Mówik AAC app trainer, lecturer, and mother to Hubert, her apraxia star who also has autism and uses AAC. Ewa is a passionate SLP skilled in in treating childhood apraxia of speech and using AAC to support her clients. Her caseload is 90 percent children with apraxia, and she also works with children with an ASD diagnosis. Ewa's adventure with CAS and AAC started thanks to her son, Hubert; she learned for

him and can now help other children. Currently, Ewa teaches private courses, as well as classes at universities.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Melanie Gylling, MA, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Melanie Gylling (she/her) is an ASHA certified Speech-Language Pathologist with extensive experience working in a variety of settings including outpatient rehabilitation, schools, and long-term care facilities. She is passionate about AAC and providing education and support to SGD users and their support teams. Melanie is the Director of Clinical Education for Smartbox Inc., the developers of Grid 3 software and speech generating devices.

Disclosures: Receives salary from Smartbox Assistive Technology for role as Director of Clinical Education. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Tess Hansen, MA, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Tess Hansen is a pediatric speech-language pathologist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Her clinical and research interests are in the areas of pediatric motor speech disorders, early language acquisition, autism spectrum disorders, and augmentative and alternative communication.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Amy Hart, MS, CCC-SLP

Amy Hart is a licensed speech-language pathologist based in Rhode Island with nearly two decades of expertise in the field. She has spent 13 years specializing in Early Intervention, helping young children build strong communication foundations during their most formative years. For the past six years, Amy has brought her passion for language and learning into the elementary school (K-4) setting, where she works closely with students, educators, and families to foster speech and language success. Beyond her career, Amy is the proud and busy mom of 15-year-old twins, a role that has given her a deep, personal understanding of child development, patience, and the power of communication. Whether she's guiding a toddler through their first words or helping a schoolaged child gain confidence in their speech, Amy is committed to making every voice heard.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Chantelle Highman, PhD, BSc(Hons), CPSP

Dr. Chantelle Highman is a speech pathologist, lecturer, and researcher with extensive industry experience working in multidisciplinary teams. Dr. Highman's clinical experience has predominantly been in the context of the Child Development Service within the Department of Health, Western Australia, providing early intervention services for a range of speech and language disorders.

Dr. Highman is the WA Clinical Lead of the NHMRC-funded Dynamic Therapy for Apraxia international RCT and also leads the Apraxia Kids funded Parent Perspectives of Early Intervention study. Her clinical research focusses on infant vocalisations, complex speech sound disorders such as childhood apraxia of speech, and early intervention for language and speech difficulties, with a strong focus on research translation.

Chantelle is the unit coordinator and teaches both the undergraduate and masters speech pathology courses in the areas of speech sound development and disorders, language development and disorders, assessment and intervention. The quality of Dr. Highman's teaching has been recognised at the faculty (2020 teaching excellence award) and university (2021 teaching excellence award) levels. Dr. Chantelle Highman is also a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Disclosures: Chief Investigator on an Apraxia Kids-Funded Research Study. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Elaine Hitchcock, PhD, CCC-SLP

Elaine Hitchcock is Chair and professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Montclair State University. A certified speech-language pathologist with over 20 years of clinical experience, she has worked with various clinical populations, including individuals with motor speech disorders such as Childhood Apraxia of Speech and voice disorders. Dr. Hitchcock earned her Ph.D. in speech-language pathology from New York University in 2005, specializing in phonology and acoustics. Her research focuses on developmental phonology and using visual biofeedback techniques for diagnosing and treating speech and voice disorders.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Anne Hodits, MA, CCC-SLP/L

○ United States

Anne is a devoted speech-language pathologist (SLP) and owner of Strive to Thrive Therapy, LLC in Arlington Heights, IL. She has over 15 years of experience in the field.

Anne believes in making therapy engaging, fun, and meaningful. Many families have said that she just "gets" their child; a testament to her ability to build rapport and trust with her clients. Anne goes above and beyond as a practitioner consulting with parents, teachers, school speech therapists, pediatricians, and other providers to ensure that her clients receive the most quality treatment. She attends her clients' IEP meetings, visits their workplaces, and works hard to bridge the gap between the therapy room and the real world.

Anne has pursued extensive training in Childhood Apraxia of Speech, leading to her formal recognition as an apraxia specialist from the Apraxia Kids organization. She is a graduate of the Apraxia Kids "Apraxia Boot Camp", an intensive training program designed to train and advance the clinical expertise of selected speech therapists in the diagnosis and treatment of childhood apraxia of speech (CAS). Anne has presented at the Apraxia Kids Conference in 2021, 2023, and 2024, and at the Illinois Speech and Hearing Association Conference in 2022.

Anne has also been presented with an ACE Award from the national American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) for her dedication to professional learning. Along with her clinical contributions, Anne is currently serving on the Board of Directors for a special needs preschool that opened in Fall 2022. She is grateful for these opportunities to give back to her community.

When she is not working, Anne values the time she gets to spend with family and friends, especially her husband, young son, and beagle. She loves to work out, run, and explore Chicago!

Disclosures: Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Boot Camp. There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Jenya luzzini-Seigel, PhD, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Dr. Iuzzini-Seigel is Associate Professor of Speech Pathology and Audiology and Director of the Communication, Movement, and Learning Lab at Marquette University. Her research focuses on diagnosis and treatment of communication disorders with special focus on childhood apraxia of speech and dysarthria. She is on the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids.

Disclosures: Professional Advisory Council Member for Apraxia Kids. Salaried Employee at Marquette University, research funded by NIH and OUAT. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Cynthia Jacobsen, PhD, CCC-SLP, Fellow ASHA Speech-Language Pathologist, Wilson® Dyslexia Therapist

○ United States

Cynthia Jacobsen, PhD was Director of the Hearing and Speech and Cleft Palate Clinics at Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas City, MO for 34 years. She evaluated children with a wide range of speech-language disorders, including CAS and dyslexia. After retirement, she worked for Presence Learning (telepractice) and maintained a private practice. She is the author of Teaching Reading to Children with Dyslexia: Inspiring Stories of Children's Journeys to Success. Dr. Jacobsen is the grandmother of twin boys with Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS). Because children with CAS may have phonological awareness and literacy challenges, she has considered how to provide multi- sensory instruction, with accommodations for apraxia of speech, following the Wilson Reading System Lesson Plan Outline. She is eager to share ideas that consider motor speech difficulties, while improving both speech and literacy with evidenced-based instruction.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

<u>Charmaine James, Parent of an Apraxia Star, Software Engineer</u>

☐ United States

Charmaine James is a wife, mother of 3, and software engineer. NC born and raised, she enjoys reading, crafting, and spending time with friends and family. When her laptop powers down for the day, you can usually find her playing volleyball or basketball with one of her kids or taking on some crazy project around the house. She currently has one Apraxia rockstar who she continues to advocate for. She has a passion for helping other families navigate the rollercoaster of dealing with an apraxia diagnosis.

Jessica Katz, High School Student

Jessica Katz is a senior at Scarsdale High School in New York, where she is a part of her school's science research program. Dr. Julie Case serves as her mentor, and she is a research assistant at the Case Speech Production Lab at Hofstra University. Jessica is researching the relationship between attention and accuracy during Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing (DTTC) in Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS), and this topic is of personal significance as she was diagnosed with CAS as a child. She has presented her work at the 2024 ASHA Convention in Seattle and is excited to share her findings at the Apraxia Kids Conference.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Andrea King, MA, CCC-SLP/L

☐ United States

Andrea King is an ASHA certified Speech-Language Pathologist and leads Grid for Education in the U.S., where she merges her clinical expertise with a passion for inclusive classroom solutions. With a background as an SLP in a school setting, Andrea brings a deep understanding of the unique needs of diverse populations to her role at Smartbox. Andrea is employed full-time for Smartbox Inc., the developers of Grid 3 software and speech generating devices

Disclosures: Member of ASHA and ASHA SIG 12, Salary from Smartbox Assistive Technology. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Dora Knežević, PhD

Dora Knežević is a speech and language pathologist and works as a post-doctoral researcher at the Department of Speech and Language Pathology at the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences. She completed her doctorate in the field of motor speech disorders, specifically childhood apraxia of speech. Her main research interests are motor speech disorders and speech sound disorders in the paediatric population. She teaches undergraduate and graduate level courses. She is part of the SLP unit at The Center for Rehabilitation, a teaching base and clinical unit of the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, where she does clinical work. She is a member of several national and international SLP associations and is serving as the Chair of the Motor Speech Committee of the IALP.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Nicole Kolenda, MS, CCC-SLP, PC

Nicole is a pediatric speech-language pathologist with 25 years of clinical experience. She is a motor speech specialist and an adjunct professor at the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders at New York University. She is also the Lead Speech Language Pathologist for a Childhood Apraxia of Speech treatment study in the Motor Speech Lab at NYU funded by the National Institute of Health. Nicole has presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing

Association's annual conference on multiple occasions, as well as the Apraxia Kids national conference.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Bree Kusz, MS, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Bree works full time for an early childhood center in the local public school district and part time as an independent contractor seeing children after school and during the summer. The 24-25 school year marks Bree's 10th year in the schools, and 9th year in private practice. The majority of Bree's caseload and passion are children aged 3-5, with a few outliers who are up to 9 years old. Being a PRACTICE clinician completely changed her attitude and approach to treating children with CAS and she is so excited to get to share her experience with others!

Disclosures: Private Practice owner. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Stacey Landberg, MS, CCC-SLP

Stacey Landberg is a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist with over 20 years of experience, specializing in Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS), early intervention, and other severe speech sound disorders. As the owner of a private practice in Los Angeles, Stacey has devoted her career to advancing best practices for the assessment and treatment of CAS, providing guidance to families navigating this complex diagnosis.

As a lecturer at California State University, East Bay, Stacey has inspired the next generation of speech-language pathologists, drawing on her extensive clinical expertise to teach graduate students. A sought-after speaker since 2015, she has delivered presentations on CAS, autism, neurodiversity-affirming practices, and caregiver coaching in early intervention. Stacey's dedication to professional growth and collaboration led her to complete the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Fellowship in 2019, focusing on trauma-informed care and advocacy for neurodiverse individuals. Stacey is the co-founder of Apraxia Space, a global parent support group created to connect and empower families of children with CAS through education and community.

Disclosures: Co-founder of Apraxia Space. There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Sorina Larson, MS, CCC-SLP

Sorina Larson is a pediatric speech-language pathologist based in Duluth, MN. Sorina earned her Master's degree from Marquette University in 2017, and since then has been committed to supporting children from birth to age nine through engaging, evidence-based speech therapy sessions. Sorina's approach emphasizes collaboration with parents to ensure continued progress beyond the therapy setting. Sorina has experience working with diverse populations including children with speech sound disorders, receptive and expressive language delays, pragmatic

differences, hearing loss, and autism. Her expertise lies in treating childhood apraxia of speech (CAS), employing research-backed methods to achieve meaningful communication outcomes. Sorina newly launched her private practice, Speech Sprouts LLC in 2025, and is excited to bring her love of speech-language pathology into client homes and support families in new ways through this opportunity.

Disclosures: Private Practice owner. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Mariana Lauretta, BBioMed, MSpeechPath, MGenCouns

Australia

Ms. Mariana Lauretta is an Associate Genetic Counsellor and Certified Practicing Speech Pathologist, currently working as a researcher with the Speech and Language Group at Murdoch Children's Research Institute. In particular Mariana has led the genetic counselling of families and children undergoing genetic testing for speech disorder in the speech apraxia genetics clinic at the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne. As part of her dedication this area of research, Mariana has led a paper (Lauretta et al. JSLHR 2023) investigating barriers and enablers to speech pathologists working in genetics and genomics. Mariana has also driven a study with other genetic counselling peers to understand parent's views and emotional responses to their children undergoing genetic testing for speech disorder (Atkinson et al. Eu J Hum Gen 2024). Mariana is also working as a clinical genetic counsellor at The Royal Melbourne Hospital and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. Mariana has a keen interest in translational genomics, particularly related to supporting nontraditional genetics service users to incorporate genetics and genomics into everyday clinical practice.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Alexis Lawton, MS+30, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Alexis Lawton (she/her/hers) is a speech-language pathologist in Walterboro, South Carolina. She is working towards her PhD in literacy, language, and culture at Clemson University. Her academic focus will be studying the needs of minority children who are non-mainstream dialect-speakers, and teaching students about cultural competency and responsiveness. With a speech-language pathology certification and advanced studies in language and literacy, Alexis aims to dispel the misconception that a dialect difference is a disorder.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Regina Lemmon Bush, MSP, PhD, CCC-SLP

Dr. Regina Lemmon Bush is the Dean/Program Director of the Speech Language Pathology Program at West Coast University. Clinically, she has worked as an SLP in a variety of clinical settings including schools, skilled nursing facilities, private practice, travel therapy, and hospital settings. Since 2002, Dr. Bush has worked as an adjunct professor, Clinical Supervisor, Instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, External Placement Director, and Program Director in two CAA Accredited Speech-Language Pathology Programs and one undergraduate Speech Language

Pathology Program. She has also served as an adjunct instructor in an Occupational Therapy Master's Program to provide students with an interprofessional education. These experiences led to her teaching innovations which infuse clinical education into academic course instruction. Dr. Bush revamped the program curriculum during her tenure at Columbia College to include experiential learning, scenario-based learning, mock therapy sessions, student-mentored research, service-learning projects with a variety of newly established community partners and a summer camp for toddlers with language as well as hearing impairments. She has mentored new faculty members to provide these instructional techniques within their courses. Dr. Bush is a proponent of student-mentored research to introduce students to research. Her student-mentored research interests are health literacy, non-mainstream dialects, language/literacy and SOTL. Her students (graduate and undergraduate) have presented numerous student-mentored research at state and national conferences (ASHA and NBASLH) for over a decade. Dr. Bush honed her leadership skills in Council on Academic Programs in Communication Sciences & Disorders (CAPCSD) Leadership Academy Cohort II and community service work in various organizations. She has served as the President of the South Carolina Speech-Language Hearing Association (SCSHA), ASHA Advisory Council member and Vice Chairperson of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association's Advisory Council. Dr. Bush received the University of South Carolina's Communication Sciences & Disorders Department's Inaugural Distinguished Alumni Award, Columbia College's Career Achievement Award as well as South Carolina Independent College & University's Professor of the Year Award for innovative program development and instruction. She is a contributing author for the textbook Leadership in Speech Language Pathology. Dr. Bush enjoys painting, traveling and spending time with her family.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

<u>Jacqueline Lim, Certified Practising Speech Pathologist (Speech Pathology Australia), S-LP(C) (Speech-Language and Audiology Canada), CCC-SLP (ASHA)</u>

Dr. Lim has been a practicing speech pathologist for more than 25 years. She has worked with a range of clients, including clients with CAS in Australia and Canada. Her research interests include interventions for CAS and the neurophysiology of CAS. She currently teaches at James Cook University in Queensland, Australia.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Lauren Lozneanu, MS, CCC-SLP

Lauren is a speech-language pathologist at Strive to Thrive Therapy, LLC who specializes in the evaluation and treatment of children with childhood apraxia of speech. She has pursued additional training in childhood apraxia of speech, including the Diagnosis and Treatment of CAS Using Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing (DTTC) through the Once Upon a Time Foundation as well as Introduction to PROMPT. She has also pursued training in the DIR/DIR Framework through their introductory course and enjoys implementing this framework in her therapy.

Disclosures: Employee at Strive to Thrive Therapy, LLC. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Ericka Lucas, Parent

Ericka Lucas is the mom of 3 (Hudson, Boston, and Sutton) living in Rhode Island. Her oldest son was disagnosed with Apraxia at the age of 3 and Ericka has been advocating for him relentlessly ever since. In 2024, Ericka presented at Apraxia Kids to help other parents navigate the world of advocating and building their child's Apraxia toolbox while emphasizing treating the whole child. Outside of being a mom, Ericka leads the Customer Experience and Support teams for a major retailer where she loves thinking outside the box and using technology to drive solution oriented experiences.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Edwin Maas, PhD, Clinical Researcher

☐ United States

Edwin Maas is clinical researcher and Associate Professor in Communication Sciences and Disorders at Temple University. His translational and clinical research centers on speech disorders, in particular apraxia of speech in children and adults, and has two distinct but related lines motivated by two clinical challenges.

The first research line focuses on how to improve diagnosis of speech disorders, in particular differentiating between apraxia of speech and other speech disorders. This translational research line encompasses studies to characterize the nature of speech disorders in terms of underlying processes and mechanisms, and studies to identify sensitive and objective measures (such as acoustic and reaction time measures) that may differentiate speech disorders (including possible subtypes), and predict treatment response and long-term outcomes (prognosis).

The second research line focuses on improving treatment outcomes for children and adults with speech disorders. This line involves clinical trials research (single-case experimental designs and randomized controlled trials) to (a) determine efficacy, (b) optimize treatment parameters, and (3) identify predictors of treatment response in order to facilitate personalized, optimally targeted intervention.

The long-term goals of this research are to improve diagnostic tools and intervention methods, and thereby improve the communicative quality of life and well-being of individuals with speech disorders.

Edwin has published 50 peer-reviewed articles, and his research has been funded by NIDCD, Apraxia Kids, and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation.

Disclosures: Professional Advisory Council Member for Apraxia Kids. Receive salary from Temple University. Received grant funding from NIH and Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Rebecca MacCallion, B.Mus, MSLP, CPSP

Rebecca is a senior clinician and CAS researcher at Remarkable Speech and Movement in Sydney, working closely with Dr. Elizabeth Murray. She has recently been involved in an international DTTC study funded by The Once Upon a Time Foundation. Rebecca has particular interest in voice,

hearing, and CAS. She has a background working in paediatric Cochlear implant rehabilitation. Rebecca is also a professional opera singer, and so she brings a unique perspective to motor learning and voice.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Danielle Maglinte, MAT, MS, CCC-SLP

Danielle Maglinte is a speech-language pathologist and AT consultant in Early Intervention Colorado. As a speech-language pathologist, Danielle has experience working with children with a range of communication challenges and children who use AAC devices, including children who use alternate access methods. Before becoming a speech-language pathologist, Danielle worked as an AAC consultant for PRC-Saltillo educating and supporting caregivers whose loved ones used AAC and professionals who provided evaluations and therapy to people who use AAC. Danielle was first introduced to AAC as an early childhood special education teacher in a classroom for children with multiple disabilities who had limited verbal communication or difficulty with intelligibility. Danielle is committed to providing young children with the opportunity to increase communication options and promote language development while continuing to work on speech.

Disclosures: Sharing Hunter's Voice, Board Member. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Isabella Maguire, MS, CCC-SLP

Isabella is a licensed pediatric speech-language pathologist based in Rhode Island. With experience in both early intervention and outpatient settings, she has worked with a diverse range of communication differences and disorders. Isabella has dedicated time and continuing education to specializing in childhood apraxia of speech (CAS), focusing extensively on both the diagnosis and treatment of CAS. She emphasizes a team approach in therapy, utilizing parents and other disciplines when needed to support the whole child. She is proud to be part of the Apraxia Kids SLP directory. At last year's Apraxia Kids conference, Isabella had the opportunity to present alongside a parent, sharing insights and strategies on supporting your child and their apraxia diagnosis from a parent perspective.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Hannah Malott, Young Adult with Apraxia

Hannah is a former 27-weeks preemie twin living with apraxia of speech and mild cerebral palsy. Hannah was in therapy since early intervention through high school. She deferred her diploma to participate in Project Search and is now working full time. Hannah's goal is to meet other people like her and make lasting connections by sharing her story and experiences with others.

Saida Mahoney, Young Adult with Apraxia

Saida Mahoney is a young woman living with Apraxia Of Speech, Autism, other conditions, and Rare Diseases. Saida is a National Rare Disease Advocate and Activist, a National Disability Advocate and Activist, a National Beauty Pageant Queen, and so much more. Saida loves doing everything she can to help people and advocate for all. Saida is also an author of 9 books and a podcaster.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Tricia McCabe, PhD BAppl(SP) FSPAA, CPSP

Australia

Dr. Patricia McCabe is Professor of Speech Pathology at The University of Sydney, Australia. She is a Certified Practicing Speech Pathologist and Fellow of Speech Pathology Australia.

Tricia researches, teaches, and practices in the area of moderate-severe speech impairments in children and adults. Within this she has a number of interests including (a) treatments for Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS), (b) the comparison of speech treatments to demonstrate relative effectiveness and efficiency, and (c) the use of ultrasound for biofeedback in speech pathology.

When not being an SLP she bakes, goes snorkeling, and wrangles a house rabbit.

Disclosures: Member of Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. Al on a grant about CAS to Highman from Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Tessa McEvoy, Bachelor in Fine Arts

Tessa McEvoy is an Apraxic individual who uses artwork to advocate through story telling. She is currently working on the Scribble's Big Adventure illustrated book series. It's about a young Apraxic and Autisic mouse who learns self advocacy while exploring the city.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Jacqueline McKechnie, PhD; B.App.Sci. Speech Pathology; B.Arts (Languages and Linguistics)

Jacqueline is a senior lecturer in Speech Pathology at the University of Canberra, Australia. Her research interests include children's speech sound disorders, particularly childhood apraxia of speech; primary prevention of speech and language vulnerability in children; service provision; and collaboration with early childhood and primary/elementary school educators.

Angela McKee, Board Certified Behavior Analyst/Licensed Behavior Analyst (BCBA/LBA), M.Ed Special Education

○ United States

Angela McKee is a dedicated special education professional with 15 years of experience, currently serving as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst at Mansfield ISD. Her areas of expertise include the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) process, goal development, social skills instruction, and implementation of positive behavior supports. Angela advocates for comprehensive approaches that address not just speech and language deficits, but also broader academic, functional, and behavioral needs that address the whole child. As the parent of a 14-year-old with Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS), Angela has worked closely with educators, therapists, and parents to implement best practices for children with CAS in the school system. In her free time, she enjoys traveling both within the US and exploring new destinations throughout the world with her family.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Amy Meredith, MS, PhD, CCC-SLP

Amy Meredith is a Clinical Professor and Chair for the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences at the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine at Washington State University-Spokane, where she is the founder of Camp Candoo, an intensive summer program for children with CAS and a bilingual camp for children with CAS in the Tri-Cities. She joined WSU in 2006 as an Assistant Professor. She specializes in the areas of cleft lip and palate, pediatric motor speech disorders, anatomy of speech, and counseling in communication disorders. She has been an SLP for over 30 years and has worked in public schools, hospitals, university clinics, and private practice settings. She has published and presented her research on CAS at national conferences, has given over 100 workshops for practicing speech-language pathologists across the U.S. and internationally on assessment and treatment of CAS, and is on the Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. She recently co-authored the 3rd edition of "Here's How to Treat Childhood Apraxia of Speech" with Margaret Fish.

Disclosures: Co-author of "Here's How to Treat CAS, 3rd edition." Member of Professional Advisory Council for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

<u>Katie Micco, MS, CCC-SLP, Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech</u>

○ United States

Katie Micco is a Clinical Instructor in the Speech Production Disorder Clinic at Duquesne University where she supervises graduate students in the evaluation and treatment of children and adults with speech production disorders. She has been a practicing speech-language pathologist since 2007 in both the outpatient and educational settings. Her work focuses on the evaluation and treatment of children with speech production disorders including childhood apraxia of speech, structural speech issues and VPI, voice disorders, language disorders, and pragmatic language disorders. Katie has presented at both the local and national levels on the topics of childhood apraxia of speech and

other sound disorders and AAC. She is Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech.

Disclosures: Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Boot Camp. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Jaime Michise, MS, CCC-SLP, BCS-SCF

Jaime Michise is an alumna of Bowling Green State University and a board-certified specialist in stuttering, cluttering, and other fluency disorders. She has a private practice in Frisco, Texas, teaches at Stephen F. Austin State University, is a faculty member at Camp Shout Out for Youth Who Stutter, and co-leads the Dallas TWST Chapter of the National Stuttering Association.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Marnie Millington, MS-CCC SLP; Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in CAS; Certified DTTC Research Clinician (OUAT)

○ United States

Marnie Millington co-owns a pediatric speech-language clinic in MetroWest Boston. Her weekly caseload focuses on motor speech disorders. She has taught pediatric and lifespan motor-speech disorders at Northeastern University and Emerson College and has presented nationally on the assessment and treatment of children with apraxia of speech. Marnie has been recognized for her training and expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) by Apraxia Kids and the Once Upon a Time Foundation. She has recently published her first research article on children's speech intelligibility and has participated in several research studies examining CAS from various perspectives.

Disclosures: Graduate of Apraxia Kids Boot Camp. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Lisa Mitchell, SLPD, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Dr. Lisa Mitchell has worked as a pediatric speech language pathologist for over twenty years. She is the co-owner and clinical director at Clearly Speaking, a private practice with three clinics located throughout New Hampshire. Lisa is passionate about the treatment and assessment of children with complex speech sound disorders and has a specific interest in Childhood Apraxia of Speech. She serves on the New Hampshire state licensing board for Speech Language Pathology and Hearing Care Providers and is a member of Apraxia Kid's Professional Advisory Council.

Disclosures: Instructor for Apraxia Kids Boot Camp. Professional Advisory Council Member for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Laura Moorer, MA, CCC-SLP



Laura Moorer has a MA in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) and holds a Texas SLP license and ASHA CCCs. She has nearly 40 years of experience working in a variety of settings including schools, early intervention and private practice, and specializes in children with severe speech disorders and childhood apraxia of speech (CAS). She currently is the VP of Programs with the Apraxia Kids national non-profit organization dedicated to supporting professionals and families dealing with CAS.

Disclosures: Full time salaried employee for Apraxia Kids. Member of AHSA, SIG 2, & TSHA. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Angela Morgan, BSpPath, Aud (Hons), PhD, CSPS

Angela Morgan is an Elizabeth Blackburn fellow and Head of Speech and Language at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute and a Dame Kate Campbell Professor of Speech Pathology at the University of Melbourne. Angela's research career has focused on elucidating the genetics and neurobiology of child speech and language disorders. Angela's ongoing vision is to bring neuro-scientific evidence for child speech and language disorder into everyday clinical practice, to improve diagnosis, prognosis and treatment and ultimately optimise outcomes for affected children and their families. Angela has maintained a clinical role throughout the 25 years of her research career.

Of specific relevance here, Angela's work on genetic causes for speech disorder and primarily childhood apraxia of speech, led to a 'speech genetics' clinic at the Royal Children's Hospital Victoria, with national patient intake. Angela is known for her expertise in speech and language phenotyping to lead to gene discovery and targeted therapies. She is sought after to lead speech phenotyping in international studies, eg. by the Max Planck Institute, Radboud University, Boston Children's, the Pasteur Institute. Her expertise is increasingly sought after by Government bodies (UK, Victoria, NSW) and global health organisations such as the NIH and WHO. Angela has an exceptional track record of consumer engagement, working with over 30 consumer groups and currently sitting on 4 Consumer Advisory Boards.

Disclosures: Consultant for Redenlab. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Selilna Moujalli, Bachelor of Speech Pathology

Australia

Selina Moujalli is a speech pathologist who works with children with childhood apraxia of speech and other communication needs at Remarkable Speech and Movement, a private practice in Sydney, Australia. Selina has an interest in assessing and treating children with speech, language, and fluency difficulties.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Angela Muis, SLP-A



Angela is a SLP-A, working with school aged children in private practice in Ottawa, ON. She is currently working on a research project, the CAS Family Questionnaire Study, led by SLPs from The University of Sydney and Vermont University.

Angela has long been a champion of childhood apraxia of speech initiatives. She has made contributions to Apraxia Kids as a speaker at Apraxia Kids National Conferences and the Apraxia Kids Virtual Education Series, as a member of the Ottawa Walk for Apraxia Planning Committee, and as a Volunteer Outreach Coordinator. Her contributions to Canada's apraxia community include volunteering with Apraxia Kids as Canadian Ambassador, serving as Chair of the registered non-profit Apraxia Kids Canada, and contributing articles to OPPEN-CAS.

She currently serves on Speech-Language & Audiology Canada's Awards and Recognition Committee and was recently recognized in the SAC Insider.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Elizabeth Murray, Speech Pathologist, PhD in Childhood Apraxia of Speech treatment efficacy, assessment, and diagnosis



Dr. Elizabeth (Liz) Murray is the owner and director of Remarkable Speech and Movement, a private practice and also an Honorary Lecturer at the University of Sydney. She is driven to improve outcomes for children with childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) as she has two siblings with CAS. She has over 20 published journal articles, has attracted over 3 million dollars in research funding. She currently completes research in differential diagnosis and treatment of CAS.

Disclosures: Owns a private practice and on teams who have received research funding from NHMRC and OUAT. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Jessica Murray, Allied Health Assistant

Jessica Murray is an Allied Health Assistant working with children with CAS from the delegation from the Speech Pathologist. Jessica also is the administrator of the practice, making all the schedules for our motor speech intensive blocks happen. Jessica also has real life experience with CAS as she grew up with family members and also living with 'dyspraxia' herself.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Denise Nakamura, Research and Finance Director for ABRAPRAXIA

△ Brazil

Denise Nakamura is chemical engineer and R&D and Finance Director of the Brazilian Association of Childhood Apraxia of Speech (ABRAPRAXIA). She started her work at ABRAPRAXIA as a volunteer in 2018. She is Mateus's mother, a 11-years old boy with CAS.

<u>Laura Nelson, BSc(Hons) (Human Communication Science); CPSP; GradCertAutDiag; PhD</u> Student

Laura Nelson is a Speech-Language Pathologist working in private practice in Australia, employed by Tablelands Speech Pathology. As well as being a business owner and clinician, she is a PhD student at Curtin University (Western Australia). Originally from Perth, she has worked across the UK and Queensland. She has a passion for delivering high quality services to country regions and has special interests in supporting clients with speech sound difficulties and autism spectrum disorder. She is currently working on developing an early intervention for toddlers considered to be at-risk of Childhood Apraxia of Speech.

Disclosures: Salaried by Tablelands Speech Pathology. PhD student at Curtin University and receives a stipend for studies from the Australian Government Research Training Program. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Aline Mara de Oliveira, Post Doctorate

☐ United Kingdom

Aline is the leader of research in the Evaluation and Treatment of Brazilian children with Motor Speech Disorders. She is a professor in the Department of Speech Therapy, teaching both undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Speech Therapy and Linguistics at the Federal University of Santa Catarina (Brazil). Currently a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland, Aline has previously completed postdoctoral and doctoral studies in Speech Therapy at UNESP, Brazil.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Lauren Osborne, B.App.Sci (SpPath), MSPA, CPSP

Lauren Osborne is a Speech Pathologist, who works at Remarkable Speech + Movement in Sydney, Australia.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Megan Overby, PhD, CCC-SLP

Dr. Megan Overby is an Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at Curtin University and a member of the Professional Advisory Council of Apraxia Kids. Her research in childhood apraxia of speech has explored potential early red flags of the disorder; currently, Megan is studying parent expectations for long-term outcomes of young children with apraxia. In addition to her research, she presents at conferences and workshops and has authored multiple publications and textbook chapters.

Disclosures: Professional Advisory Member for Apraxia Kids. Recipient of Apraxia Kids Research Grant. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Melissa Packwood, MS.Ed

Melissa Packwood is a Learning Specialist and adjunct instructor at Beacon College, the first college in the south for students with learning disabilities. She is also a certified teacher and educational consultant. Melissa writes articles for publication and speaks at conferences, professional development seminars, and private events. As a parent and professional her goal is to help parents and professionals learn how best to serve students with learning differences and students who are neurodiverse. She works as a teammate with all stakeholders to aid student learning and growth. We are all in this together.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Paula Pando de Hill, Esq., LL.M., CIPP U/EU, CIPM

☐ United States

Paula is a mom of two and fierce advocate of her first-born diagnosed with childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) and Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD), among other implications of DDX3X Syndrome. Using her professional experience as an attorney and compliance professional, and her personal experience as a parent, she became an advocate for apraxia and bilingualism for children with CAS since her daughter's apraxia diagnosis in 2019. Her own journey to find the appropriate support for her daughter in the middle of a global pandemic reinforced her commitment to spread awareness to help other parents and professionals understand this disorder. Her hope is that by raising awareness and sharing resources, every kid with CAS will have access to the best support possible for their unique journey so they can reach their maximum potential of development. She works to raise awareness in her local community and abroad by connecting individuals to the programs offered by Apraxia Kids.

Disclosures: Board Member of Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Alison Purcell, PhD; MAppSc (Speech Pathology); BAppSc (Speech Pathology)

Alison Purcell is a certified practising speech pathologist and the inaugural Professor of Speech Pathology in the School of Health, Western Sydney University, Australia. Alison's research is designed to improve outcomes for children that have lifelong communication difficulties resulting from structural differences such as childhood apraxia of speech, hearing loss, and cleft palate. Her research has also targeted how to improve the structural inequities that many children with communication difficulties encounter.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Shivani Raina, SLPD, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Dr. Raina is a licensed clinician and researcher in speech-language pathology. She also serves as an assistant professor in communication sciences and disorders. As a clinician Dr. Raina assesses and

treats speech, language, and cognitive communication disorders. Her research focuses on the intersections of psychological sciences and speech-language disorders.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Brooke Rea, MCISc, SLP (C)

Brooke Rea is Apraxia Kids Recognized for Advanced Training in Childhood Apraxia of Speech. She owns a mid-size private practice in Guelph, Ontario, restricted to children with motor speech disorders and spends considerable paid and volunteer time supporting professionals and parents with CAS throughout Canada. Brooke prides herself on being a practical teaching clinician who uses video examples and humour to enhance learning. She has lectured at numerous university and college programs and has been an invited speaker at conferences and workshops across North America to speak about Childhood Apraxia and pediatric motor speech disorders. Brooke is licensed with the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario (CASLPO) and a Certified SLP with Speech-Language & Audiology of Canada. In addition, Brooke sits on the Apraxia Kids Professional Advisory Council and is a founding member and current chair of Apraxia Kids Canada.

Disclosures: Professional Advisory Member for Apraxia Kids, Apraxia Kids Canada Chair, Private Practice Owner. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Carol M. Rodríguez, MS, CCC-SLP

△ Puerto Rico

Carol M. Rodríguez is Recognized by Apraxia Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech. Carol is a pediatric SLP who specializes in assessment and treatment of Speech Sound Disorders, including Childhood Apraxia of Speech. She owns a private practice in Puerto Rico and is the owner and founder of ArtikPro Academy in where she offers continuing education courses for other SLPs. As a proud Apraxia Kids Boot Camp graduate, Carol is committed to supporting apraxia stars and their families, while also working to further knowledge and awareness about CAS in the therapeutic/educational community and beyond!

Disclosures: Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Boot Camp. There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Dr. Marivelisse Rodriguez-Rivera

○ United States

Dr. Marivelisse Rodriguez-Rivera is a distinguished pediatric neuropsychologist with extensive experience working with neurodivergent children and those with complex medical backgrounds. She has dedicated her career to helping families and communities better understand children's brains and how to best support their development. Dr. Mari earned her doctoral degree in psychology from Ponce School of Medicine and completed a Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellowship at Our Children's House at Baylor. Over the past 15 years, she has contributed to the field in multiple roles as a clinician, educator, researcher, and advocate.

La Dra. Marivelisse Rodríguez-Rivera es una distinguida neuropsicóloga pediátrica con amplia experiencia en el trabajo con niños neurodivergentes y con cuadros médicos complejos. Ha dedicado su carrera a ayudar a familias y comunidades a entender mejor el cerebro de los niños y cómo apoyar su desarrollo. La Dra. Mari obtuvo su doctorado en psicología en la Ponce School of Medicine y completó un Postdoctorado en Neuropsicología Pediátrica en Our Children's House en Baylor. Durante los últimos 15 años, ha contribuido al campo en múltiples roles como clínica, educadora, investigadora y defensora (advocate).

Revelaciones: No existen relaciones financieras o no financieras relevantes para revelar.

Heather Rusiewicz, PhD, CCC-SLP

○ United States

Heather Leavy Rusiewicz is the Chair and Associate Professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA. She is also Program Director of the Speech Production Clinic within the Duquesne University Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic and Associate Dean for Research for the John G. Rangos, Sr. School of Health Sciences.

She received her bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in Communication Science and Disorders from the University of Pittsburgh. She has over 25 years of experience as a SLP including positions at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Rusiewicz clinical and research experiences are focused on children and adults with speech sound disorders. Her areas of interest include gestures, prosody, and speech sound production in children and adults. She is particularly interested in the dynamic entrainment of speech and manual movements. Dr. Rusiewicz explores dynamic coordination of speech and hand movements for both clinical application for developmental and disordered processes of speech and for improved pedagogical practices.

Dr. Rusiewicz research also explores the integration of music and speech production. Other ongoing areas of scholarly work and collaborations include better understanding the experiences of clinicians, clients, and their families, specifically in childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) as well as treatment of CAS using implementation science frameworks. Also, Dr. Rusiewicz is involved in community engaged teaching and research with the aim to promote the discipline of SLP, embolden students to be civic-minded advocates for their clients, and to sustain relationships with community partners to serve the local and broader community.

Disclosures: Salaried employee at Duquesne University. Support from Once Upon a Time Foundation. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Jennifer Sakowicz, MS, CCC-SLP

○ United States

Jennifer Sakowicz is a speech language pathologist and owner of Pediatric Communication Center in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. She specializes in both pediatric motor speech disorders, with a specific interest in childhood apraxia of speech, as well as language-literacy disorders. Jennifer is currently a five-time recipient of ASHA's Award for Continuing Education (ACE) as well as completed all requirements of the Apraxia-Kids Intensive Training Institute and is proud to be "Recognized by Apraxia-Kids for Advanced Training and Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech."

Disclosures: Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training Boot Camp. There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Amy Salera, Parent of an Apraxia Star, Community Engagement Manager for Apraxia Kids

Amy Salera is the Community Engagement Manager at Apraxia Kids and a parent of a child with apraxia of speech. As a staff member, she focuses on outreach and engagement, awareness, and fundraising efforts. She values connecting with the apraxia community, educating others, and sustaining the mission of Apraxia Kids. Amy has also utilized many of the resources offered by Apraxia Kids when supporting and advocating for her own child, and uses her experience as a parent to assist those who are on the same journey. She is passionate about apraxia of speech becoming recognized and accepted so that others understand the common complications of this disorder and is always willing to answer questions, share ideas, and tell her story in order to motivate a positive change for future generations.

Disclosures: Full time salaried employee for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Ilaria Scarcella, BScSP (Hons)

Ilaria Scarcella is a speech pathologist involved in both clinical practice and research at the University of Sydney, specializing in Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS).

Following her first peer-reviewed publication on the effectiveness of Rapid Syllable Transition (ReST) treatment delivered in Italian in the American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology (AJSLP), she continues to advance research by exploring the impact of ReST treatment on improving speech consistency in children with CAS.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Noelle Scolieri, MS, CCC-SLP

Noelle Scolieri owns Easy Peasy Speech LLC, a Pittsburgh-based pediatric speech therapy private practice, specializing in Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS), Teletherapy and School Contracting Services. She is a nationally certified Speech-Language Pathologist who is licensed to practice in the states of Pennsylvania, Florida, and Texas. Noelle has always had a special interest in CAS and had the opportunity to do research at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, including presenting her findings at the 2019 Apraxia Kids National Conference and as a Meritorious Poster Session Presenter in 2019 at the Pennsylvania Speech and Hearing Association convention. She is a 2024 ACE award winner through the American Speech-Language Hearing Association for her dedication to continuing her education, with over half of those courses being specifically for CAS treatment, including PROMPT and DTTC training. Additionally, Noelle has a passion for literacy and its connection to speech and language skills. She is a published author of four children's books and four novels under the pen name Nadette Rae Rodgers, and she loves offering story times to local preschools as well as sponsoring an annual book drive for children in need. Noelle Scolieri graduated summa cum laude with her Master of Science in Communicative Sciences & Disorders

from Baylor University and with her Bachelor of Arts in Communication Disorders from Geneva College, where she also minored in Psychology. In her free time, Noelle enjoys reading, doing DIY projects, and spending time with her family, friends, and Cavapoo puppy named Ace.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Rocío Sepúlveda, Speech Pathologist

△ Chile

Rocío Sepúlveda Escobar is a Chilean speech-language pathologist, and a graduate of the Universidad de Talca. She completed an internship at the Universidade Federal de Santa Maria (Brazil) and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Health Sciences Research at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

She has worked in educational institutions, public and private healthcare centers, gaining experience in the assessment and intervention of communication disorders. Her primary clinical focus has been the treatment of children and adults with neurological conditions, with a special emphasis on childhood apraxia of speech.

Her commitment to continuous learning led her to specialize in evidence-based approaches and to establish a training organization. She was a pioneer in organizing the first Spanish-language training on the DTTC approach for childhood apraxia of speech, initiating a collaboration with Dr. Edythe Strand and Dr. Julie Case. Currently, she is dedicated to promoting access to training in speech sound disorders and sharing evidence-based information through @rocio.hablemosdehabla on Instagram.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Haley Sinclair, BA, expected May 2025

☐ United States

Haley Sinclair is a senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, majoring in Linguistics with a minor in Speech and Hearing Sciences. She is thoroughly enjoying her academic journey toward becoming a speech-language pathologist and is cultivating her passion for the field through a research internship under the mentorship of Molly Anne Beiting, PhD, CCC-SLP. Go Heels!

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Kamelia Rouhani Slankard, PhD, CCC-SLP

Kamelia Rouhani Slankard is a school-based SLP with 28 years of experience in preschool assessments. She recently completed her doctoral dissertation titled: The Parental Perspective of the Familial Effects of Childhood Apraxia of Speech.

Leah Solomon, MS, CCC-SLP

Leah Solomon is an Illinois state licensed and nationally certified speech-language pathologist specializing in complex communication disorders and childhood apraxia of speech (CAS). Leah received an undergraduate degree in Communicative Disorders from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a graduate degree in Speech-Language Pathology from Teacher's College-Columbia University. Leah has experience working with a wide population of children both in the school setting and in her private practice. She began her career working for a special education cooperative for several years. Through this she gained experience evaluating and treating clients with a variety of speech, language, and learning needs. Leah specializes in articulation disorders, phonological disorders, childhood apraxia of speech (CAS), late talking, as well as complex intellectual and physical disorders.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Olesja Staroverova, Bachelor's Degree

☐ Germany

Olesja is the mom of an 8 year old daughter with severe apraxia. For 4 years in Germany, they have undertaken genetic, neuro tests, and different therapies. Olesja is dedicated to raising awareness, sharing their experience, and empowering others in the apraxia community. She is excited to contribute and connect!

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Edythe Strand, PhD, CCC-SLP

Dr. Edythe Strand is Emeritus Speech Pathologist, Department of Neurology, Mayo Clinic, and Emeritus Professor, Mayo College of Medicine. Dr. Strand's research has focused on developmental, acquired and progressive apraxia of speech, and issues related to intelligibility and comprehensibility in degenerative dysarthria. She is an experienced clinician who has worked in the public schools, private practice, and hospital and clinic settings. Dr. Strand's publications include many articles and book chapters related to motor speech disorders. She is an ASHA fellow and has been awarded Honors of the Association of the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association; Honors of the Academy of Neurologic Communication Disorders and Sciences, and the ASHFoundation, Frank R. Kleffner Lifetime Clinical Career Award.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Kelly Sullivan, MA, CCC-SLP

Kelly Sullivan is a project manager for the Case Speech Production Lab and is the treating clinician for a research study investigating the effects of parent training on treatment outcomes in children with childhood apraxia of speech. She received her M.A. in Speech-Language Pathology from Hofstra University in Spring 2022. Kelly is an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist with a special interest in speech sound disorders in children.

Disclosures: Clinical speech therapist and project manager on a research study that receives funding from the Once Upon a Time Foundation. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Michelle Swartz, PhD, CCC-SLP

Michelle is a certified speech-language pathologist and an assistant professor at Stockton University. She received her Ph.D. from MSU in 2022, an M.A. in Speech-Language Pathology from MSU in 2014 and an M.S. in Biomedical Science from Barry University in 2009. Her research interests include holistic care and the use of visual biofeedback intervention for persons with motor speech disorders.

Disclosures: Apraxia Kids Research Grant Recipient. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Melissa Taberski, MS, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Melissa Taberski is a Speech-Language Pathologist based in Rochester, NY, with over 20 years of experience. A 2021 graduate of the Apraxia Kids Intensive Training "Boot Camp," Melissa specializes in working with school-aged children with Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) and complex communication needs. As the mom of a child with CAS, she brings a personal and professional understanding to her work, emphasizing practical strategies that make a difference for families and students. Melissa has advanced training in Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), literacy, and Gestalt Language Processing. She collaborates with school districts nationwide, providing professional development, consultations, and direct services. Known for her ability to unite educators, clinicians, and families, Melissa fosters strong interdisciplinary collaboration to support student success. She is also a frequent presenter at local and state levels, sharing evidence-based approaches for addressing communication and literacy challenges.

Disclosures: Graduate of Intensive Training Boot Camp. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Megan Tarchichi, MD, Parent of an Apraxia Star

☐ United States

Megan Tarchichi is the mom of two children with CAS (ages 10 and 12) who, after years of therapy, perseverance, and hard work, graduated from speech last year while also knowing that they will continue to use all the skills they learned and can always return to speech for new challenges as vocabulary and language demands increase in high school and beyond! Their journey involved early intervention speech and occupational therapy, private speech therapy, group speech therapy, evaluations with Apraxia specialists, CAS summer intensive speech camp, and intermittent occupational therapy to work on associated challenges.

Panagiota Tampakis, SLPD, CCC-SLP, TSSLD

Dr. Panagiota Tampakis is a Lecturer and the Program Advisor in the Department of Biobehavioral Sciences in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Program at Teachers College, Columbia University. Clinical and teaching areas of interest include providing culturally responsive assessment and intervention for pediatric speech and language disorders including autism spectrum disorder and childhood apraxia of speech. Dr. Tampakis works as the program manager for the NIH Clinical Trial titled "A Randomized Control Trial of Motor-based Interventions for CAS." She holds clinical certification from the American Speech, Language and Hearing Association and is licensed in speech-language pathology in New York State.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Nancy Tarshis, MA, MS, CCC-SLP

Nancy Tarshis, a speech-language pathologist/special educator and former Director of Early Childhood Programming at The Quad Preparatory School, dedicated to 2E children K-12. For 27 years, she was on the clinical team at Children's Evaluation and Rehabilitation Center at Einstein College of Medicine, serving as Supervisor of Speech/Language Services for 21 of them. While there, she trained more than 400 SLPs currently practicing worldwide. As Emeritus at CERC, she participates in ongoing research and lectures to pediatric fellows and medical residents. She serves as adjunct clinical instructor at several New York City graduate programs, and consults on social-emotional learning to public and private schools. Nancy is deeply experienced in a wide variety of treatment methodologies, including Social Thinking. She is the co-author of their early learner curriculum, We Thinkers Volumes 1& 2 and the Social Thinking Group Collaboration Play and Problem Solving Scale (GPS). Nancy's private work includes Altogether Social, a social cognitive practice, serving pediatric clients through adulthood offering individual and group sessions as well as trainings for parents and professionals. Through her work as a member of the Social Thinking© Speaking and Training Collaborative Nancy provides consultations to schools both nationally and internationally. Additionally, she is a member of the professional advisory board of Apraxia Kids.

Disclosures: Professional Advisory Member for Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Alyson Taylor, First-hand account, Apraxia Kids Board of Directors Member

Alyson Taylor was diagnosed with childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) in the 1990s, a time when understanding of the condition was limited. Now an advocate and volunteer member of the Apraxia Kids Board of Directors, she is dedicated to advancing research, raising funds, and supporting families navigating the challenges of CAS. Alyson's journey from diagnosis to advocacy gives her a unique perspective, inspiring her passion for creating awareness and fostering hope for others impacted by apraxia.

Disclosures: Apraxia Kids Board Member. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Donna Thomas, PhD, MSPA, CPSP

Dr. Thomas is an Australian Speech Pathologist and CAS researcher. She completed her PhD at The University of Sydney, investigating the effectiveness of different service delivery models for Rapid Syllable Transition treatment (ReST). She is currently working with international colleagues on two large Randomised Control Studies of Dynamic Temporal And Tactile Cueing (DTTC). Dr. Thomas is interested in the experiences of caregivers and clinicians with evidence-based treatments, and publishes regularly in these areas. Dr. Thomas is a Senior Lecturer and Clinical Educator at The University of Sydney

Disclosures: Receives salary from The University of Sydney, and grant funding from the Australian Government, Once Upon a Time Foundation, NSW Helath, and Cerebral Palsy Alliance. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Nathan Trezise, MEdL, BEd

Nathan Trezise works for the Diocese of Lismore Catholic Schools Office on the mid-north coast of New South Wales, Australia. His current role is Lead, School Improvement and Performance which involves supporting school leaders undertaking school reviews, establishing strategic improvement plans and creating optimal conditions for all children to thrive. Nathan has been an educational leader for over 15 years in roles as Principal, Assistant Principal, and Literacy and Numeracy Mentor teacher.

In 2023, his daughter was diagnosed with CAS. He has connected with The University of Sydney through a study exploring CAS therapy. In 2024, Nathan was a parent contributor to the research project undertaken by the University of Sydney on 'Family experiences with CAS diagnosis and speech therapy'.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Hannah Valentine, MS, CCC-SLP

Hannah Valentine is a speech-language pathologist and doctoral candidate at New York University. Hannah works in the Motor Speech Lab at the Communicative Sciences and Disorders Department under advisement from Maria Grigos, PhD, CCC-SLP. Hannah's current research projects focus on childhood apraxia of speech, with a particular emphasis on early identification and intervention. She specializes in perceptual, acoustic, and survey methods. Hannah received her masters in speech-language pathology from University of Washington and her bachelors in speech, language, and hearing sciences from University of Colorado in Boulder. Hannah worked as a clinical speech-language pathologist in early intervention for three years before returning to academia to pursue research.

Disclosures: Research project is funded by a doctoral student grant from Apraxia Kids. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Mirjam van Tellingen, MA

Mirjam van Tellingen is a clinical linguist and researcher working in childhood rehabilitation care. She has over 15 years of experience as a speech therapist with children with speech disorders and complex neurodevelopmental disorders. In her research, she focusses on childhood motor speech disorders. She is currently working on a project to evaluate the efficacy of Speech-Music Therapy in the treatment of childhood apraxia of speech. Developing tools to evaluate changes in prosody after treatment is part of this project. Together with her colleague, a music therapist, she teaches the course Speech-Music Therapy for children, which is aimed at speech therapists and music therapists who want to apply this treatment.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Anne L. van Zelst, PhD, CCC-SLP

Anne L. van Zelst is an assistant professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Florida Atlantic University and a speech-language pathologist. Her innovative research focuses on speech-motor learning and memory consolidation with the future goal of informing the treatment of speech sound disorders. Anne is Apraxia Kids Recognized for Advanced Training & Clinical Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech and has been an instructor for the Apraxia Kids' school-based intensive training and several Apraxia Kids' webinars.

Disclosures: Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Shelley Velleman, PhD, CCC-SLP, ASHA Fellow, FNAP

○ United States

Dr. Shelley L. Velleman has a Linguistics doctorate in Child Phonology and a masters degree in Speech-Language Pathology. She has been teaching Communication Sciences and Disorders since 1984. She also held full-time clinical hospital positions in pediatric speech-language pathology for six years. Dr. Velleman is currently Professor Emerita of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Vermont. Her teaching, research, and clinical work focus on typical and atypical speech development. She has researched prelinguistic vocalizations, early words, and the early speech development of children learning a variety of languages and dialects. She currently specializes in pediatric motor speech disorders, especially childhood apraxia of speech, including the speech of children with neurodevelopmental syndromes, most notably duplication 7q11.23 syndrome and Williams syndrome, as well as autism and Down syndrome. She has authored many articles and book chapters and three books on these topics. She has presented peer-reviewed papers at scientific conferences and invited clinical workshops around the United States and the world. Dr. Velleman is an ASHA Fellow and a Distinguished Scholar and Fellow of the National Academies of Practice. She has been a member of the Apraxia-Kids Professional Advisory Council since 2000. Dr. Velleman has mentored more than 20 doctoral students since 2000, including serving as an external examiner on doctoral committees outside her own institution, as distant as Australia and Hong Kong.

Disclosures: Member of the Apraxia Kids Professional Advisory Council. Received funds from various instutions/agencies to study speech development and disorders, including from Apraxia Kids and the Once Upon a Time Foundation. Co-author of the Language-neutral Assessment of Motor Speech.

Breanna Waldrup, MS, CCC-SLP

☐ United States

Breanna Waldrup has been a speech-language pathologist for over 16 years and is recognized for Advanced Training and Expertise in Childhood Apraxia of Speech by Apraxia Kids. Breanna has specialized in the diagnosis and treatment of motor speech disorders, particularly CAS, for 13+ years during which time she has treated hundreds of children, primarily at Apraxia Dallas, which she owned from 2016-2024. She shares her wealth of clinical experience through presentations on CAS and literacy, as well as providing consultations to families and professionals and conducting expert-level speech evaluations. A self-professed speech nerd, she has a passion for staying up-to-date on the latest research evidence and translating the information into clinical practice.

Disclosures: Receive compensation from Breanna Waldrup, SLP, PLLC. Graduate of Apraxia Kids Intensive Training. There are no other relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Emily Wang, PhD, CCC-SLP

○ United States

Emily W. Wang is a post doctoral fellow at the University of Wisconsin, Madison under the mentorship of Dr. Katie Hustad. Emily's research interests include childhood apraxia of speech, bilingualism, speech intelligibility, and prosody.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Eliza Williamson, Research Assistant

Eliza Williamson is a research assistant working in Australia.

Disclosures: There are no relevant financial or non-financial relationships to disclose.

Eddy Wong, Phd, SLP

△ Hong Kong

Eddy Wong is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Education at the University of Hong Kong. He holds a PhD from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, an MPhil from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and a BSc in Speech and Hearing Sciences from the University of Hong Kong. His research interests focus on childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) in Cantonese and other non-English speakers. He has published extensively in this field and has presented at international conferences.

Prior to his academic career, Eddy practiced as a speech-language pathologist (SLP) in Hong Kong for over 17 years, working with Cantonese and bilingual children with speech and language disorders. His extensive clinical and research experience enables him to provide clinical supervision to SLP students at universities in Hong Kong.

Disclosures: Recipient of Apraxia Kids Doctoral Student Research Grant. There are no other relevant financial or nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

Min Ney Wong, Professor

☐ Hong Kong

Prof. Min Ney Wong is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Her main research areas include neurogenic speech and language disorders (e.g., due to stroke, Parkinson's disease, traumatic brain injury), neurosciences and speech sciences. Additionally, she also research on childhood apraxia of speech and the application of non-invasive brain stimulation to enhance effects of traditional speech therapy.