

Together We Are...



One Community

Apraxia  Kids®

Annual Report
August 1, 2021 - July 31, 2022

Together We Are...

Dear Friends,

On behalf of our Board of Directors, Professional Advisory Council, and dedicated staff, I am pleased to share our 2022 Annual Report, highlighting our successes.

As I reflect on this past year, I am humbled by the support of our Apraxia Community. **Together, we are** a strong community, driven to help our Apraxia Stars find their voices. We have accomplished so much together, making a difference in the lives of children with apraxia.

As the leading nonprofit focused on childhood apraxia of speech, our commitment to spreading awareness, building a strong support community, sharing evidence-based resources, and empowering families to better advocate for their children remains strong. **Together, we are** a connected support system achieving the mission of Apraxia Kids.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to increasing our impact by developing new ways to engage our entire community, both in person and in a virtual setting. Apraxia Kids remains committed to upholding our core values of support, education, awareness, advocacy, and research.

We look forward to sharing new resources, information, and learning opportunities throughout the upcoming year. **Together, we are partners**, helping every child find their voice.

Thank you for your continued support of our organization.

Angela Grimm
Executive Director



Mission Driven

Together We Are...

Apraxia Kids is committed to providing evidence-based education on childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) to families and professionals. Whether you are attending our National Conference, viewing webinars, or seeking an SLP from our Directory, you are being provided with information and resources from trained professionals who have knowledge about best practices for children with CAS.

After 3 long years, the **Apraxia Kids National Conference** was held in person in Las Vegas this past July. In addition to over 40 live sessions, 23 sessions were recorded and made available for on-demand viewing throughout July for virtual attendees. Because education is one of our core values, **50 families were provided scholarships** to attend the National Conference to further their education. In total, **632 individuals** from across the world attended our National Conference.



Apraxia Kids is dedicated to advancing innovation through research and education. In addition to the 2022 National Conference, we were excited to host our third **Apraxia Kids Research Symposium** while in Las Vegas. Over 50 researchers and clinicians from around the world spent 2.5 days discussing previous research and updates on current research projects; working together to establish research priorities for the next several years.

In order for us to achieve our mission, funding evidence-based assessment and treatment of children with CAS is critical and remains an integral part of our organization. We are pleased to share that this past year, Apraxia Kids funded four research projects on topics of early diagnosis and treatment of CAS, prevalence of Developmental Coordination Disorder, and perception and production of lexical stress in children with CAS.

As we continue to look for ways to reach more SLPs and families, the demand for virtual education grows. This past spring, Apraxia Kids hosted a free **Four Part Lecture Series** for parents and professionals bringing together topic experts to share their knowledge with our community at no cost. Those who could not attend the live webinars will be able to access the recordings on our website.

\$77,000

in Research Funding
awarded in 2021-2022

5,378 Continuing Education
Credits this year

Knowledge Seekers

Together We Are...

Apraxia Kids remains committed to providing support to our families and professional community as they navigate their apraxia journey. This past year, we focused our efforts on making our information more accessible to our community.

In May, we launched our new **Parent Portal**. This all-inclusive resource was designed for parents to find answers to the many questions they have throughout their apraxia journey. Most children with CAS become competent verbal communicators, but there are often additional challenges that happen along the way. The Parent Portal has separate pages focused on information and resources for six distinct age and skill level groups from birth to adulthood. Since its launch, over 4,000 community members have visited the portal.



In addition, Apraxia Kids partnered with book authors from across North America, to compile a **Children's Book List** centered on childhood apraxia of speech. We were pleased to share some of the authors' stories via live book readings on social media, and several authors were also able to showcase their books at our National Conference.

As we continue to further our mission, our **Diversity & Inclusion Task Force** remains a critical component of the organization. This dedicated team has informed and contributed to many Apraxia Kids projects. Their input has been integral in guiding inclusivity in our social media presence, sharing feedback on the development of resources, and providing content and insight for our new Parent Portal. The sharing of their successes and struggles as they navigate their individual journeys has provided input to improve our Black History Month resources, SLP Directory, and AAC information.

This year, our **Speech-Language Pathologist Directory** reached a huge milestone. Since its official launch in 2017, more than **800 SLPs** worldwide have joined the directory. The directory connects families with SLPs who have shown a strong understanding of and experience in diagnosing and treating children with CAS. Our directory now also allows SLPs to include a professional photo and indicate any additional languages in which they offer services.



A Community in Action

Together We Are...

Together, we continue to spread awareness reaching more families who need our support. We know childhood apraxia of speech affects over **300,000 children across the United States**. Apraxia Kids continually works through all of our initiatives to bring apraxia into the light so that every newly diagnosed family may have an easier journey to find answers and gain the support necessary for the successful treatment of CAS.



TACO CABANA.



This past May, we celebrated the **10th Anniversary of Apraxia Awareness Day**, uniting our community throughout the entire month by spreading awareness, wearing blue, and advocating for our mission. With your help, we filed **212 Proclamations** across the United States and Canada.

We also launched our new national partnership with **Taco Cabana**. We are so grateful for their commitment to spread awareness, raise funds, and volunteer their time. Since May 14, they have raised more than \$60,000 to support Apraxia Kids.

Apraxia Kids



Our **Be the Voice** initiative grew as well, receiving almost double the requests for SLP, Classroom, and Event Kits compared to the year before. In 2022, over **844 resource kits** were shared across the globe.

In 2022, we also celebrated the 15th Anniversary of the **Walk for Apraxia®**, our largest fundraiser supporting children with childhood apraxia of speech.

Together, with our Volunteer Walk Committees, Apraxia Kids hosted **57 in-person walk events** across North America, furthering our awareness efforts and raising crucial funds sustaining the programs and services of Apraxia Kids.



**905
Apraxia
Stars
Celebrated!**

A Powerful Voice

Together We Are...

OUR VISION

A world where every child with apraxia of speech reaches their highest communication potential.
Every child deserves a voice.

OUR MISSION

Apraxia Kids is the leading nonprofit that strengthens the support systems in the lives of children with apraxia of speech by educating professionals and families; facilitating community engagement and outreach; and investing in the future through advocacy and research.

OUR STAFF

Angela Grimm, *Executive Director*

Laura Moorer, *Vice President of Programs*

Earnie Sotirokos, *Director of Digital Strategy*

Jaimie Barca, *Development Manager*

Amanda Stein, *Program Manager*

Amy Salera, *Community Engagement Manager*

OUR BOARD

Lou LaVecchia, *Chair*

Jeff Mills, *Vice Chair*

Amber Pinsky, *Treasurer*

Claudio Capone, *Secretary*

Mark Conroe

Stephanie Fera

Gary Fernando, MD, FAAP

George Lin

Edwin Maas, Ph.D.

Jonathan Spiegel

Matthew Stevens

Alyson Taylor

Sarah White

Mary Sturm, *Board Member Emerita*

OUR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Susan Caspari, M.A., CCC-SLP

Amy Clark, M.S., CCC-SLP

Elaine Dolgin-Lieberman, M.A., CCC-SLP

Gary Fernando, MD, FAAP

Margaret Fish, M.S., CCC-SLP

Susan Freiburger

Christina Gildersleeve-Neumann, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Maria Grigos, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Jenya Iuzzini-Seigel, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

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Jonathan Preston, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Brooke Rea, MCISc, SLP (C)

Ruth Stoeckel, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Edy Strand, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Nancy Tarshis, M.A., M.S., CCC-SLP

Shelley Velleman, Ph.D., CCC-SLP



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