

January
2018

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Board of Regents Informational Items

West River Cochlear Implant Mapping



SDSD Outreach Consultants, Nina Ringstmeyer and Kerry Ruth, assisted with the 14th West River Cochlear Implant Outreach Clinic on October 11-13. In order to have children's audiologic needs provided closer to home, SDSD and the University of South Dakota Scottish Rite Speech and Hearing Clinic offer this opportunity for families living on the western side of the state.

The USD team utilized the new SDSD West River Office which includes a sound booth, waiting room, conference room, and office space. The new facility is

located on Jackson Boulevard in Rapid City.

Dr. Messersmith and a team of audiology students served a total of 28 kids for audiology appointments. A variety of services were provided, including: cochlear implant programming, auditory brainstem response tests, osseointegrated device programming appointments, and consultations/evaluations. Audiology students from the University of South Dakota were on hand to assist with the evaluations as a part of their doctoral audiology program.

Dr. Elizabeth Hanson and Dr. Kyle Brouwer from the University of South Dakota Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders were available, along with speech-language pathology students, to provide communication support and language evaluations for clients.



Fairview Training

On October 18-20, Outreach Consultants, Nina Ringstmeyer and Kerry Ruth, hosted a Fairview Training Workshop for professionals in Rapid City.

Outreach Consultants, Kami VanSickle and Jodi Schnider, hosted a DDN connection for the professionals in the Sioux Falls area. The Fairview Learning Program is designed specifically for students who are deaf or hard of hearing but

the strategies can be used for all students.

Fairview provides individuals with literacy tools that allow access and increase fluency in English and ASL. This program can be integrated into any existing reading program. Trish Vierera, Owner/CEO, instructed participants about the program. Attendees had the opportunity to receive continuing education contact hours. This three day workshop was the third oppor-

tunity for West River professionals to learn about Fairview.

Special thanks to the Black Hills State University – Rapid City Campus for allowing SDSD to utilize their facility and to the SDSD Foundation for furnishing the refreshments and snacks.





Patricia Vaughn is a special education teacher and 504 coordinator for the Warner School District

Partnering With Schools: Patricia Vaughn

SDSD school-based services are provided for children who are deaf or hard of hearing receiving educational services through any school program. Services are designed to support school professionals, parents, and students in their educational settings. Services may include:

- Staff in-services to share information about hearing level and its educational impacts
- Technical assistance and orientation with hearing aids, cochlear implants, FM and soundfield systems, interpreters, and other technology
- Participations in development of an Individual-

ized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan

- Classroom presentations about hearing loss
- Educational strategies and materials.

Find out what Patricia Vaughn thinks about her experiences with SDSD Outreach.

How did you learn about SDSD Outreach?

A SDSD staff member had given our school booklets describing the services that were provided by SDSD.

How has SDSD Outreach's involvement benefited your deaf/hard of hearing student(s)?

It is a benefit to have someone knowledgeable in this

field to provide optimal services to the students who need additional devices to receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in our school district.

SDSD has a variety of materials that explains the services provided by them and also other agencies throughout the state.

What would you tell other educators about using SDSD consultative services?

I would tell other educators to contact SDSD with any questions they have. SDSD has always been available to us whenever we had a need.

Teen Group

In November, Teen Group met for a follow-up conversation about an October presentation by Sheri Cook, director of Gallaudet University Regional Center-Midwest. Sheri spoke about a variety of subjects, however, self-advocacy was selected to explore further.

The discussion about self-advocacy was started by using Kahoot!, a tool for using technology to administer quizzes, discussions, or surveys. It is a game based classroom response system played by a whole group in real time. Multiple-choice questions are projected on the screen and students answer the questions with their smartphone, tablet, or computer. We posed ques-

tions pertaining to accommodations, modifications, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and what the rights are for a person who is Deaf or hard of hearing.

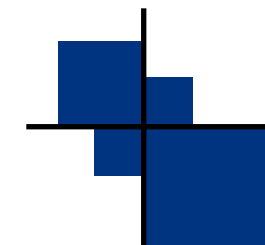
After our game of Kahoot!, Ishmael Hollis, a player for the Sioux Falls Skyforce, came to meet with our teens. Skyforce's public relations office had contacted SDSD because Ishmael has a connection to the Deaf community. He is a Child of a Deaf Adult, or a CODA. He was able to fluently communicate with the students who use American Sign Language as a form of communication.

Ishmael shared his experience growing up with

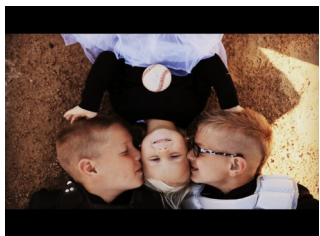
Deaf parents, about where his parents went to school, and his parents own athleticism and participation in many different sports. He also shared what it was like to have friends over who did not use ASL and how his mom was good at lip reading. His friends all called her "mom" as well.

Ishmael and the Skyforce graciously offered tickets to the game that weekend and he waved to the group from the court. It was an extremely positive experience for all.

We hope to have another game day experience with the Skyforce that is open to all of our clients soon.



Partnering with Families



We asked Randi Christensen about SDSD Outreach Services. Keep reading to learn how SDSD has impacted her family.

How did you learn about SDSD Outreach?

We first learned about SDSD from our ear, nose, and throat (ENT) physician. We took our son Keaton in as we suspected an ear infection that was causing him to have hearing difficulties in school. (We always suspected hearing problems but just never investigated for a variety of reasons.) Our ENT said he had no fluid and no infection and suggested that we get his hearing tested. I asked for options of places to go – told him I wanted to go straight to the best and not jump through a bunch of hoops. He recommended SDSD as they work with kids regularly and would be the best. And they are!! We called, scheduled an ap-

pointment, and have worked with SDSD since!!

How has SDSD Outreach's involvement benefited your child?

We work with Jodi Schnider from SDSD. SDSD's involvement has not only benefited Keaton but our entire family and other students in our school!! Before we even met Jodi face to face, we had multiple phone conversations around Keaton's hearing impairment and what our options were to help him. She was amazing helping not only Keaton and the school implement hearing aids into Keaton's everyday life but my husband's and mine as well. Jodi visits the school regularly and meets with teachers, aids, and staff as needed. She is awesome at providing feedback and advice for accommodations in and out of the classroom. She is a familiar face and Keaton is always excited when she comes to visit.

We have attended events sponsored by SDSD to increase awareness, knowledge, and create a support group for parents and kids who are dealing with hearing impairment. We are members of the Facebook

page and love to keep up and share our experiences in hopes it may help others as well.

We are family who enjoys sports, from participation to attendance, and Jodi has been instrumental in helping us continue that!!

Keaton has excelled in and out of the classroom all due to the support from Jodi, SDSD, and the education they have provided to us, his teachers, and the community.

What would you say to other families who are considering SDSD services?

DO IT!! I was VERY hesitant at first (I simply cannot think of a stronger word than hesitant or I would use that.) to utilize the services of SDSD – simply because I didn't know what they were and I didn't want my child to have a "label". I very quickly learned how naive and uneducated I was and the wonderful opportunities they can provide for my child, our family, and our community. What they have done for us cannot be expressed in words! They can provide so much and help you integrate so many things into your everyday life.



Carnival

The SDSD Carnival was held on Thursday, October 26th in the SDSD gym with over 200 people in attendance. Many organizations such as SDSD, SDAD, Deaf Awareness, GUAA, SDSD Alumni, SDSD former teachers, Sertoma, and SDSD Foundation sponsored booths and provided workers for the games. Augusta-

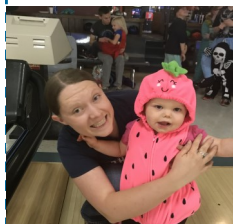
na interpreting majors provided over 150 hours of volunteer time preparing for the carnival, working the booths, and helping clean up afterwards.

We are grateful for so many great organizations coming together to bring back the SDSD Carnival. Proceeds from the carnival

will be applied towards next year's event, with a portion of the proceeds donated to the SDSD Foundation in support of Deaf youth programming. We are already making plans for the 2018 carnival. We hope to see you there!!



Rapid City Bowling



The South Dakota School for the Deaf Outreach

Consultants, Kerry Ruth and Nina Ringstmeyer, hosted a Halloween bowling event on Friday, October 27. The evening of bowling was held in Rapid City at Meadowood Lanes. Many clients and their families enjoyed the event dressed up in their

Halloween costumes. A huge thank you to Meadowood Lanes for waiving the shoe fee and the SDSA Foundation for providing pizza, drinks, and bowling.

Ongoing Learning



The third annual Collaborative Experience Conference for professionals who serve students who are Deaf, DeafBlind, and

Hard of Hearing took place on November 2-4. Outreach Consultants, Nina Ringstmeyer and Kerry Ruth, attended the conference in Breezy Point, Minnesota. The conference included American Sign Language classes, various topics on Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing, and networking opportunities. Attendance to this conference was very beneficial to the Outreach Consultants because it focused on the exact areas that are serviced by the South Dakota School for the Deaf every day.



Mitchell Family Event

On December 1, families from Mitchell, White Lake, and Ethan met on the Dakota Wesleyan University campus for a discussion on Deaf culture. SDSA Outreach Consultant, Julie Luke, and Deaf adult, Marlowe Moore, met with six families to share about their experiences growing up deaf/hard of hearing. More than 30 people were present to listen. Julie, Marlowe, and SDSA Outreach children discussed what it was like to be the only one in their school with a hearing loss. It was interesting to listen to their perspectives and how they adapted to their environment. Students were taught some basic sign language and got to know each other better. Afterwards, the students went to the gym to enjoy a bounce house and kickball.

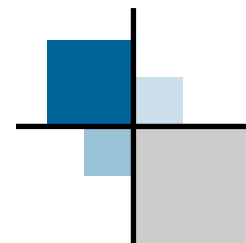
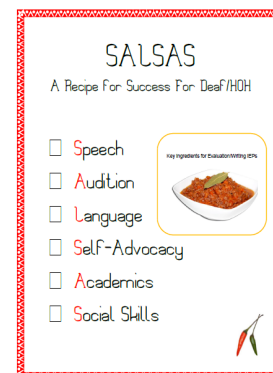
The parents stayed to listen to Julie and Marlowe's

talk. Parents also shared and empowered each other with tips and tricks on wear time, language exposure, and IEP meeting experiences. One parent reminded the other parents that "you are your child's best advocate." No truer statement could be made. Overall, the families enjoyed their yearly get-together.



Cornbelt Educational Cooperative Training

On December 20, SDSA Outreach Consultants, Jodi Schnider and Laura Scholten, provided a training for Cornbelt Educational Cooperative staff. The topic was "Affordable Therapy for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Students." Using the SALSAS acronym, participants learned about the key areas to consider when evaluating or writing an Individualized Education Program for a student who is deaf/hard of hearing. They also were given numerous resources to address the different key areas in the classroom or the therapy room. Staff left the training with new knowledge and a variety of free and/or affordable educational material ideas!



Audiology Department News

Mobile Lab

The following report details audiological services provided to South Dakota children from August 2017 through November 28th 2017 on SDSD's campus, West River Clinic, and via the mobile labs .



West River Clinic and Mobile Lab

Total Screened:	1861
Total Evaluated:	211

SDSD Campus and Mobile Lab

Total Screened:	6634
Total Evaluated:	275

Combined Total Screened:	8495
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Combined Total Evaluated:	486
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Mobile Sites:	80
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www.sdsd.sdbor.edu/audiology.htm

Partners in Educational Success

In-services and guest lectures are provided by members of the SDSD Outreach team as an extension of support for children with varied hearing levels. These in-services relate to varied hearing status and its educational impact, technical assistance and orientation with hearing aids, cochlear implants, FM systems, sound field systems, and/or interpreters, or educational strategies and materials that may benefit SDSD clients.

Consultant In-services

95

1,068

South Dakotans Educated

Number of Children Served

of Children Served

Fall 2017

522

of Children Referred

53

of Children

Currently Served

534