On September 14, a collaborative effort occurred among the South Dakota School for the Deaf Outreach Program, the University of South Dakota’s Communication Sciences and Disorders Department, and the Brandon Valley Auditory-Oral Program. Dr. Jessica Messersmith, Dr. Kyle Brouwer, Ellyn Hays, and Laura Scholten presented at the South Dakota Speech-Language Hearing Association Conference. The topic, Perspectives of an Interdisciplinary Approach to Clinical Provision and Supervision, emphasized the importance of speech-language pathologists and audiologists working as team members to benefit deaf and hard of hearing children. Using an interdisciplinary approach, the attendees were presented information on auditory development, communication options, the impact of hearing loss on communication skills, and auditory rehabilitation.

On October 29, Jodi Schnider and Laura Scholten provided a guest lecture to students enrolled in the Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Program at Mitchell Technical Institute. The lecture focused on hearing technology and gave students hands-on experience with hearing aids, cochlear implants, FM systems, and classroom sound field systems. The group enjoyed learning about technology the future professionals will be encountering in the field.

Jodi and Laura returned to Mitchell Technical Institute on November 19 for a two-hour lecture entitled “Eek...How Do I Work on Listening Skills?” The presentation focused on auditory skill development in deaf and hard of hearing children. They discussed ways to implement these techniques into speech and language therapy.
On November 7, 25 parents, child care providers, and Headstart teachers attended a SDSD workshop at the Lakota Tiwahe Center in Rosebud. The professional development day facilitated by Sara Hansen and Sarah Lingle focused on basic hearing function, otitis media, hearing loss and its impact on education performance in the classroom, assistive listening technology and tips to assist with hearing loss in the classroom.

Feri Veloz, center director, had attended a SDSD breakout session at the 2010 Lakota Nation Educational Conference in Rapid City and requested SDSD present this information to members of her community. Veloz said, “I am so glad that the people that attended the training learned more how hearing affects a child’s speech…I would like to bring you down next year for another presentation and maybe I can get more parents and programs to attend. Thank you it was a great presentation.”

SDSD Outreach Consultants, Nina Ringstmeyer and Kerry Ruth, hosted a free workshop on November 9 at the Game, Fish and Parks’ Outdoor Campus in Rapid City. The 45 attendees included professionals involved with speech and language development of deaf or hard of hearing students such as teachers, speech language pathologists, early interventionists, and administrators. Laura Scholten, SDSD Outreach Consultant from Sioux Falls, discussed the incorporation of listening into all aspects of therapy sessions, strategies for manipulating listening complexity, and structures of therapy sessions. After the workshop, attendees enjoyed a lunch provided by the SDSD Foundation.

On November 13, SDSD Outreach Consultants, Kerry Ruth and Nina Ringstmeyer, hosted a Rush Hockey Family Night. Eight SDSD clients and their parents experienced the game from a luxury suite! The Rush Foundation provided tickets and the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center provided the suite. Children and parents enjoyed pizza, popcorn, and soda provided by the SDSD Foundation. Families, some of whom had not previously met other children with hearing loss, shared stories and experiences. SDSD clients made posters for the game and even made it on the big screen! The group cheered the Rush on to a 3 to 2 victory.
Guest Lecture at USD

On November 28, SDSD collaborated with the University of South Dakota’s Communication Sciences and Disorders Department as Dr. Kyle Brouwer invited Laura Scholten to guest lecture during his Articulation Disorders class. Laura shared her experience and knowledge in common speech characteristics within the deaf and hard of hearing population, general speech assessment guidelines, and therapeutic strategies. She provided students with several resources to address these unique articulation needs. The twenty-eight students were interactive and enthusiastic about the topics presented.

Social Stars Winter Game Day

The Social Stars group consisting of SDSD elementary school clients met on December 1. The group interacted with Augustana College students and SDSD outreach staff.

After introductions, everyone played “winter” themed games such as snowflake memory, Jenga, Christmas light letter match and following directions in a snowy forest. The Social Stars worked on turn taking and social conversation skills. The children completed two craft activities designed to foster listening and following directions in small groups. The highlight of the event was learning winter clothing vocabulary in American Sign Language.

The occasion concluded with a relay race to see if Social Stars or Augustana students could best follow visual directions. A great time was had by all!

Preschool Event in Watertown

SDSD hosted a family event for preschoolers with hearing loss on December 3 at the Quality Inn in Watertown. Three families attended. A total of 12 participants enjoyed pizza, pop, and cookies provided by SDSD Foundation while networking with families of newly identified children and those considering cochlear implants for their children. Holiday themed activities for language development and listening were provided by Outreach Consultant Eileen Anderson.
Conscious Discipline Training

Jill Molli has a B.A. in Elementary Education, a Masters in Counseling, and experience in delivering state and national keynote speeches, teaching children with behavior disabilities, teaching elementary school, and serving as a guidance counselor. Her background has proved invaluable in teaching schools and districts how to implement Conscious Discipline. Information learned will be shared with SDSD families and schools.

D/HH Teens in Action Event
Outreach Consultant Naomi Mangan coordinated activities for the Deaf/HH Teens in Action group on January 26. Two volunteers from Communication Services for the Deaf, Mark Kotowski and Lance Sigdestad, also assisted. Eight Outreach clients attended and participated in activities aimed at learning how to identify and manage stress.

Transition Training
Outreach Consultant Naomi Mangan attended South Dakota Invest Workshop for School Counselors on February 1-2. The workshop focused on post-high school transition planning to support students’ personal, social, academic, and career growth.

Topics covered remediation opportunities created by collaboration amongst such as the Board of Regents, Department of Education, National Career Readiness Certification, South Dakota job skills and career opportunities, and post-Secondary opportunities at Southeast Technical Institute as well as future technology changes in how students plan and attend courses.
In-service Update

SDSD Outreach Consultant In-Services

- Eileen Anderson: 13
- Julie Delfs: 10
- Carol Johnson: 13
- Sarah Lingle: 17
- Julie Luke: 6
- Naomi Mangan: 1
- Nina Ringstmeyer: 12
- Kerry Ruth: 6
- Jodi Schnider: 2
- Laura Scholten: 5
- Kami Van Sickle: 16
- Total: 101

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Audiology Department News

The following report details audiological services on campus and in the mobile lab provided to South Dakota children from July 1, 2012 through February 15, 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Screened: 6513</th>
<th>Upcoming Mobile Lab Visits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Evaluated: 671</td>
<td>4/2—4/3 McCook Central</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNHL Found: 68</td>
<td>4/4 Montrose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHL Found: 375</td>
<td>4/5 Chester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Lab Sites: 95</td>
<td>4/8—4/12 Box Elder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/16—4/17 Hanson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4/18 Canistota</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4/22—4/25 Sturgis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SNHL is sensorineural hearing loss. CHL is conductive hearing loss.