

NSSLHA Newsletter

University of Memphis Chapter

Black lives matter.

The University of Memphis School of Communication Sciences and Disorders NSSLHA chapter stands with the Black Lives Matter movement. We understand that although police brutality is the catalyst for the current movement, systemic racism impacts every area of life including healthcare, jobs, and education. Just 4% of SLPS identify as Black and only 3.5% of audiologists as Black. We stand committed to this fight for equality, recognizing that as we stand for this, we stand for our minority clients and patients as well.

Welcome to the first monthly philanthropy & legislation newsletter for NSSLHA.

As social distancing has become the new normal, please look forward to this monthly newsletter to keep you up to date on the ways you can stay involved from the comfort of your home

PHILANTHROPY UPDATES

Hello everyone, we are excited to offer opportunities for service and fundraising for the 2020-2021 year! As we all know, these times are uncertain, and we do not know what the next few months will look like. We will plan with everyone's safety in mind and hope to offer reasonable ways to remain involved throughout this school year.

Due to the current COVID-19 plan for our school, we have decided that we will not have a service or fundraising event for the summer. We have plans to have a food/care package drive beginning in the Fall. The impact of COVID-19 is going to have a lingering effect on the lives of many people, so we want to do our part to gather items that will be necessary for many families as students return to school.

Additionally, if you are able, please consider making an appointment to donate blood to St. Jude or another hospital in need. Due to COVID-19, they have seen a decrease in needed blood donations. This is a small but meaningful way we can help our city and its people. Click [here](#) for more information.

Finally, in efforts to raise awareness for issues and health conditions that will arise in our field and present in our patients, we aim to inform everyone of different awareness months throughout the school year.

This month is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month and Aphasia Awareness Month! As you continue your studies for the next few weeks, we encourage you to reflect on your clients, patients, and their families that may be afflicted by diseases of the brain. Use this as an opportunity to educate yourselves and consider how your protocols may change to accommodate these individuals

Please view these resources as items to consider, as well as a list of other health related items to be aware of this month:

- [AAA Resources and Literature on Alzheimer's Disease](#)
- [ASHA Roles and Responsibilities](#)
- [2020 Health Awareness Month Calendar](#)
- [ASHA information on Aphasia](#)

Also, check out these links to see how you can support the Black Community here in Memphis:

- [Choose 901 Support Your Local Black Community](#)
- [Order Food at a Black-Owned Restaurant](#)

More Resources:

- [National NSSLHA Response to the Black Lives Matter Movement](#)
- [Cultural Competence](#)
- [ASHA Multicultural Affairs and Resources](#)
- [AAA Statement and Call to Action](#)
- [How to Wear a Face Mask with Hearing Aids](#)

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

The important talk in legislation right now is telehealth!

The relaxed rules for telehealth were put into place specifically to help mitigate the effects of COVID on the healthcare system. This temporary executive order is set to expire on June 30th. Use this link to send a message to your senator in order to make these changes permanent:

[Contact your Senator](#)

Other Resources:

[ASHA Telepractice Resources During COVID-19](#)

[Audiology Telehealth Legislation](#)

[Audiology Legislative Action Center](#)

[H.R.4056 Medicare Audiologist Access and Services Act of 2019](#)

Are you ready to make a social change? Consider supporting these petitions from change.org:

1. [#JusticeforBre](#): Demand the officers who murdered Breonna Taylor are fired.
2. [#JusticeforAhmaud](#): Demand the immediate removal of the District Attorneys who failed to bring justice for Ahmaud.
3. Demand Mayor Jacob Frey #DefundtheMPD. The MPD is given a budget of almost \$200 million. These funds can be reallocated to much needed services such as early intervention, education, and social services.
4. [Add your name to our list of systemic demands to end oppression](#). The murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor are not isolated incidents, but part of a much larger systemic problem. Policing is a violent institution that must end -- and it will take structural solutions to finally reform policing in this country.

“JUSTICE WILL NOT BE SERVED
UNTIL THOSE WHO ARE
UNAFFECTED ARE AS
OUTRAGED AS THOSE WHO
ARE.” -UNKNOWN

congratulations...



WE'RE SO PROUD!



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