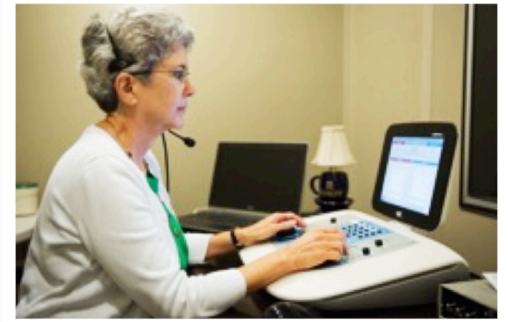


Longwood University Speech, Hearing, & Learning Services

SHLS Newsletter

“The Mission of Longwood’s Speech, Hearing, & Learning Services (SHLS) is to be a caring community resource for children and families in south-central Virginia. The SHLS is distinguished by its commitment to provide the highest level of service in professional speech-language pathology, audiology, education, and early intervention, and to fully prepare citizen leaders for their future careers in speech-language pathology or education.”



Advances in Audiology Department

The Speech, Hearing & Learning Services (SHLS) at Longwood University now has a partnership with the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH). SHLS serves as a demonstration site for the VDDHH Technology Assistance Program (TAP), Loan-to-Own (L2O) Program. Longwood University is the only university in the state of Virginia that is a demonstration site.

The TAP L2O Program offers clients the ability to apply for and receive hearing assistive technology devices for their homes at no charge, depending on income. Some of the devices available are captioned telephones, personal amplifiers, and home alert systems. To apply for these devices, an individual must be a resident of Virginia.

The goal of these devices is to improve the individual’s quality of life and hearing abilities. Dr. Mani Aguilar, the Doctor of Audiology at SHLS, is available to answer any questions about the TAP L2O devices offered by VDDHH. She can be contacted at SHLS, or at aguilarmc@longwood.edu.

Contact Information

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**Infant & Toddler Connection
of the Heartland**
(434) 395-2967

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The next Childcare Provider workshop will be on April 28, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. It is entitled “Prevention Strategies – We can Become Problem Solvers”. It will be held at the Prince Edward Extension Office Conference Room located on Rt. 15. Lisa Thompson from ChildSavers in Richmond will be presenting.



Augmentative and Alternative Communication in SHLS Clinic

Faculty and graduate students treat many patients, all with different communication needs. Because of this, there are a variety of alternative and augmentative communication devices, known as AAC devices. These devices and programs allow the individual using them to communicate effectively with a partner. How the patient uses the device to communicate depends on the type of device as well as the needs of the patient. SHLS uses several different types of AAC devices, ranging from high-tech to low-tech.

The most frequently used device at SHLS is the iPad. The iPad can be used for communication, reward systems, such as articulation and language therapy. It can also be used as an AAC device when using the program Proloquo©. Proloquo© allows the patient to select from a category of words and phrases to communicate to their partner. This program can be edited in either English or Spanish. The user can add vocabulary and categories as needed. This program caters to a wide range of individuals, offering many levels of vocabulary. Currently, Proloquo© is used with three clients at SHLS and is also being used for a client in their school setting.

SHLS also has access to low-tech devices such as picture boards and visual schedules, toys, and switches. These allow the client to select pictures, words, or phrases to communicate, as well as to have a better understanding of the schedule of events in a therapy session. Mrs. Wendy Pulliam, M.S., CCC-SLP, also works with representatives from different companies, such as Dynavox and Tobii, who bring in devices for the faculty and graduate students to try with clients. This spring, the SHLS clinic will be receiving two new devices: the T10 by Dynavox, which is a tablet device, as well as the I-Series which has an eye-tracking feature.

If you are interested in finding out more about the AAC devices that are used at SHLS, please contact Mrs. Wendy Pulliam at pulliamwj@longwood.edu.

SHLS Family Comments

Mr. Michael Barnett is the father of a child served by in the Infant Toddler Connection of the Heartland (ITC) program, housed in SHLS. His son has been receiving services from ITC for a few years. When asked what he enjoyed about the ITC program he responded, "Unlike traditional therapy you receive...they come to your home and you do therapy with them. They guide you so there's no disconnect once they leave. And they use the toys you have already, [and you] learn how to use those better for your child."

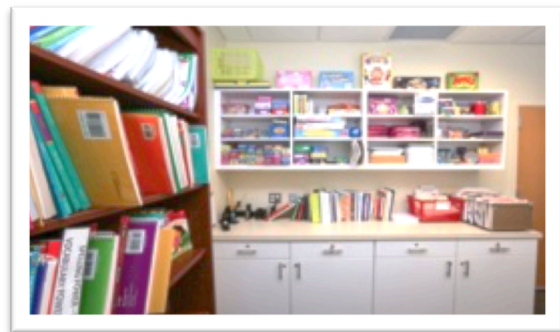
Mr. Barnett's responses highlight the goals and hopes of the ITC staff: to provide supports to families that focus on increasing the child's participation in family and community activities that are important to the family.

Mrs. Inez Meeks is the grandmother of two clients that have received tutoring services at SHLS. When asked how SHLS has met her family's needs, she stated "They met them very well. My grandson was having some difficulties last year, and this year it has just amazed me how when comes to the learning center he grabs it better than he does at school."

Mrs. Meeks also spoke of her other grandchild that was struggling academically, but after coming to SHLS, she is now on the Honor roll at school.

Student Tutoring At SHLS

Tutoring at SHLS is available for children in Kindergarten through twelfth grade in math, reading, English, science, social studies, and social skills. These sessions can be held individually or in small groups and generally last one hour. To find out more about the tutoring opportunities at SHLS, please contact Mrs. Shirley Lee, the tutoring coordinator at (434) 395-2972.



Pictured above are materials used for tutoring sessions.

Longwood students provide tutoring at SHLS. Below is a highlight of some of the students that participate in tutoring.

Kelley Chaney

Kelley is a graduate CSD student whose undergraduate degree is in Human Nutrition, Foods and Exercise. She spent her first year tutoring elementary, middle, and high school students.

As a tutor at SHLS, Kelley worked with an average of three students per week for about 4 hours. She tutored in the subjects of reading, writing, pre-algebra, algebra I, and algebra II at SHLS. Her sessions consisted of working on homework and assignments from school and answering questions.

Kelley became a tutor at SHLS to learn to work with various client needs and to gain insights into the population she will work with. She states that “seeing when the information clicks with a student” is her favorite part of tutoring.

Jessie Davis-Lee

Jessie is a three-year CSD graduate student in her first year and Longwood University. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the University of Mary and Washington. After receiving this degree, Jessie worked in the field of Applied Behavioral Analysis, working with children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. In this position, Jessie gained knowledge on teaching children social skills and appropriate response patterns.

As a three-year graduate student, Jessie was encouraged to tutor at SHLS. She enjoys working with children and loves volunteering. Jessie tutors 3 children per week, all of whom are elementary school age. She helps them with reading comprehension, the use of figurative language, math, and spelling.

Jessie’s favorite part of tutoring is seeing the children’s growth in self-confidence and pride in their academic skill set. She also commends the SHLS tutoring program under the leadership of Mrs. Lee.

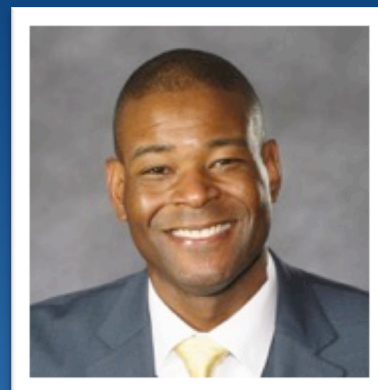
Welcome to the SHLS Newsletter!

There will be free hearing, speech, and language screenings at SHLS on May 26, 2016 for Better Hearing and Speech Month. The screenings will run from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. and 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. There will also be a ITC and SHLS Open House from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M on May 26, 2016. We would love to have you join us for these events!

Summer Camps are soon approaching! Keep an eye out for registration forms on the SHLS website. The camps available for this summer are: Camp Jumpstart, LEGO, Project Word, and Reader's Theater which will all take place in July.

We hope that you find this newsletter informative and interesting. Please let us know if you would like to find out more information about our program at SHLS. If you have any concerns or suggestions for the newsletter, please email the editor, Moriah Mayhew, at mayhewm@longwood.edu.

Thank you for your support.



SHLS would like to welcome Dr. Kendall Lee as the Local System Manager of the Infant & Toddler Connection of the Heartland. Dr. Lee is an alumnus of Longwood University. He has worked in early intervention in the Heartland and Richmond areas for years. Dr. Lee began this new position in at the beginning of this year.



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