



Minnesota Needs Your Voice. Join MNSHA Today!

Dear Colleagues,

Minnesota has more than 3,900 ASHA members, but only 118 MNSHA members. We need you to join MNSHA now.

The Minnesota Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MNSHA) is a volunteer-run organization at a critical point. Our ability to advocate for our professions depends on a strong membership and the collective voice of Minnesota speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

Your \$75 membership helps fund the advocacy that protects our professions, our livelihoods, and the people we serve. Join today at mnsha.org.

For a long time, MNSHA has been known as an organization that provides continuing education. However, much of the work our volunteers do throughout the year centers on advocacy and building professional relationships and a stronger collective voice by connecting colleagues through committees, events, and volunteer opportunities.

Your Membership Makes Advocacy Possible

Membership dues fund our lobbyists, who make up the majority of our operating costs. They help us meet with policymakers and stakeholders, monitor legislation, navigate the legislative process, and bring our professional concerns forward before decisions are made. Our members contribute the expertise and real-world experiences that make this advocacy meaningful.

MNSHA volunteers meet with stakeholder groups, the Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Department of Education, the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board, the Minnesota Administrators for Special Education, the Department of Human Services, legislators, the governor's office, the Minnesota Occupational Therapy Association, the American Physical Therapy Association of Minnesota, and other professional organizations. These relationships allow us to raise concerns, inform

policy, and advocate for our professions across schools, clinics, and other practice settings.

Our advocacy includes:

- Professional licensing and scope of practice
- Opposing insurance payment reductions
- Changes affecting CPT code 92507
- Medicaid billing for IEP services
- School caseload caps and other issues affecting service delivery

These issues directly affect our ability to practice, provide services, and meet the needs of the people who depend on us. Without a strong membership and sustained advocacy, our influence on these decisions is limited.

If we are not at the table, we risk being left out of the decisions that shape our professions.

Help Strengthen Our Collective Voice

Please join MNSHA today at the discounted rate of **\$75 at mnsha.org**. Your membership supports advocacy, professional connections, and a stronger future for speech-language pathology and audiology in Minnesota.

We also want to hear from you. Please share your perspective at office@mnsha.org:

- **If you are a MNSHA member, why do you belong?** What makes membership valuable to you?
- **If you are not a member, why not?** Is it cost, uncertainty about the benefits, past experiences, or something else?
- **Where would you like to see more advocacy?** What issues most affect your work and the people you serve?

Your feedback will help us better serve Minnesota's speech-language pathology and audiology community.

Our professions need a strong voice. Our advocacy needs your support. Join MNSHA today.

Thank you for supporting the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology in Minnesota, as well as the clients we serve.

Laurie S. Stein, MS, CCC-SLP
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Minnesota Speech Language Hearing Association

Jayanti Ray
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