2021 ISHA Events

- 2nd Tuesday of Each Month - Monthly ISHA Chats - Topics TBD, Stay tuned
- Spring NSSHLA/ISHA Event
- September 9-11 - ISHA Convention @ Boise Center on the Grove
- Podcasts with experts to be announced as available

ISHA 2020 Hot Topics

- Tele-therapy
- COVID Reimbursement
- PPE
- Rescheduled Convention
- Interstate Compact

Coming to ISHA in 2021

- ISHA Convention
- Interstate Compact
- Multistate CE Agreement
- Monthly Chats
- Expert Podcasts

2020: The Year We Learned to Pivot

BY KIMBERLI SHANER, M.S. CCC-SLP
2020 ISHA PRESIDENT ELECT

Until March of 2020 I reserved the word "pivot" for tennis season. I have watched my daughter play many tennis matches and her moves on the court demonstrated the perfect visual for my original definition of pivot. That definition has expanded.

As a school based SLP, in 2020 I suddenly found myself in unchartered and unexpected territory... isolating, teletherapy, digital material, virtual meetings, and yearning for "normalcy," just to name a few. I learned to "pivot." I know I am not alone! You, your colleagues, our clients, and their families are all learning to pivot. I watched the ISHA volunteers pivot this year too. So many gave extra time and shared talents to research and advocate for SLPs and audiologists in Idaho during a difficult time.

We’ve all been pivoting, or in other words, learning, growing, changing, and stretching. It has not been easy, but hopefully we have seen the silver lining of new skills and an appreciation for things that we previously may have taken for granted.

Please take a moment to read on about a few of the amazing contributions from our ISHA volunteers in 2020. THEN, get ready for the next great chapter. We have a lot to look forward and accomplish in 2021! Hopefully we will see many of you in person this next year.
2020 President - from Gabe Bargen
Wow! What a year of twists and turns 2020 turned into. But ISHA made some great accomplishments aside from learning to love Zooming. Given the Covid climate, we were able to help the state of Idaho move forward with telepractice reimbursements and service allowances. This provided benefit to so many and still does given the continued necessity of remote therapy. With the help of our President Elect, Kim Shaner, we identified Idaho’s first ever STAMP representative for ASHA, Ellen Wandland. We were excited to add Ellen to our team as well as Amber Romriell, who serves as our Idaho SEAL representative for ASHA. ISHA made strides with the Interstate Compact. Our discussions and support of this compact being backed by ASHA are not over, but we have taken forward steps in the process. We also held our first fully virtual annual business meeting. All things considered, I think it went pretty well! It would of course be better to see all the members of ISHA together for a convention, but we just need to have patience. We plan to be together next September if all goes as planned. Until then, we have exciting things in the works for this year, utilizing more virtual activities. I am excited for the activities our new president has in mind. A big thank you to everyone who provided much needed support during my year as president, especially President-Elect Kim and Past-President Jess. It was a fun ride!

2020 Treasurer - from Heather Ybarlucea
This year I identified an internet hosting fee that was unnecessary for us to pay. Overall, this was a tough income year with membership being low, but we were cognizant of our spending and are financially stable going into next year.

Director of Speech-Language Pathology - from Dave Woods, outgoing director and Alycia Cummings, incoming director
We have multiple interesting and important activities planned for 2021. We’re hoping to build our membership base, so please be on the lookout for our ISHA postcard. The upcoming convention promises to be engaging and educational. Our nationally-recognized school-based speaker is booked and ready to discuss AAC, caregiver, and syntax intervention strategies. We’re still looking for a medical-based speaker so if you have recommendations, please let us know. We’re looking forward to making more connections with Idaho SLPs in 2021!

Director of Audiology - from Jacob Diller
Although 2020 has been a tough year for most, we are working hard to ensure we have a great 2021. Audiology’s current focus is helping to organize a fabulous ISHA 2021 conference and we are happy to bring Elizabeth Walker, Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in to share her expertise. Elizabeth Walker is a dual-certified audiologist who specializes in pediatric audiology, pediatric amplification and aural rehabilitation.

Legislative Reps - from Rachelle Ruffing
I have been working closely with Amy Hardy and ASHA to collaborate to pursue the Interstate Compact Agreement for SLP’s and audiologists to be recognized in other states by an agreement called an “Interstate Compact Agreement”. ASHA and the Idaho Bureau of Occupational Licenses Board met to discuss their concerns about the interstate compact agreement and ISHA supports moving forward with pursuing this agreement. This would allow individuals who move from other states to obtain a license and begin practicing quicker. This will specifically help licensed clinicians who move frequently due to military service like on the Mountain Home Airforce base. For more information go to the ASLPCompact Website.

2020 Past President
Jess Stich Hennen’s experience and expertise was heavily relied on this year. She rallied the troops to plan, replan, and replan again the upcoming convention. And she is staying on the convention committee to keep us headed in the right direction! Thank you Jess for your service to ISHA!

2021 President Elect - from Kris Brock
I have served on two ISHA committees during 2020. The first committee was the 2020 ISHA Convention Committee. It was going to be a wonderful convention, full of strong research and clinical presentations capped off with a formal gala event (Thanks COVID!). Second, I joined ISHA’s School Affairs Committee which is working toward creating an equitable workload model for SLPs without cutting/reducing vital services, reducing Medicaid reimbursements, or asking for additional funding from the districts or the state of Idaho. A tall order for sure, but one in which we will accomplish with the assistance from Idaho SLPs. We need you!
2020 School Affairs - from Erin Bauder
The School Affairs Committee discussed tools in which we could more specifically demonstrate state-wide needs regarding caseloads and workloads. We ultimately decided to use the ASHA workload calculator for a trial period amongst volunteer school-based SLPs; however, have not finalized the trial period yet. Idaho State University is gathering school-based SLP email addresses to send an updated survey regarding caseload numbers and barriers to working in a school environment. We would like SLPs to contact their local Representatives and/or Senators to discuss high caseload numbers and the barriers in which make our jobs cumbersome. We also have an ongoing monthly list of resources added to the ISHA website to support the school-based SLPs. We congratulated the Coeur d’Alene SLPs who completed a workload calculator that they presented to their school board earlier this year to validate the need for another FTE.

2020 Membership - from Darcey Shallberg and Susie Jones
The newly revamped membership committee combines the former social and membership committees into one dynamic unit to support our membership across Idaho. Look for: - themed monthly virtual Chats to share learning and to network with other professionals. - Social and community service networking events. Ideas for monthly speakers or topics? Let us know by filling out the survey below: ISHA Monthly Chat Topics Survey

SEAL - from Amber Romriell
This year our school based ISHA members have definitely navigated uncharted territory with the Covid 19 pandemic descending upon us. As I took over the SEAL position in June 2020, I was able to learn of the work that our ISHA School Based Committee and ASHA national association leadership have done to provide resources to all of us regarding telepractice, changes with medicaid policies, guidance for health and safety and much more in an attempt to address the difficulties that the pandemic presented school based ISHA/ASHA members. I have learned that we are all in very similar situations throughout Idaho as well as throughout the nation (at varying degrees, of course) and that ASHA is continually working to provide documents and information that we can use to make informed decisions as well as share with decision makers at the state and local levels. Many of these resources are available on the ASHA website at https://www.asha.org/slp/schools/. I look forward to a productive 2021!

StAMP - Ellen Wandland
We are pleased to have Ellen join the ISHA team. She has already done a great job advocating for Idaho and keeping us informed about NOMS and Medicare issue in 2020.

STAR
Amy Hardy worked tirelessly this year to help support therapist with reimbursement and the special challenges that COVID presented. Her efforts made a difference in helping Idaho clinicians receive reimbursement for some virtual services.

Thank you to the 2020 outgoing ISHA board members and volunteers:
Past President, Jesse Stich-Hennen * SLP Director, Dave Woods * SEAL and School Affairs Co-Chair, Amy Zuroff * NSSHLA Rep, Paula Hawkins

2021 ISHA Executive Board
President, Kimberli Shaner * Past President, Gabe Bargen * President Elect, Kris Brock * Secretary, Josh Cline * Treasurer, Heather Ybarlucea
Director of Speech Language Pathology, Alycia Cummings * Director of Audiology, Jacob Diller * NSSHLA Rep, Bailey Ann Anderson

2021 ISHA Representatives & Volunteers
SLP STAR, Amy Hardy * AUD STAR, April Ward * SEAL, Amber Romriell * StAMP, Ellen Wandland
ASHA SLP Ambassador, Kristina Blaiser * ASHA Audiology Ambassador, Corrie Holmes * SLP Legislative Reps, Amy Hardy & Rachelle Ruffing * Continuing Education, Gabe Bargen & Amanda Kittell

2021 Committee Chairs
Convention, Gabe Bargen & Jess Stich-Hennen, * Membership, Darcey Shallberg & Susie Jones * School Affairs, Erin Bauder

Thank you to all board members, volunteers and those who serve on committees! You make a difference for SLPs, Audiologists, and clients in Idaho!

OPEN POSITIONS - Please contact ISHA if you are interested in volunteering!
Audiology Legislative Rep * Regional Rep Northern ID * Regional Rep West ID * Regional Rep East ID

Facebook: Idaho Speech Language Hearing Association  Website: idahosha.org  Email: idahospeechhearing@gmail.com