



# ASHA-PAC

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Political Action Committee



# ASHA-PAC ANNUAL REPORT

# 2023



## ASHA-PAC: YOUR VOICE ON CAPITOL HILL

ASHA-PAC is the political action committee (PAC) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), which supports members of Congress and congressional candidates who serve as champions on key issues benefiting the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology as well as persons with communication disorders.



Learn more at [www.asha.org/pac](http://www.asha.org/pac)

# MESSAGE FROM THE 2023 ASHA-PAC CHAIR

What a year it has been! As the 2023 chair of ASHA-PAC, I am thrilled to share the 2023 Annual Report, which provides an overview of the past year's efforts in support of the public policy priorities identified by ASHA members. Thanks to you, ASHA-PAC raised \$228,811 from 7,141 members and disbursed \$163,000 to federal candidates. But, as impressive as these numbers are, there's more exciting news to share!

In May, the ASHA-PAC board joined more than 60 members of the Committee of Ambassadors for the first in-person Capitol Hill Day since the outbreak of Covid. Together, we shared our legislative priorities and built bipartisan relationships with members of Congress from across the country. Personally, I had the pleasure of meeting with my senator, John Fetterman, who is a walking, talking example of the impact ASHA members have on the lives of those we serve. I look forward to maintaining this relationship as Senator Fetterman is a natural ASHA champion.

ASHA-PAC had a strong, positive presence at the 2023 ASHA convention – kicking off the festivities with a gala reception honoring our ASHA member advocacy champions and raising over \$9,000 on site with more than \$3,200 pledged for 2024. For those of you who missed it, the outstanding food and gelato bar was only topped by the camaraderie of the more than 100 attendees who walked away with smiles on their faces and lots of great "swag." And who said there's no such thing as a free breakfast? The ASHA Advocacy booth was the place to be on Friday morning where ASHA-PAC donors of any amount (including those who donated on the spot) partook of the complimentary breakfast bar as our thank you for their support.

But, wait – there's more! The ASHA-PAC website has undergone a complete overhaul with enhanced functionality so you can donate and track your giving online. New giving levels have also been established – with redesigned pins and great new benefits. ASHA-PAC also established a new legacy donor level for ASHA members who have given any amount for at least 5 consecutive years. I hope you'll read about these improvements and consider increasing your support - or donating for the first time!

I look forward to the continued growth and success of ASHA-PAC in support of our professions, our patients and clients, and our members. You are a valued part of the equation – and I invite you to join me in continuing to be a part of the ASHA-PAC in the coming year.

Shari Robertson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, BCS-CL



# 2023 ASHA-PAC

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**SHARI B. ROBERTSON, CHAIR**

**DAVID ALEXANDER, PAST-CHAIR**

**DEBORAH ROSS SWAIN, BOARD LIAISON**

**VICKI DEAL-WILLIAMS, TREASURER**

**JOHN J. WHICKER, MEMBER**

**NANCY KUHLES, MEMBER**

**FARRAH RIZWI, EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONAL MEMBER**

**LIZ BEST-BRADFORD, EX OFFICIO**

### THE ASHA-PAC BOARD IS CHARGED WITH:

- Raising funds to influence the nomination or election of individuals who will promote the interests and needs of audiologists, SLPs, and people with disabilities;
- Educating audiologists and SLPs on government procedures and the public issues, that affect the professions and those we serve;
- Facilitating the participation of audiologists and SLPs in the political process; and
- Promoting public policies that result in accessible and appropriate services in education and health care settings, in training qualified personnel to deliver services, and research that benefits those with communication disorders.



Find out more: [www.asha.org/about/governance/committees/committees/political-action-committee/](http://www.asha.org/about/governance/committees/committees/political-action-committee/)

# 7,141

DONORS

# \$228,811

RAISED

ATTENDED

# FUNDRAISERS 68

**53** HOUSE  
**15** SENATE

**30** REPUBLICANS  
**37** DEMOCRATS  
**1** INDEPENDENT

*\*Inclusive of committee and party events*

# \$163,000

DISBURSED

\$87,000 to Democrats

\$74,000 to Republicans

\$2,000 to Independents

DISBURSED TO

# MEMBERS 63

**51** HOUSE  
**12** SENATE

**28** REPUBLICANS  
**34** DEMOCRATS  
**1** INDEPENDENT

## HIGH LEVEL DONORS:



# 10

CHAMPION'S  
CIRCLE

# 7

DIAMOND  
CIRCLE

# 16

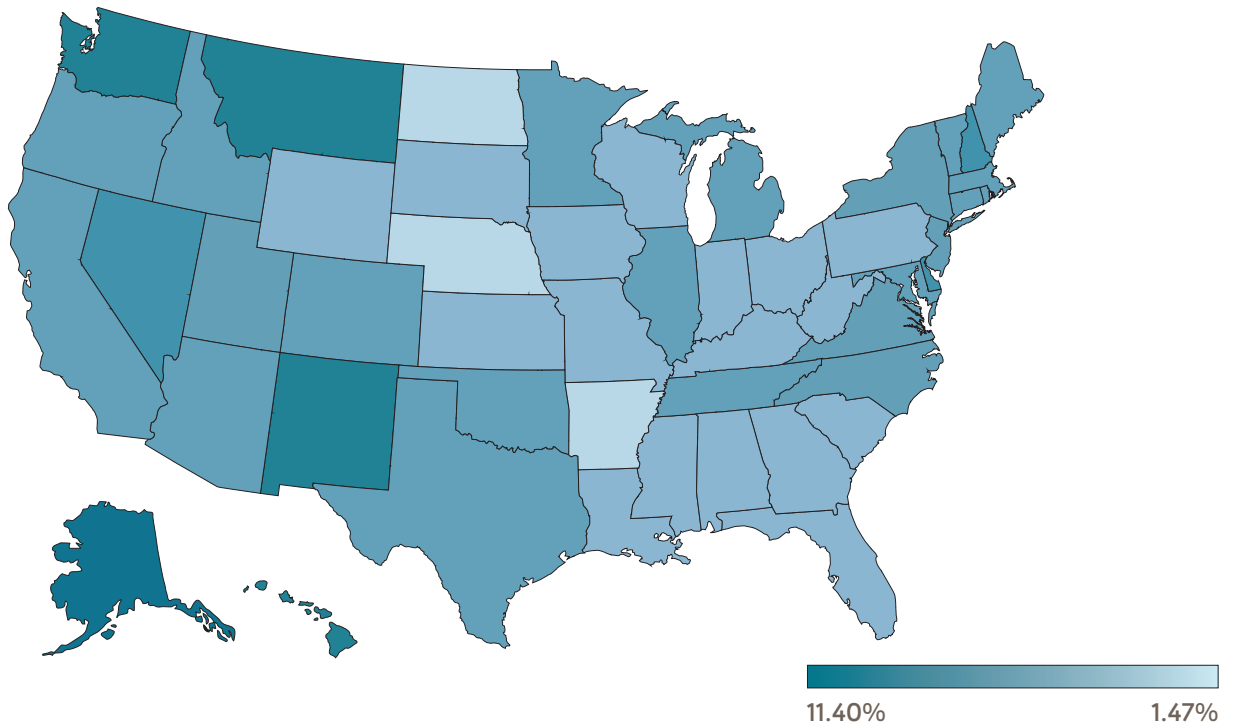
PLATINUM  
CIRCLE



GOLD  
CIRCLE **131**

# 2023 ASHA-PAC

## BY STATE & U.S. TERRITORIES



The map illustrates the actual number of donors for each state compared to the number of eligible donors. For example, in Alaska 11.4% contributed out of the 421 eligible donors. The U.S. territories are listed in the table that complements the map.

State	Donor Count	Current Eligible Donor Count	% Eligible Donors
AE	3	152	1.97%
AK	48	421	11.40%
AL	51	2,549	2.00%
AP	2	78	2.56%
AR	51	2,846	1.79%
AZ	120	3,347	3.59%
CA	738	15,744	4.69%
CO	150	4,126	3.64%
CT	127	2,861	4.44%
DC	22	406	5.42%
DE	22	550	4.00%
FL	315	11,725	2.69%
GA	152	5,326	2.85%
GU	3	34	8.82%
HI	35	553	6.33%
IA	42	1,534	2.74%
ID	26	994	2.62%
IL	305	9,368	3.26%
IN	103	3,772	2.73%

State	Donor Count	Current Eligible Donor Count	% Eligible Donors
KS	54	1,989	2.71%
KY	62	2,973	2.09%
LA	93	3,191	2.91%
MA	209	5,379	3.89%
MD	151	3,800	3.97%
ME	32	936	3.42%
MI	197	5,602	3.52%
MN	102	3,403	3.00%
MO	93	4,257	2.18%
MS	45	1,871	2.41%
MT	32	609	5.25%
NC	198	6,597	3.00%
ND	12	603	1.99%
NE	22	1,501	1.47%
NH	43	1,015	4.24%
NJ	295	7,829	3.77%
NM	70	1,359	5.15%
NV	50	1,018	4.91%
NY	747	18,160	4.11%

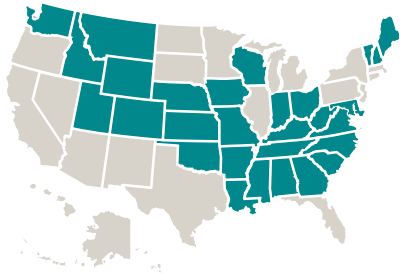
State	Donor Count	Current Eligible Donor Count	% Eligible Donors
OH	204	7,393	2.76%
OK	79	2,480	3.19%
OR	68	2,149	3.16%
PA	236	8,999	2.62%
PR	11	436	2.52%
RI	25	749	3.34%
SC	83	3,173	2.62%
SD	14	559	2.50%
TN	120	3,918	3.06%
TX	583	16,044	3.63%
UT	47	1,689	2.78%
VA	142	4,533	3.13%
VI	1	17	5.88%
VT	17	508	3.35%
WA	195	3,708	5.26%
WI	83	3,781	2.20%
WV	22	1,061	2.07%
WY	11	376	2.93%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,763</b>	<b>200,051</b>	<b>3.38%</b>

# 2023

# ASHA Advocacy Successes



## INTERSTATE COMPACT (ASLP-IC)



**7 STATES ADDED**  
Increasing the total to 30 states

Arkansas, Maine, Montana, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin

## TELEPRACTICE

Retained Medicare coverage for telehealth services through Dec. 31, 2024; same payment rates as in-person services

Maintained coverage for Medicare Part B (outpatient) telehealth services provided by facilities



## CLIENT, PATIENT, AND STUDENT

- Delayed new packaging requirements that could have restricted consumer access to hearing aid batteries
- Developed a state-by-state tracker for hearing aid laws



## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION



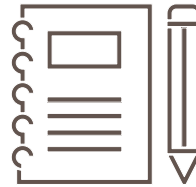
- Developed resources on gender affirming care laws and regulations that may impact audiologists and SLPs
- Created resources on the impact of social determinants of health screening and referral on payment and compliance
- Successfully opposed policy proposals that would 1) restrict SLPs from providing gender affirming voice therapy and 2) eliminate federal diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives

## PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES AND WORKFORCE

- Collected practicable data from members on the impact of telehealth coverage and payment reductions
- Developed resources on non-compete agreements to help employers and employees

## SCHOOLS

- Secured language in education research legislation ensuring educational audiologists and school-based SLPs can help inform assessments and data collection
- Shaped U.S. Department of Education grant guidance to support efforts by educational audiologists and school-based SLPs to meet student needs
- Persuaded the U.S. Department of Education to reaffirm that students identified with a developmental language disorder are eligible to receive services in the schools



## SERVICES AND PAYMENT

- Helped secure most ever Senate cosponsors (10) on Medicare Audiology Access Improvement Act and obtained commitment for passage by key committee leaders
- Developed and valued new procedure codes for auditory osseointegrated device services and caregiver training under a therapy plan of care



**ASHA**  
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

## ASHA-PAC

- Raised \$228,811 from 7,141 donors
- Contributed more than \$160,000 to over 65 federal candidates and committees



## OUTREACH

- 104 advocacy letters sent to federal and state policymakers
- 73 ASHA members from 41 states and territories participated over 130 congressional in-person meetings on Capitol Hill Day
- Total of 14,979 messages were sent to Congress
- 4,782 messages were sent by over 1,600 CSD students on Virtual Student Advocacy Day, resulting in 15 new cosponsors for the IDEA Full Funding Act
- 37 members from special interest groups, committees, boards, and councils participated in 28 meetings with congressional staff
- 24 reps from insurance payers, utilization management companies, and state Medicaid programs attended ASHA's largest Payer Summit to explore coverage, coding, and policy challenges and solutions

# 2023 ASHA-PAC CONTRIBUTORS

(September 1, 2022 - October 2, 2023)



## ASHA-PAC CHAMPION'S CIRCLE LEVEL (\$1,000+)

David Alexander, CCC-A  
Debra Beckman, CCC-SLP  
Liz Best-Bradford, ASHA Staff  
Vicki Deal-Williams, CEO, CCC-SLP  
Mary Dooher, CCC-SLP  
Nancy Kuhles, CCC-SLP

Shari Robertson, CCC-SLP  
Brenda Seal, CCC-SLP  
Jerry White, ASHA Staff  
A. Lynn Williams, CCC-SLP

## ASHA-PAC DIAMOND CIRCLE LEVEL (\$500 - \$999)

Elizabeth Frost, CCC-SLP  
Sucheta Kamath, CCC-SLP  
Ann McMahon, CCC-A  
Jeffrey Regan

Judy Rich, CCC-SLP  
Deborah Ross Swain, CCC-SLP  
Kevin Stutman, ASHA Staff

## ASHA-PAC PLATINUM CIRCLE LEVEL (\$250 - \$499)

Robert Augustine, CCC-SLP  
Clare Camacho, CCC-SLP  
Leisha Eiten, CCC-A  
William Flanders, CCC-A  
Carol Fleming, CCC-SLP  
Melissa Jakubowitz, CCC-SLP  
Marian Lowther, CCC-SLP  
Eric Masten, ASHA Staff  
Tena McNamara, CCC-A/SLP  
Patricia Minnis, CCC-SLP  
Sharon Moss, CCC-SLP  
Ardell Olson, CCC-A

Elaine Shuey, CCC-SLP  
Bryan Tierney, CCC-SLP  
Janice Trent, CCC-A  
John Whicker, CCC-A







## ASHA-PAC GOLD CIRCLE LEVEL (\$100 - \$249)

Laura Agyeman, CCC-SLP  
Meghan Ahern, CCC-SLP  
Gregg Altobella, CCC-SLP  
Barbara Jean Anderson, CCC-SLP  
Radhika Aravamudhan, CCC-A  
Jillian Barrett, CCC-A  
Brian Bemis, CCC-SLP  
Jean Blosser, CCC-SLP (Ret)  
Katheryn Boada, CCC-SLP  
Adrienne Bratcher, CCC-SLP  
Martin Brodsky, CCC-SLP  
Janet Brown, CCC-SLP (Ret)  
Mary Buczynski, CCC-SLP  
Sheri Campbell, CCC-SLP  
Myriam Carrucini, CCC-SLP-APP  
Nichole Carubia, CCC-SLP  
Edgar Clark, CCC-SLP  
Diane Collins, CCC-SLP  
Kimberly Croteau-Sparks, CCC-A  
Sean Curran, CCC-SLP  
Belinda Daughrity, CCC-SLP  
Michelle Dawson, CCC-SLP  
Meghann Delaplaine, CCC-SLP  
Sumitrajit Dhar, CCC-A  
Allan Diefendorf, CCC-A  
Kristin Dilaj, CCC-A  
Michael Dodman, CCC-SLP  
Celeste Domsch, CCC-SLP  
Sandra Doyle, CCC-SLP  
Carol Dudding, CCC-SLP  
Joan Eberhardt Snider, CCC-SLP  
Perry Flynn, CCC-SLP  
Susie Ford, CCC-SLP  
Alexander Francis

Christine Freiberg, CCC-SLP  
Dana Fritz, CCC-SLP  
Ellayne Ganzfried, CCC-SLP  
Nancy Gatecy, CCC-SLP  
Susan Gelber, CCC-SLP (Ret)  
Paulette Gentry, CCC-SLP  
Virginia Geoffrey, CCC-SLP (Ret)  
Monica Glen, CCC-SLP  
Puja Goel, CCC-SLP  
Howard Goldstein, CCC-SLP  
Barbara Goodson, CCC-SLP  
Robert Grider, CCC-SLP  
Amy Grulke, CCC-SLP  
Joanna Guerrero, CCC-SLP  
Jennifer Hancock, CCC-SLP  
Edie Hapner, CCC-SLP  
Meredith Harold, CCC-SLP  
Maria Hase, CCC-SLP  
Mitzi Hinton, CCC-SLP  
Julie Honaker, CCC-A  
Raymond Hull, CCC-A/SLP  
Annette Hurley, CCC-A  
Carolyn Isakson, CCC-SLP (Ret)  
Sandra Joint, CCC-SLP  
Marilyn Jones, CCC-SLP  
Evelyn Klein, CCC-SLP  
Janet Koehnke, CCC-A  
Renee Koffend, CCC-A  
Angela Korpela, CCC-SLP  
Jennifer Anne Lane Lehr, CCC-SLP  
Cara Leckwold, CCC-SLP  
Alison Lemke, CCC-SLP  
Sandra Levey, CCC-SLP  
Yaojan Liu, CCC-A  
Louis Malerba, CCC-SLP  
Kathryn Marflak, CCC-SLP  
Wendy Marshall Chase, CCC-SLP  
Valeria Matlock, CCC-A  
Ann Mayfield-Clarke, CCC-SLP  
Anush Mazmanyen  
Danila McAsey, CCC-SLP  
Daphne McDonald, CCC-SLP  
Lemmieta McNeilly, CCC-SLP  
Joan Mele-McCarthy, CCC-SLP  
Kristina Mendoza, CCC-A  
Jon Miller  
Brianna Miluk, CCC-SLP  
Ruby Miranda, CCC-SLP

Barbara Moore, CCC-SLP  
Maria Moreno, CCC-SLP  
Dee Adams Nikjeh, CCC-SLP  
Robert Owens, CCC-SLP  
Judith Page, CCC-SLP  
Danny Palma, CCC-SLP  
Thomas Parton, CCC-SLP  
Angela Perkins, CCC-SLP  
Kathleen Peterson, CCC-A  
Lissa Power-deFur, CCC-SLP  
Adele Raade, CCC-SLP  
Sandra Reams, CCC-A  
Kelly Reavis, CCC-A  
Catharine Rhodes, CCC-SLP  
Janet Ricca, CCC-SLP  
Gail Richard, CCC-SLP  
Susan Rimpel, CCC-SLP  
Tommie Robinson, CCC-SLP  
Theresa Rodgers, CCC-SLP  
Barbara Rodriguez, CCC-SLP  
Margaret Rogers, CCC-SLP  
Linda Rosa-Lugo, CCC-SLP  
Judith Saltiel, CCC-A  
Christine Samms, CCC-SLP  
Leann Schouten, CCC-SLP  
Linda Schreiber, CCC-SLP  
Kyla Sherrard, CCC-SLP  
Donna Smiley, CCC-A  
Cynthia Smith, CCC-SLP  
Anne Sommer, CCC-A  
Lizbeth Stevens, CCC-SLP  
Elizabeth Straka, CCC-SLP  
Katie Strong, CCC-SLP  
Cindy Susienka, CCC-SLP  
Nancy Swigert, CCC-SLP  
Molly Thompson, CCC-SLP  
Megan Thorson, CCC-A  
Travis Threats, CCC-SLP  
Patricia Trautwein, CCC-A  
Jaime A Y Van Echo, CCC-SLP  
Anne Ver Hoef, CCC-SLP  
Elizabeth Walker, CCC-A/SLP  
John Weigand, CCC-A  
Francine Wenhardt, CCC-SLP  
Mary Wilson, CCC-SLP (Ret)  
Barbara Wilson Arboleda, CCC-SLP  
Michelle Winner, CCC-SLP  
Peggy Yamasaki Werner, CCC-SLP

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Support of ASHA-PAC at any level is appreciated!

	PAC Circle (\$1-\$49)	Capitol Circle (\$50-\$99)	Bronze (\$100-\$249)	Silver (\$250-\$499)	Gold (\$500-\$999)	Platinum (\$1,000-\$5,000)
Access to PAC Insiders Community site	★	★	★	★	★	★
Information on the elections, including PAC webinars	★	★	★	★	★	★
Opportunity to win complimentary ASHA Convention registration	★	★	★	★	★	★
Recognition on PAC website		★	★	★	★	★
PAC Circle membership pin			★	★	★	★
Recognition at onsite ASHA events			★	★	★	★
Complimentary Registration to CE Registry				★	★	★
Complimentary registration to all PAC sponsored events				★	★	★
Complimentary registration to ASHA Learning Pass					★	★
2 tickets to PAC sponsored events					★	★
Complimentary registration for one online CE conference						★
4 tickets to PAC sponsored events						★
Convention: Complimentary registration to PAC Reception			★	★	★	★
Convention: 2 drink tickets to use at any ASHA sponsored event				★	★	★
Convention: Reserved seating at Opening Session and backstage access					★	★
Convention: 2 reserved seats at ASHA Honors and Awards event						★

## LEGACY DONORS

We are happy to introduce a new way to be recognized as an ASHA-PAC donor, Legacy Donors! Legacy Donors have donated for 5, 10, or 15+ years consecutively. We will recognize the first class of donors in the 2024 fundraising year. Legacy Donors will receive a special pin denoting their years of giving.

## LEGACY DONOR BENEFITS

	5 YEARS	10 YEARS	15+ YEARS
Recognition Pin	★	★	★
Recognition at Convention		★	★
Drink Tickets			★
Convention: Reserved seating at Opening Session and backstage access			★
Convention: Reserved seating for Honors and Awards event			★

# We have redesigned the pins and renamed the levels for \$100+ donors



The donation amounts are the same but we have renamed the levels:

- Bronze (\$100–249): Teal
- Silver (\$250–499): Lime Green
- Gold (\$500–999): Orange
- Platinum (\$1,000–5,000): Fuchsia



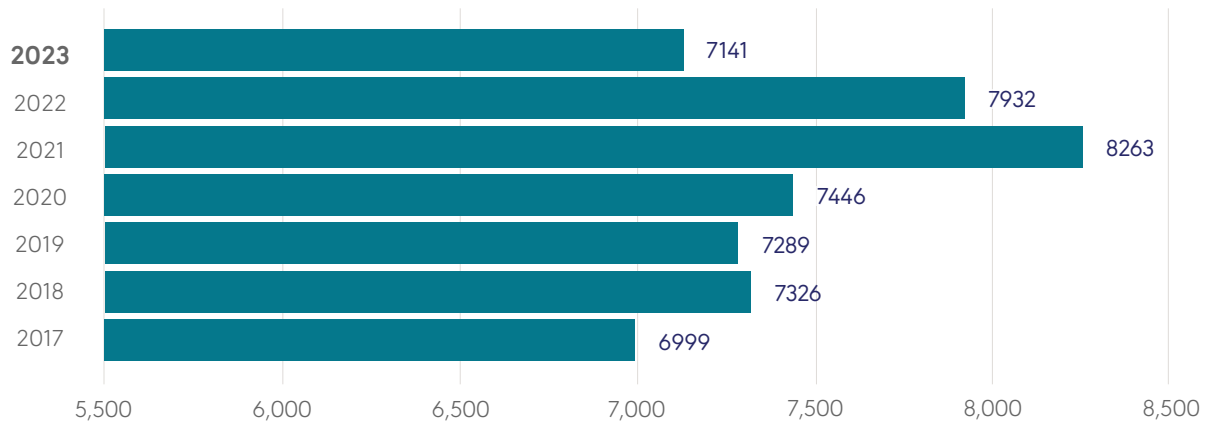
## The ASHA-PAC fundraising year has changed!

Previously, it ran from September–August. It now follows the calendar year, January–December.

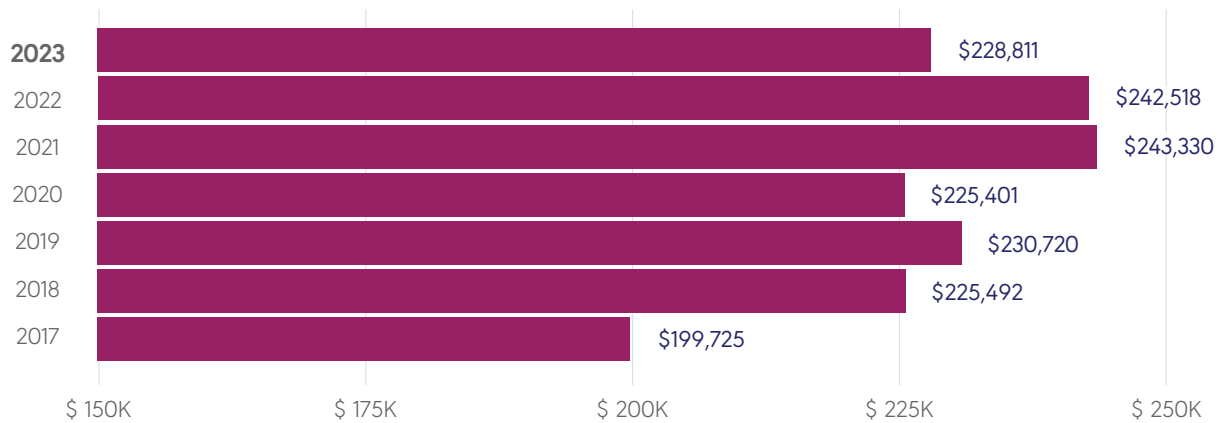


# 2023 ASHA-PAC DONOR DATA

## UNIQUE DONORS BY CAMPAIGN YEAR, 2017-2023

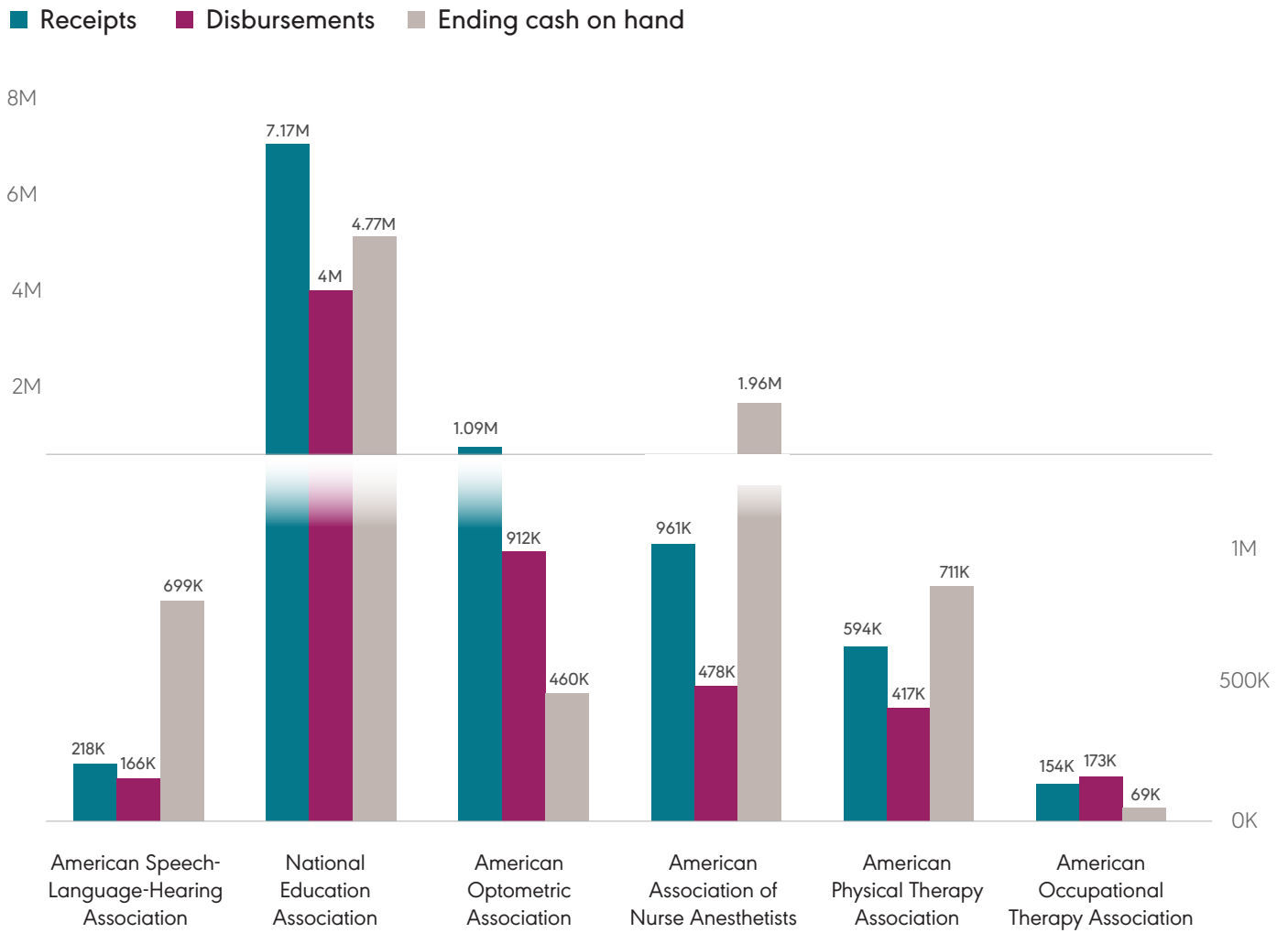


## DONATION AMOUNT BY CAMPAIGN YEAR, 2017-2023



# SPENDING RECORDS OF SELECT PACS AND SUPER PACS, 2023 SPENDING CYCLE

EOY DATA FILED ON 1/30/24



# 2023 ASHA-PAC DISBURSEMENTS

## HOUSE

CA-33	Pete Aguilar (D)
ND-At Large	Kelly Armstrong (R)
NE-2	Don Bacon (R)
OH-12	Troy Balderson (R)
FL-4	Aaron Bean (R)
FL-12	Gus Bilirakis (R)
OR-3	Earl Blumenauer (D)
DE-At Large	Lisa Blunt Rochester (D)
OR-1	Suzanne Bonamici (D)
FL-16	Vern Buchanan (R)
IN-8	Larry Bucshon (R)
GA-1	Buddy Carter (R)
PA-8	Matt Cartwright (D)
CT-2	Joe Courtney (D)
UT-3	John Curtis (R)
PA-4	Madeleine Dean (D)
CO-1	Diana DeGette (D)
CT-3	Rosa DeLauro (D)
WA-1	Suzan DelBene (D)
CA-10	Mark DeSaulnier (D)
CA-16	Anna Eshoo (D)

GA-3	Drew Ferguson (R)
PA-1	Brian Fitzpatrick (R)
CA-34	Jimmy Gomez (D)
KY-2	Brett Guthrie (R)
TN-1	Diana Harshbarger (R)
OK-1	Kevin Hern (R)
MD-5	Steny Hoyer (D)
CA-51	Sara Jacobs (D)
NY-8	Hakeem Jeffries (D)
OH-6	Bill Johnson (R)
PA-13	John Joyce (R)
OH-14	David Joyce (R)
VA-2	Jennifer Kiggans (R)
WA-6	Derek Kilmer (D)
OH-5	Robert Latta (R)
CA-7	Doris Matsui (D)
GA-7	Lucy McBath (D)
NJ-6	Frank Pallone (D)
IN-6	Greg Pence (R)
WI-2	Mark Pocan (D)
WA-5	Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R)
IL-10	Bradley Schneider (D)

AL-7	Terri Sewell (D)
NJ-11	Mikie Sherrill (D)
MO-8	Jason Smith (R)
NE-3	Adrian Smith (R)
CA-4	Mike Thompson (D)
NY-20	Paul Tonko (D)
IL-14	Lauren Underwood (D)
MI-5	Tim Walberg (R)

## SENATE

WI	Tammy Baldwin (D)
OH	Sherrod Brown (D)
PA	Bob Casey (D)
ME	Susan Collins (R)
IA	Chuck Grassley (R)
NH	Maggie Hassan (D)
OR	Jeff Merkley (D)
OK	Markwayne Mullin (R)
AK	Lisa Murkowski (R)
WA	Patty Murray (D)
AZ	Kyrsten Sinema (IND)
MN	Tina Smith (D)

## CANDIDATE CONTRIBUTION CRITERIA

ASHA-PAC supports candidates running for the United States Congress that recognize the importance of audiology and speech-language pathology services by providing contributions to their campaign, political, or leadership committees. ASHA-PAC evaluates contribution requests based on the following guidelines:

## PRIMARY CONSIDERATIONS

- The candidate's position and/or voting record on issues affecting audiologists, speech-language pathologists, and speech, language, and hearing scientists
- The integrity and character of a candidate
- The candidate's leadership or policy shaping position in their party
- The nature and strength of a candidate's viability in a given election



## ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- PAC member recommendations of candidates who reflect the ideals of ASHA-PAC
- ASHA member presence in a candidate's state/district
- Open seat candidates with a history of support for or direct connection to audiology and/or speech-language pathology
- Contributions to leadership PACs can be considered when the member of Congress is part of leadership or a relevant committee
- Contributions to national political party committees may be given

## ASHA-PAC WILL NOT SUPPORT

- A candidate until they have formally declared their intent to seek political office
- Presidential campaigns
- Contributions that can be perceived as tied directly to a specific vote or party affiliation
- A government official's personal defense fund

# ASHA-PAC: YOUR VOICE ON CAPITOL HILL

LEARN MORE

[www.asha.org/pac](http://www.asha.org/pac)

ASHA-PAC

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[PAC@asha.org](mailto:PAC@asha.org)

## Legal Disclaimer

Contributions to ASHA-PAC are not deductible for federal tax purposes. All contributions to ASHA-PAC are voluntary and you have a right to refuse without reprisal. The proposed contribution amounts are only suggestions and more or less may be given. The amount given by the contributor, or the refusal to give, will not benefit or disadvantage the person being solicited. Federal law requires ASHA-PAC to report the full name, address, occupation, and employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 per year. Federal law prohibits corporate contributions.