ASHA-PAC is the political action committee (PAC) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). All funds raised through ASHA-PAC are used to support members of Congress and congressional candidates who are championing ASHA’s public policy priorities relating to audiology; speech-language pathology; speech, language, and hearing sciences; and to people with communication disorders. ASHA-PAC is nonpartisan and supports members of Congress regardless of party alignment.

Learn more at www.asha.org/pac

MESSAGE FROM THE 2020 ASHA-PAC CHAIR

I am pleased to present ASHA-PAC’s 2020 Annual Report, which details our ongoing commitment to protect the future of our professions and the patients, clients, and students we serve. Through ASHA-PAC and ASHA’s grassroots and advocacy efforts in 2020, you helped to ensure your voice was heard on Capitol Hill.

We thank you for your support and assistance this past year—which has had challenges we could never have imagined as professionals, as citizens, and as members of immediate and extended families.

One of ASHA-PAC’s primary goals is to educate federal lawmakers on our top legislative priorities defined by ASHA’s Public Policy Agenda. We, as a community of professionals partnering with ASHA staff, achieve this goal by meeting with federal lawmakers, by supporting ASHA members to participate in grassroots efforts, and by making an investment in ASHA-PAC.

Every dollar raised by ASHA-PAC goes toward Congressional candidates who stand with us on issues that matter most. With your investment in ASHA-PAC, we will continue to build meaningful relationships and promote policies advancing the professions. With more than 211,000 members, our accumulated and diverse voices can make a tremendous and meaningful impact on our advocacy efforts—and, subsequently, on our professions.

As we look to 2021, a new president, a new administration, and new members of Congress, ASHA-PAC will build new relationships and maintain existing relationships to promote ASHA’s vision to make effective communication, a human right, accessible and achievable for all.

ASHA-PAC wishes you, our ASHA colleagues and friends, a year that brings with it a path forward to health for all.

Warmest regards,

Joan Mele-McCarthy, D.A., CCC-SLP
2020 ASHA-PAC Chair
2020 POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Joan Mele-McCarthy, Chair
Ellen R. Estomin, Past-Chair
Samantha J. Kleindienst Robler, Chair-Elect
Kathryn L. Boada, Vice President For Government Relations And Public Policy
David I. Alexander, Member
Arlene A. Pietranton, Treasurer
John J. Whicker, Early Career Professional Member
Sofia Fox, Ex Officio

Learn more about ASHA’s Political Action Committee.

ASHA-PAC 2020

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

$225,401 TOTAL RAISED
7,446 TOTAL CONTRIBUTORS
$145,400 TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS
74 FEDERAL CANDIDATES SUPPORTED

DEMOCRATS: 58%  REPUBLICANS: 42%

98% RE-ELECTION

2020 ADVOCACY YEAR IN REVIEW

SUPPORTING ASHA MEMBERS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Developed state-by-state COVID-19 tracking resources for telehealth laws and regulations during the public health emergency (PHE)
- Created 49 practical tools and resources
- Responded to over 10,000 questions

ADVOCACY

- Facilitated 90,124 messages sent to elected officials (federal and state) by 24,790 ASHA advocates

GRASSROOTS

- 90,124 MESSAGES

98% of ASHA-PAC supported candidates won re-election and will return in 2021 to help champion ASHA’s public policy priorities

POLITICAL

98% RE-ELECTION

EXPANDING TELEPRACTICE COVERAGE

- Worked with Congress and CMS to have Medicare cover key audiology and speech-language pathology services covered via telepractice during the pandemic
- Worked successfully
  • with state Medicaid programs to expand coverage in all 50 states, plus DC and U.S. territories
  • to expand coverage by 36 major private health plans

- Launched the "Fight the Cut" campaign to help stop 2021 Medicare payment cuts
- Created 7 new audiology CPT codes and 1 new code for PPE
- Engaged leadership in skilled nursing facilities and the home health industry to address concerns with payment models (PDPM, PDGM) implemented that negatively impact patients and ASHA members

- Expanded Access To 180 MILLION PEOPLE
- 8 NEW CODES (7 new AUD & 1 new PPE)

DEFENDING ACCESS, COVERAGE, AND PAYMENT UNDER MEDICARE

PROMOTING THE AUDIOLOGY & SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY INTERSTATE COMPACT (ASLP-IC)

- Worked with state associations to support passage of the ASLP-IC in 6 states: Louisiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming

- 6 STATES ADDED
### 2020 ASHA-PAC CONTRIBUTORS

(September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020)

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

| Richard E. Gans, CCC-A | Jennifer A. Moreno, CCC-SLP |

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

ASHA-PAC DOES NOT SUPPORT:

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

2020 ASHA-PAC DISBURSEMENTS

PRIMARY CONSIDERATIONS:

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

ASHA-PAC DISBURSEMENTS CRITERIA

AK Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R)
AL Sen. Richard Shelby (R)
AZ Rep. Tom O’Halleran (D)
CA Rep. Anna Eshoo (D)
CA Rep. Jimmy Gomez (D)
CA Rep. Josh Harder (D)
CA Rep. Doris Matsui (D)
CA Rep. Mike Thompson (D)
CO Rep. Diana DeGette (D)
CT Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D)
CT Rep. John Larson (D)
DE Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D)
FL Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R)
FL Rep. Donna Shalala (D)
GA Rep. Buddy Carter (R)
IA Sen. Chuck Grassley (R)
IL Rep. Cheri Bustos (D)
IL Rep. Rodney Davis (R)
IL Sen. Dick Durbin (D)
IL Rep. Robin Kelly (D)
IL Rep. Bobby Rush (D)
IL Rep. Brad Schneider (D)
KY Rep. Brett Guthrie (R)
KY Sen. Mitch McConnell (R)
KY Sen. Rand Paul (R)
LA Sen. Bill Cassidy (R)
LA Rep. Steve Scalise (R)
MA Rep. Katherine Clark (D)
MD Rep. Steny Hoyer (D)
ME Sen. Susan Collins (R)
MI Rep. Debbie Dingell (D)
MI Rep. Fred Upton (R)
MI Rep. Tim Walberg (R)
MN Rep. Angie Craig (D)
MO Sen. Roy Blunt (R)
MO Rep. Jason Smith (R)
MS Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R)
MS Sen. Roger Wicker (R)
NC Rep. Alma Adams (D)
NC Rep. Virginia Foxx (R)
NE Rep. Adrian Smith (R)
NH Rep. Ann Kuster (D)
NH Rep. Chris Pappas (D)
NJ Rep. Frank Pallone (D)
NV Rep. Steven Horsford (D)
NY Rep. Tom Reed (R)
NY Rep. Tom Suozzi (D)
NY Rep. Paul Tonko (D)
OH Rep. Bill Johnson (R)
OH Rep. Dave Joyce (R)
OH Rep. Bob Latta (R)
OR Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D)
OR Rep. Kurt Schrader (D)
OR Sen. Ron Wyden (D)
PA Rep. Matt Cartwright (D)
PA Rep. Bob Casey (D)
PA Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R)
PA Rep. Mike Kelly (R)
PA Rep. Glenn Thompson (R)
SC Rep. Jim Clyburn (D)
SD Sen. John Thune (R)
TX Sen. John Cornyn (R)
TX Rep. Lloyd Doggett (D)
VA Rep. Bobby Scott (D)
VT Sen. Patrick Leahy (D)
VT Rep. Peter Welch (D)
WA Rep. Suzan DelBene (D)
WA Rep. Derek Kilmer (D)
WA Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R)
WA Sen. Patty Murray (D)
WA Rep. Kim Schrier (D)
WV Rep. David McKinley (R)
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.