

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2020

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose. (See the *Interest Networks Leadership Manual* for the purpose of the Interest Networks.)

Interest Network:

Communication Disorders

Lead Contact Person:

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Annual Report

For the year that **just ended** (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used.

The objective of this year was to re-activate the Communication Disorders Special Interest Network. Initial activities included gathering information (network history) and establishing objectives for the coming year.

- The Chair continued to participate in the network meetings of other Special Interest Networks to serve as examples of how the current networks operate.
- Use of the listserv as a method of disseminating information regarding topics of interest was increased this year relative to last.
- The Communication Disorders Special Interest had planned to host a network business meeting at the annual conference to actively discuss the network's objectives, activities, and interests of members for the coming year. Unfortunately, this meeting was cancelled due to the COVID pandemic.

Annual Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies

For the **coming year** (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.

Objectives and Activities

- Reinvigorate network member involvement, includes both increase participation among the current members and recruit new members
- Develop a social media networking site.
- Host a network even at the next AAIDD meeting
- Create a Communication Disorders Network Scholarship
- Research steps needed to allow CEU credits for SLPs during the next AAIDD conference

Activities:

- Collect data from members as to their interests and the best tools to connect members (meetings, social media, etc).
 - o Social Media site development. This will allow the Communication Disorder Network members to share their related activities, ideas, and opportunities in their communities. We plan to periodically highlight members' projects/events.
- Work to develop a scholarship to be awarded to support attendance at the next AAIDD meeting. To achieve this goal we will reach out to potential interested parties for additional support (e.g., AAC, Pearson, etc).