



## TAMMY O'HOLLEARN | **PRESIDENT** IOWA



Tammy O'Hollearn has served as Iowa's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Director for the last 18 years. Ms. O'Hollearn provides administrative oversight, budget management, oversees surveillance of the newborn hearing screening and follow-up database, evaluation, quality improvement as well facilitates the day-to-day management of activities to meet program goals. Ms. O'Hollearn works with many stakeholders in the community that assists Iowa EHDI in meeting program goals and strengthening the system of care for deaf or hard-of-hearing (DHH) infants. She serves as a mentor for new EHDI Coordinators/Directors across the U.S. and territories and also serves on many state and national committees related to EHDI or DHH children.

Tammy currently serves as DSHPSHWA President for 2024-2025 after having served as Incoming President in 2023-2024. She also served as Incoming President in 2013-2014, DSHPSHWA President in 2014-15 and prior to that time she served several years as Member-at-Large.

In her free time she loves to spend time with family and friends, time at the lake, gardening and decorating!





## MARCIA FORT | **PAST CO-PRESIDENT** NORTH CAROLINA



Marcia Fort, Au.D., CCC-A, currently resides in North Carolina but is originally from Kentucky and is a UK Wildcats basketball fan for life (even while living in ACC country). She loves history, playing tennis, reading good mystery novels, and spending time with family and friends.

Dr. Fort is the Genetics and Newborn Screening Manager in the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Child and Family Well-Being. Dr. Fort has worked with the NC Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program since 2002 and currently serves as the NC EHDI Coordinator. She has over 30 years of experience as a pediatric audiologist having worked in hospital, private practice, otolaryngology office and public school settings. Professionally, her greatest joy comes from seeing deaf and hard of hearing children reach for the stars and be all they can be. She has been a long-term advocate of The CARE Project, seeing the tremendous benefit parents/families of DHH children receive from sharing their journeys with each other. The connections made between families and children through CARE Project events are inspirational.

Dr. Fort has served on the Board of Directors for the Directors of Speech and Hearing Programs in State Health and Welfare Agencies (DSHPSHWA), currently serving as Past-President. She has served as a mentor to other state EHDI Coordinators, represented DSHPSHWA on the Audiology Quality Consortium and EHDI Federal Partner groups, and served on numerous state and national EHDI data committees.

Dr. Fort holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Disorders from the University of Kentucky and a Master of Science in Audiology from Vanderbilt University. She received her Doctorate of Audiology from Central Michigan University.





## LINDA HAZARD | **PAST CO-PRESIDENT** VERMONT



Linda Hazard is the Program Director for the Vermont Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (VTEHDI) and an audiologist. She earned her audiology degree from Boston University and a doctorate in Educational Leadership and Social Policy from the University of Vermont. Dr. Hazard is one of the Co-Past President of the Directors of Speech and Hearing Programs in State Health and Welfare Agencies (DSHPSHWA). She currently represents DSHPSHWA on three committees, Audiology Quality Consortium (AQC), Health Care Economics Committee (HCEC) and the Parent Choice Alliance. Additionally Dr. Hazard has been appointed by the Vermont Governor to serve on the Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing and DeafBlind Advisory Council and the Vermont Interagency Coordinating Council. Dr. Hazard is also one of the Vermont State Champions for the American Cochlear Implant Alliance. She has several scientific publications to her credit, including peer reviewed articles and has presented both nationally and internationally. In February of 2017 Dr. Hazard received the prestigious Antonia Brancia Maxon Award for EHDI Excellence and published a chapter for the EHDI I book on qualitative research. In April of 2023 Dr Hazard received the University of Vermont Medical Center Leadership award.



## STEPHANIE MCVICAR | CO-PRESIDENT ELECT UTAH



Dr. Stephanie Browning McVicar is the Director of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program, the Children's Hearing Aid Program, and the Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Public Health Initiative at the Utah Department of Health and Human Services' Children with Special Health Care Needs Office in Salt Lake City. Dr. McVicar is a Doctor of Audiology, an advocate for CMV testing and early hearing detection and intervention in newborns, and passionate about the prevention of congenital CMV infection. She was instrumental in the creation of the Utah EHDI tele-audiology program. She is originally from Western New York and has extensive experience and knowledge in Audiology and the management of health care programs in both the public and private sectors. Dr. McVicar has been with Utah EHDI since 2007.



## DAPHNE MILLER-STEWART | **CO-PRESIDENT ELECT** VIRGINIA



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## TARA CARROLL | **SECRETARY/TREASURER** SOUTH CAROLINA



Tara Carroll, an audiologist, has been the Director of the South Carolina EHDI program (First Sound), for 19 years. Prior to this role, she worked as a clinical audiologist over a 10 year period at non-profit clinics and an ENT office. She graduated with her Masters in Communication Disorders (MCD) in Audiology from Louisiana State University Medical Center in 1995. She is a member of the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) the South Carolina Academy of Audiology (SCAA). She has previously served on the SCAA Board as CEU Coordinator and Secretary/Treasurer and was selected as the SCAA Elizabeth P. Wade Memorial Award for Outstanding Audiologist of the Year in 2006. Perhaps her biggest accomplishment is having survived the formative years of her triplets - one son and two daughters - who are all recently graduated from college.



## LIZA THEN | **VICE-PRESIDENT – MEMBERSHIP** RHODE ISLAND



Liza Then, Project Director, Newborn Hearing Screening Manager and the RI-EHDI Coordinator: Ms. Then has been the program manager for the Newborn Hearing Screening program since 2011 and is the EHDI coordinator for Rhode Island. In 2000, Ms. Then received her Doctor of Medicine in Dominican Republic and is bilingual in Spanish and English. Ms. Then worked with RI Parent Information Network for three years and became well verse on the importance of parent support and parent engagement. Ms Then provides oversight for the project and coordinates with other relevant statewide efforts.





## GINGER MULLIN | **VICE-PRESIDENT – ARCHIVES** ILLINOIS



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## ELIZABETH SEELIGER | VICE-PRESIDENT – COMMUNICATIONS WISCONSIN



Elizabeth Seeliger, AuD, has worked as a clinical audiologist in a variety of settings, guiding and supporting families through the process of hearing screening, diagnosis and early intervention. Dr. Seeliger specializes in culturally attuned, relational, family centered clinical care. As the Director of the Wisconsin Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program, Dr. Seeliger has played a leadership role in the development of a web-based data, tracking and referral system, developed educational resources for hospitals, audiologists, and families, and facilitated the development of a comprehensive, interactive resource guide for families of children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. As a professor of Communication Science and Disorders at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Dr. Seeliger taught the course on Infant and Adolescent Language Development and advised students on the merits of careers in pediatrics and early childhood fields.

She served as Audiology Faculty on the National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality (NICHQ) Infant Hearing Systems Learning Collaborative and currently serves as Quality Improvement Advisor and Region V Coordinator with the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management. Dr. Seeliger was a key advisor on the Wisconsin Early Intervention Birth to 6 re-design project and was instrumental in the design and implementation of the Wisconsin Assessment of Early Intervention Outcomes (AEIOu) Project, specifically looking at assessment, language acquisition, communication, social-emotional and primary relationship development of children 0 to 3 years of age who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf blind. She is the co-creator of the international Guide By Your Side Program and served on the board of directors for Hands & Voices Headquarters. Dr. Seeliger is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Infant, Early Childhood and Family Mental Health Certificate Program.



## LIZ SCHARDINE | **MEMBER-AT-LARGE** KANSAS



Liz Schardine has served as the Kansas' Newborn Hearing Screening/Early Hearing Detection & Intervention coordinator for the last 17 years. Ms. Schardine earned her bachelor's degree in Speech Language and Hearing from the University of Kansas and her Master's degree from the University of Kansas Medical Center in Audiology. Ms. Schardine oversees the surveillance of the Newborn hearing screening and Follow-Up database, evaluation, and budget management. She is the administrator for the Kansas Infant Toddler Hearing Aid Bank, an advisory member for the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Kansas Deaf Blind Project, the Sound START Early Intervention Program and the Kansas Deaf and Hard of Hearing Family Engagement Program. Ms. Schardine serves as an audiological support to early childhood programs across the state and provides hearing screening trainings. Liz currently serves as DSHPSHWA Member-at-Large.





## SUZANNE FOLEY | **MEMBER-AT-LARGE** INDIANA



Dr. Suzanne Foley has been a clinical audiologist for over 30 years. In addition to providing pediatric audiology services through her private practice, she is currently the Director of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (EHDI) at the Indiana Department of Health. The EHDI program is responsible for the newborn hearing screenings, follow up and support for newly identified deaf and hard of hearing children and their families. EHDI also provides extensive education to stakeholders and the community on issues related to early child development and deaf and hard of hearing children. Dr. Foley has presented at numerous local, state and national conferences on topics related to pediatric audiology, deaf and hard of hearing children, auditory processing disorders and early intervention services. For 12 years, she has been a national speaker for the Bureau of Education and Research, that provides educational sessions for school-based professionals. Locally, she has been engaged in numerous committees and organizations related to early childhood and deaf and hard of hearing children and their families.



## PATRICIA BURK | **NON-VOTING JCIH MEMBERS** OKLAHOMA



Patricia Burk is the Manager of the Allied Health Technical Program at the Oklahoma State Department of Health. She launched this new state program in 2023 which provides technical support for the Oklahoma Part C Early Intervention Program, SoonerStart, and the state-funded Child Guidance Program serving approximately 200 employees statewide. Patricia served as Oklahoma's EHDl Coordinator for the Newborn Hearing Screening Program for 13 years and previously as the program's Follow-up Coordinator for 3 years. Patricia led the Oklahoma Audiology Taskforce (OKAT) during her time at EHDl bringing together statewide providers, advocates, and caregivers related to pediatric hearing loss. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center with a Masters in Speech-Language Pathology. Before becoming the state educator for Newborn Hearing, she worked for an internationally acclaimed cochlear implant clinic where she specialized in intervention services for children and adults with hearing loss. Patricia holds her international certification as a Listening and Spoken Language Specialist, Certified Auditory-Verbal Therapist (LSLS Cert. AVT). She has served as the DSHPSHWA Secretary/Treasurer as well as a Quality Improvement Advisor for the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management. Currently, Patricia serves as the DSHPSHWA Speech-Language Pathologist Representative and Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing (JCIH). Though Patricia has served over a million Oklahoma children, she is most proud of her 11 year old son, Bennett.





## KIRSTEN COVERSTONE | **NON-VOTING JCIH MEMBERS** MINNESOTA



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