



Council for
Exceptional
Children

Division for
Communication, Language, and
Deaf/Hard of Hearing



Quarterly
Newsletter

Summer 2026

A Word from Our President



Thank you for the meaningful work you do every day to support students with communication disorders and those who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. Thank you for the difference you make in the lives of your students. On any given day, you can be found encouraging students, updating parents on their child's progress, or taking a moment to check in on a fellow colleague. Educators such as yourself pour so much into everyone around them and into everything you do, and that care does not go unnoticed.

As we head into the summer months, I hope this message offers you a moment to pause and reflect on the care you bring to your work and the impact you make simply by showing up each day. Please know that your impact extends far beyond the classroom!

We are also excited to continue offering engaging professional development webinars as we support you through ongoing learning and connection. Please remember, if you ever need support, encouragement, or connection, our inbox is always open at dcdofcec@gmail.com.

With gratitude,
LaKisha "Kisha" Stanley
President, DCD



**Thank you for joining
us at CEC in SLC. We
can't wait to see you
next year in
Columbus!**

News and Announcements

Help us create a new logo!



The Division for Communication Disorders and Deaf and Hard of Hearing is in the process of revamping our logo! If you have any ideas or anything that you would like to see included in the new logo, please click the link below to submit ideas via Google Form! If you are a skilled graphic artist and would like to submit a design, please email it to communications@dcdcec.org.

[Click here to Email Us a Design!](#)

[Submit a logo idea!](#)



RESEARCH STUDY

For Professionals who are Teachers of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing (TODHH)

RESEARCH AREAS:

- ☒ Pre-professional TODHH preparation
- ☒ TODHH intervention themes



Please take this 10-12 minute survey



https://isu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0kzdmrTjRnnOcDQ

 **Idaho State University**
✉ ashleybenjacob@isu.edu

PLEASE NOTE:
Participation in research is always voluntary!



Participants for Research Studies!

This quarter, we have two people conducting research studies that will better inform our field! Please see the flyers and click the link to participate!

If you are working on a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation that aligns with the mission of DCD of CEC, we are happy to help share your work with our membership! Please email your thesis or dissertation opportunity to:

membership@dcdcec.org

[Survey Link](#)

Participants for Research Studies!



Educational Interpreters Working with Signing Students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing with Intellectual Disabilities (DHH-ID)

Do you work as an educational interpreter supporting students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing with Intellectual Disabilities (DHH-ID)?

Your voice and experience matter—and they can help shape the future of interpreter preparation and support!

About the Research Study

A doctoral researcher is inviting educational interpreters to participate in an important study focused on interpreting in educational settings for students with DHH-ID.

Purpose of the Study

This research aims to better understand:

- The roles and responsibilities of educational interpreters
- Preparation and training experiences
- Collaboration with teachers and school teams
- Decision-making in real-world classroom settings

Insights from this study can help improve:

- Interpreter training programs
- Professional supports
- Educational outcomes for students with DHH-ID

What's Involved?

A 15–20 minute online survey

Share your professional experiences and perspectives

Complete at a time that works for you

Your participation is voluntary and greatly appreciated!

Interested in Participating?

Click the button below OR

Contact: lstanley8@student.gsu.edu

[Survey Link](#)

Upcoming Events

DCD and CEC PD Events



We have had two wonderful professional development events this year in collaboration with CEC. Please put the following two dates on your calendar for our next professional development opportunities. More information about the trainings will be coming soon!

1. Wednesday, August 12th at 5pm EST
2. Wednesday, November 17th at 5pm EST

We hope to see you there!

Did you know that you can access past DCD and CEC trainings in the CEC Learning Library?

Simply log into your CEC account and click “Access Learning Library”. Once you access it, you can filter trainings to DCD trainings! You must be a member to access the trainings for free.

[CEC Learning Library](#)



Each year at the CEC Convention & Expo, thousands of special education professionals from around the world come together to learn, share, grow, and connect. With hundreds of sessions on just about every topic in the field, the CEC Convention & Expo is THE professional development event for special educators to find research, tips, and strategies you can actually apply to support students with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

When: March 10-13, 2027

Where: Columbus, Ohio

[Click Here to Attend!](#)

Membership Spotlight

Meet Cara Wilmot!



My name is Cara Wilmot, M.Ed., TODHH, and I currently serve as an English Language Arts STEM Trainer with the NTID Regional STEM Center at the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind (aidb.org/nrsc), where I support educational programming and transition initiatives for deaf and hard-of-hearing (d/Dhh) students across the Southeast. I am also completing my Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership at the University of North Florida and defended my dissertation this past May as part of Project SPIDERS, a collaborative doctoral consortium between the University of North Florida, the

University of Oklahoma, and the University of Louisville ([Project Spiders](#)). My dissertation focuses on literacy access, equity, and program evaluation within a summer college transition program for d/Dhh students. In addition to completing my dissertation, I am leading a second research project focused on accessible educational materials in American Sign Language (AEM in ASL) ([Project Spiders Website](#)) and am currently recruiting participants for that study ([Research Study Participants](#)). My professional passion centers on improving literacy outcomes, strengthening transition supports, and ensuring that d/Dhh students have access to culturally sustaining, language-rich educational environments.

Become a Member of the Division for Communication, Language, and Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DCD)

Membership Benefits

- A subscription to Communication Disorders Quarterly
- Professional Development Opportunities
- Discounts on Conferences & Trainings
- Online communities & Forums
- Collaboration with Researchers & Professionals
- Advocacy & Leadership opportunities to shape policy & professional initiatives

[Click Here to Join Today!](#)

Communication Disorders Quarterly

The latest issue of Communications Disorders Quarterly (Volume 47) was published on May 3rd, 2026. In it are many new articles that contribute to the knowledge of this field. You must be a member of DCD to have free access to the journal. Below are some of the topics included in the latest volume!

- Informative Paragraph Writing in Students with Language-Based Learning Disabilities: Comparing Measures Across Two Different Prompts
- Book Making for Preschool Children with Developmental Delays
- Examination of Visual Perception Skills of Children with Developmental Language Disorder
- Graduate Students' Perspectives on Constructivist and Personalized App Literacy Educational Workshop
- Evaluating the Impact of Bidirectional Learning on SLP Graduate Students' Confidence, Critical Thinking, and Clinical Competence

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