

## DIRECTORS, 2022

Lewis Golinker  
Lois Jean Brady

Beth Speaker-Christensen  
Betsy Caporale  
Tami Altschuler



## OFFICERS, 2022

Amy Goldman, President  
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Yoo Sun Chung, Past President  
Sarah Blackstone, VP Finance  
Tina Moreno, VP People who use AAC and their families  
Alison Pentland, Secretary

July 2022

Dear Friends:

I hope your summer is going well! You are receiving this newsletter mid-month as yours truly is leaving the hot and sticky of the city and heading north to Iceland and Greenland. In addition, there will be a hiatus of this President's Letter in August. In the meantime, you can stay up-to-date on USSAAC activities through social media - Follow, like, comment and share at <https://www.facebook.com/ussaac1>

### Did you know...

USSAAC signed on to the letter of concern regarding people with disabilities and older people in Ukraine, organized by the Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Preparedness [Protect the Rights of People with Disabilities and Older People in Ukraine – The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies](#). You can also find resources to support communication for Ukrainian refugees and a statement from ISAAC president Juan Bornman regarding Ukraine <https://bit.ly/3OUJ0rG>

### Announcements:

**ISAAC 2023:** As you know by now, the new dates for ISAAC Cancun are July 24- 27, 2023! Registration is now open at <https://isaac-online.org/english/conference-cancun/conference-registration/>

**Access to Archived Webinars Changing:** Up until now, USSAAC has kept its archived webinars free for all interested viewers. However, effective immediately, we are aligning our policy with ISAAC to heighten this MEMBER BENEFIT. Accordingly, the majority of archived webinars will be moved to a new location in the [Members Only](#) area portion of the ISAAC website, [ISAAC – Archived Webinars for Members Only \(isaac-online.org\)](#). A number of webinars will continue to be publicly available [here](#). What this change means is that now only members will be able to access the majority of our [archived webinar recordings](#) and they will not be available on YouTube. You can find the June 2022 webinar, [Maintaining Communication Access, Encouraging Disaster Preparedness](#) there.

**Webinar on Employment:** Thanks to Chris Gibbons for organizing the panel at AAC in the Cloud on amplifying AAC voices through USSAAC's Speaker Connection! Find the archive here: [\(76\) Chris Gibbons: AAC Speaker Employment Starts Here - AAC in the Cloud 2022 - YouTube](#)

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Learn more about panelists John Bertrand, Drew Sato, Courtney Johnson, and Mike Hipple at <https://speaker.ussaac.org>

**Mini-Grants Available!** USSAAC's Development Committee is accepting applications to its new mini-grant program (up to \$2000) to fund projects designed to expand/broaden/amplify AAC voices in new ways, so they can be "heard and understood" across the United States. Projects need to be submitted by USSAAC members and include people who use AAC. Priority will be given to activities designed to increase the use of USSAAC's Speaker Connection ([speaker.ussaac.org](https://speaker.ussaac.org)). For grant requirements or for more information email [aacvoices@ussaac.org](mailto:aacvoices@ussaac.org)

USSAAC's Disaster Relief Committee (DRC) reminds members there are small grants (up to \$1000) to help defray expenses for engaging in activities that will (a) build awardee's capacity in the area of emergency preparedness/response for people who use AAC; (b) help restore AAC knowledge and skills in a disaster-impacted area; (c) promote/support personal preparedness efforts for people with complex communication needs and their families; OR (d) educate emergency managers, first responders, shelter personnel, and others active in emergency or disaster as to the communication needs of individuals with disabilities. For grant requirements or for more information email DRC co-chair Liz Begley, [ebegley@mac.com](mailto:ebegley@mac.com)

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer,



Amy S. Goldman, President