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June 2022

Dear Friends:

USSAAC has many active committees doing wonderful things to support people who use AAC, their families, and of course, our members. Learn more about our committees at Committees - USSAAC and join one (or more) today.

## Announcements

**Updated resource:** USSAAC's Disaster Relief Committee is pleased to announce the roll out of the updated version of its toolkit, Disaster Preparation for People Who Use AAC and their families. This free "course" offers a series of daily texts to encourage people who use AAC to take steps to be prepared. In addition to phone/text access, those with international numbers can receive the course through WhatsApp. Enroll at https://arist.app/orgs/ussaac/courses/53606054-df1e-46c7-bc58-848481d22832

**Mini-Grants:** USSAAC's Development Committee is rolling out a new mini-grant program that will be open to individuals and nonprofits with 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. Proposals of \$400-\$2,000 will be accepted starting in July 2022. Priority will be given to activities designed to increase the use of USSAAC's Speaker Connection (speaker.ussaac.org). For grant requirements or for more information email aacvoices@ussaac.org

**Postponed:** The previously scheduled virtual membership meeting for July 11, 2022 has been postponed and will be rescheduled for October – AAC Awareness Month. Stay tuned!

**Archived Webinar available:** Did you miss the webinar held June 22, 2022, "Maintaining Communication Access, Encouraging Disaster Preparedness". Watch at the archive at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7QB\_Srh2Po

Highlight: Patient-Provider Communication

Did you know USSAAC has been a supporting organization of Patient-Provider Communication (www.patientprovidercommunication.org) since its inception? I encourage you to explore all the resources on the site. Learn more about Patient-Provider Communication in our upcoming webinar, on July 13, 2022 7-8 PM Eastern, "Make Them See You as a Person: Strategies for Improving Patient-Provider Communication as Described by Adults who Use AAC". This informative event will be presented by David Chapple, David McNaughton, and USSAAC President-Elect Tracy Rackensberger. For more details and to register go to https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_gIZ5kY2nQZqwjkNKhagOYQ As always, ASHA CEUs are included for members, at no additional cost (\$25 for non-members).

**Reminder:** Prime Days are coming – July 12-13, 2022. Support USSAAC with AmazonSmile! Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to USSAAC. Sign in with your Amazon ID and password and choose "USSAAC" when selecting your charity.

Stay up-to-date on USSAAC activities. Follow, like, comment and share at https://www.facebook.com/ussaac1

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer,

Amy S. Goldman, President

## Calendar recap:

July 13, 2022: USSAAC webinar on Patient-Provider Communication (with David McNaughton, David Chapple and USSAAC President-Elect Tracy Rackensperger).