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Dear USSAAC Colleagues,

Happy International AAC Awareness Month!

I hope that everyone is remaining safe in the pandemic.

USSAAC has planned and actively accomplished several things to celebrate this. Tracy Rackensberger, Vice-President for People Who Use AAC and Their Families, summarized our activities as follows:

USSAAC is pleased to be celebrating AAC Awareness Month. In October, we have several activities happening.

- 1) President Yoosun Chung, has created an [AAC Awareness Video](#).
- 2) On Wednesday, October 14th from 7pm-8pm, Stephanie Faso, MA will be our speaker for our AAC Awareness Month webinar. The webinar is entitled, A Discussion of Empowering Autonomy and Self in Individuals with AAC Needs. To register for this webinar, please go to the following link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7224900111858250000>.
- 3) We invite people who use AAC, their families, and other USSAAC members to submit videos stating their favorite part of being a part of USSAAC. Videos can be sent to membership@ussaac.org. The examples are posted on our AAC Awareness page (<https://ussaac.org/aac-info/aac-awareness/>)
- 4) Our past president, Dr. Wendy Quach, has created two USSAAC virtual backgrounds, which will be posted on our [Awareness webpage](#).
- 5) Tracy Rackensberger talks about AAC awareness in the age of Covid-19 in the [SpeakUp!](#) blog.

Besides activities I listed above, I believe that each of you has diligently promoted this important month to the world as USSAAC Members and I much appreciate your time and effort on this.

During the pandemic, USSAAC's AAC Disaster Relief committee has actively been involved in monitoring the web portal <https://aacdisasterrelief.recovers.org/>. With fires in the west and hurricanes in the south and floods and storms everywhere else, the committee is also working on a way to reach more people who use AAC so they can prepare. Stay tuned. Please reach us if you need any assistance, and pass this information to family and friends members who may be affected!

To wrap up, I would like to remind everyone to consider using Amazon Smile and selecting USSAAC as your charity <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-0406685>. Help us support the AAC community during these challenging times.

Again, let's celebrate World AAC Awareness Month!!!

Best,
Yoosun Chung, President