### **AUGUST 2025**

NUCASLL

# **NEWS**

Monthly updates from the Northwestern University Center for Audiology, Speech, Language, and Learning



#### Welcome to our newsletter!

Each month, we share helpful articles on speech, language, and hearing, introduce members of our clinical team, offer a behind-thescenes look at what to expect during appointments, and highlight upcoming community events and workshops.

# Northwestern University Communications Research Registry

Our clinic, NUCASLL, is partnering with Northwestern University's Communication Research Registry (CRR; STU00070769) to support research on the cause and treatment of conditions related to communication, learning, and development. The purpose of the CRR is to provide NUCASLL patients with valuable opportunities to participate in research studies related to communication, learning, and development at Northwestern University.

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# Cognitive Fitness: Boost Your Brain

Join us to learn evidencebased lifestyle modifications you can make for a healthy brain across your lifespan.

October 8, 15, 22, 29, November 5, 12 via Zoom

#### **Breaking the Blocks**

Did you know that improv can help with stuttering? Tweens and teens who stutter can register for this free workshop series.

Oct 6, 20, 27, Nov 3, 10

Spots are limited!

<u>Learn more about these</u> <u>events and check out our full</u> <u>event calendar.</u>

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The Communication Research Registry connects individuals and families with research study opportunities at Northwestern University. To do this, the Communication Research Registry maintains a confidential database of information about individuals and families who are interested in participating in research.

Our goals are to provide individuals and families with access to research opportunities in their community and to support cutting edge research on human communication and development.

# Who Can Join the Communication Research Registry?

In a word, everyone! The Communication Research Registry is for adult individuals and families with children who are interested in participating in studies at Northwestern University. Northwestern University has research laboratories that study a range of populations, including individuals with hearing loss, autism spectrum disorder, aphasia, and learning disabilities, as well as other disorders involving hearing, speech, and language. Many research laboratories also seek individuals with normal hearing, language, and cognition.

### What Does the Registry Do?

- Keeps registered individuals informed about research opportunities and scientific advancements at Northwestern University.
- Supports and accelerates research aimed at increasing knowledge of human communication and development.

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## **NUCASLL Service Spotlight**

### **Speech Services:**

### **Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS)**

CAS is a motor speech disorder where children have difficulty planning and coordinating the movements needed for clear speech. Unlike a simple speech delay, CAS causes inconsistent errors and challenges with repeating sounds or words. Early evaluation by a licensed speech-language pathologist is essential to guide treatment. At NUCASLL, our clinicians provide comprehensive assessments and individualized therapy to support children with CAS.

For more information: 847-491-3165 or nucasll@northwestern.edu

#### **Did You Know?**

In the past year, NUCASLL has served more than **281** pediatric patients with audiology and speech-language pathology services!

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# What Does Registry Participation Mean?

The staff of the Communication Research Registry uses basic information provided by individuals to match them with current research studies for which they may be eligible. Individuals are contacted about studies they are eligible for and can decide to enroll in a study or not. All studies will take place on Northwestern's Evanston campus. Additionally, some individuals may be invited to participate in additional screenings and will be compensated for their time should they choose to participate. Screenings and study enrollment are always voluntary, and participant privacy is carefully safeguarded throughout participation in the Communication Research Registry.

### **How Does the Registry Benefit You?**

- Research laboratories involved make it easy for participants to visit our campus with flexible hours and free parking.
- Joining the Communication Research Registry does not commit you to any specific study and you will always maintain the right to turn down invitations to participate.
- By joining the Communication Research Registry, you can help labs uncover new ways to improve services for children and adults with communication and learning disorders.

Adults can register by clicking this <u>link</u> or by scanning the QR code with your smartphone, which will direct you to a registration page. If you are a parent or caregiver who would like to register your child, please contact us.

# Communication Research Registry Registration



# **Clinician Spotlight**



# **Stephanie Boron**MS, CCC-SLP

Stephanie is a pediatric speech-language pathologist who creates safe, inclusive spaces for neurodivergent clients and families. She specializes in neurodiversity-affirming, child-led care, with a focus on gestalt language processing, and mentors future clinicians to advocate for disability rights.

Check out this <u>research study</u> on the benefits of participating in research studies!