



Northwestern
University

FEBRUARY 2026

NUCASLL News

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

Growth, Connection, and Community Impact

February offers a moment to reflect on both heart and health and the connections that sustain our work. At the Northwestern University Center for Audiology, Speech, Language, and Learning (NUCASLL), this month highlights growth within our programs, continued investment in clinical excellence, and meaningful outreach beyond our clinic walls.



AMY SINDELAR
SLL Clinical Education
Coordinator



JOSIE
Practice Manager

We are excited to share two updates that reflect the continued growth of the Speech, Language, and Learning program and NUCASLL.

Amy Sindelar has stepped into the role of SLL Clinical Education Coordinator, strengthening our externship program and expanding our clinical education infrastructure.

We are also pleased to announce that **Josie** has been appointed Practice Manager for NUCASLL, bringing deep expertise in clinical operations and healthcare systems.

Together, their leadership represents an important investment in our students, clinicians, and the communities we serve. Please join us in congratulating Amy and Josie on their new roles.

Hearing Health at ReVive Center



Mary Meskan
Doctor of Audiology
Research Associate



Katherine Swem, AuD
Doctor of Audiology
Assistant Clinical Professor

Our commitment to accessible hearing healthcare continues through our partnership with the **ReVive Center** for Housing and Healing, an outreach initiative established by **Dr. Meskan** (Audiology, Research Associate) and supported alongside **Dr. Swem** (Audiology, Clinical Faculty), faculty, and graduate students.

Hearing Health at ReVive Center



In 2025, the team served 36 community members, ages 19 to 73, who presented with a wide range of hearing and ear-related needs. Services included:

- Otoscopic exams and ear cleanings
- Hearing evaluations and middle ear assessments
- Counseling on hearing loss, noise protection, and vestibular concerns



Ten individuals were referred to Rush for ENT evaluation. Eight were identified as candidates for hearing aid use, and through donated devices, six community members were successfully fit with hearing aids and counseled on use and expectations.

Two individuals were referred for further medical evaluation prior to fitting.



Beyond clinical services, audiology students organized food and clothing donation campaigns to support the ReVive program. Students consistently reflect on how this outreach deepens their understanding of access, equity, and the broader impact of communication healthcare.

This work reflects our department's interdisciplinary mission and commitment to meeting community needs with compassion and expertise.

Healthy blood flow supports the delicate structures of the inner ear. Conditions that affect cardiovascular health, such as high blood pressure or reduced circulation, may also impact hearing over time. Maintaining heart health through regular medical care, physical activity, and healthy lifestyle choices can play an important role in protecting hearing as well.

Hearing care is whole-person care, and small preventive steps can make a meaningful difference.

DID YOU KNOW?

YOUR HEARING HEALTH IS CLOSELY LINKED TO YOUR HEART HEALTH

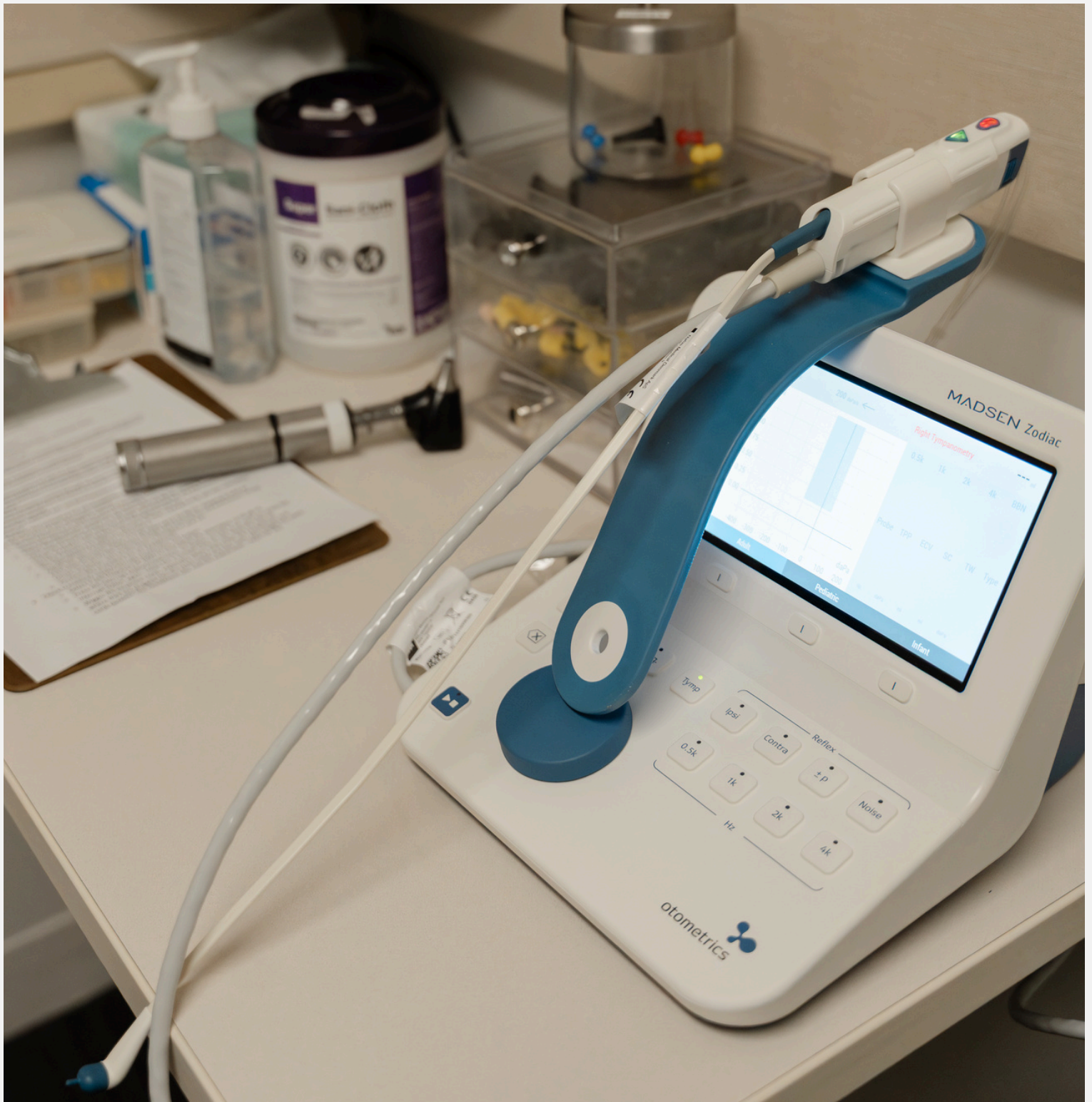
UPCOMING EVENTS:



Break the Blocks is returning for its 7th series at the Northwestern University Center for Audiology, Speech, Language, and Learning (NUCASLL). This free, guided improv workshop for tweens and teens who stutter has been a strong success since its launch, offering a supportive space where communication differences are embraced and confidence is built through creative, low-pressure activities.

Led by **Elisha Boxer Magnifico** (she/her), Speech-Language Pathologist and Clinical Assistant Professor, the program continues to grow in response to community interest. New this year, Break the Blocks is expanding to include adults who stutter, with an Adult Night workshop on March 9th from 5:30–7:00 PM.

To register please visit [here](#).



We remain grateful for the faculty, students, and community partners who make this work possible. As we move through the year, we look forward to expanding outreach efforts and continuing to support accessible, evidence-based hearing care in our broader community.

The Northwestern University Center for Audiology, Speech, Language, and Learning

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