



# MSHA

Mississippi Speech-Language-Hearing Association

## Mid Year Report

June, 2020

**Name:** Josie Alston

**Position:** VP: Healthcare

Primary Accomplishments: Virtual Conference design, implementation and completion. I will compose a conference summary with Carrie Smith and Rinki Desai to present to the board once the financials are in. I have reached out to Amy Livingston and let her know that the Healthcare committee would like to help with the speakers and possible offerings for next year's convention in order to draw more healthcare members. She said she welcomes the input and we look forward to working together. Linda Piazza will continue to work with the private practitioners and their Medicaid reimbursement issue. Telehealth has obviously impacted healthcare for SLPs and although it feels we are still in the beginning stages with this service delivery for Medicare we have successfully been treating established Medicaid patients for two months. It is my intention to continue to work with the telehealth committee to try to get a more permanent and expanded coverage with Medicaid. Virtual meeting of the committee is still on hold due to no virtual platform. There will be regular planning meetings in the months going forward to address our goals.

**Outstanding Challenges:** Unfortunately, my time has been monopolized by the online conference. Now that it is completed and a new normalcy is starting to take shape post COVID, I anticipate more time for regular committee virtual meetings where we will address previously stated goals and ongoing healthcare issues.

Goals for the Remainder of the Year: Meet with new conference chairs to discuss how healthcare committee can help. Develop survey for healthcare membership on how to better represent their interests in MSHA. Work with telehealth committee as needed to address ongoing Medicaid telehealth initiative.

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