

# SARA BURNHAM

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## Summary

Speech-Language Pathologist with experience in a variety of clinical settings. Skilled at completing complex assessments as well as designing and implementing therapeutic plans for a variety of speech, language and swallowing impairments across the life span (birth through geriatric). Specific experience with pediatric and adult dysphagia, language disorders in children and adults, and augmentative-alternative communication.

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## Experience

### **Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford, CT**

#### **Speech-Language Pathologist (Full Time)**

November 2009-Present

- Provide skilled outpatient speech therapy services for children in the areas of language, voice, fluency, articulation, cognition, feeding/swallowing, augmentative-alternative communication (AAC), and motor speech disorders
- Conduct outpatient evaluations in the areas of speech, language, fluency, and voice disorders
- Complete Modified Barium Swallow Studies in conjunction with the radiology department
- Consult on Fiberoptic Endoscopic Examination of Swallowing (FEES) and voice evaluations in conjunction with the Department of Otolaryngology (ENT)
- Collaborate with occupational therapists and nutritionists on feeding team evaluations
- Provide skilled inpatient speech therapy for feeding/swallowing, cognition, speech, and language
- Conduct outpatient AAC evaluations in conjunction with occupational therapists in a clinic setting; provide recommendations for device trial(s) or on-going therapeutic needs
- Provide in-services to inpatient units on AAC needs within the acute care setting
- Conduct social language groups that are play-based and /or encompass the methodology of Michelle Garcia Winner's Social Thinking vocabulary
- Incorporate technology using applications available on the iPad into evaluation and therapy
- Trained in administering Autism Diagnostic Observation Scale – 2
- Trained in passing flexible endoscopes in order to independently conduct Fiberoptic Endoscopic Examination of Swallowing (FEES)
- Mentor graduate student clinicians and clinical fellows within the hospital setting

### **Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital, Worcester, MA**

#### **Speech-Language Pathologist (Per Diem)**

October 2011-Present

- Administer assessments in the areas of cognition, language, and dysarthria
- Conduct bedside swallowing assessments and provide diet recommendations
- Develop functional cognitive-communication and speech intelligibility goals based on assessment results
- Implement intervention goals for adults with cognitive impairments, aphasia, dysarthria, and dysphagia
- Provide patient and/or family education regarding modified diets, effects of strokes and brain injuries

### **Easter Seals of Massachusetts, Contract Rehabilitation Services, Worcester, MA**

#### **Speech-Language Pathologist (Per Diem)**

June 2010-October 2011

- Completed speech and language evaluations at a day habilitation setting in accordance with annual reviews
- Provided in-services to staff on feeding/swallowing, speech/language development, and AAC programming
- Developed light-technology AAC for clients
- Assisted with program development for individual clients

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## Speaking Engagements

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- Co-Guest Lecturer, Seminar: “Pediatric Dysphagia,” Southern Connecticut State University, Department of Speech-Language Pathology, Graduate level Medical Seminar course, Summer 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018.
- Guest Lecturer, Seminar: “Augmentative and Alternative Communication in the ICU & Acute Care Setting,” University of Connecticut, Department of Speech-Language Pathology, Graduate level course: Augmentative and Alternative Communication, April 2016, October 2016, October 2017.
- Co-Presenter, Seminar: “Putting it all together: From AAC Evaluation to AAC Purchase,” Connecticut Speech-Language-Hearing Association, October 2016.
- Guest Lecturer, Seminar: “Hands-on Experience with AAC devices,” Sacred Heart University, Graduate level course: Autism, AAC and Severe Disabilities, December 2016.

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## Certifications

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- Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech and Language Pathology from the American Speech Language Hearing Association, Valid Through 12/31/2018
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts, License as Speech-Language Pathologist, Expires 2/15/2020
- State of Connecticut, DPH License as Speech-Language Pathologist, Expires 2/28/2019
- Eligible for Connecticut State Department of Education certificate as Speech-Language Pathologist
- American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS), Valid Through 4/2019

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## Professional Associations

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Mentor, American Speech Language Hearing Association Student to Empowered Professional (S.T.E.P.) Mentoring Program, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018

Connecticut Speech Language Hearing Association, Co-Vice President of Educational Programs, 2015-Present

Committee Member (Hospitals), Connecticut Speech Language Hearing Association, 2011-Present

Member, Connecticut Speech Language Hearing Association, 2010-Present

Member, American Speech Language Hearing Association, 2009-Present

Member, ASHA Special Interest Group (SIG) 11: Administration and Supervision

Member, ASHA Special Interest Group (SIG) 12: Augmentative and Alternative Communication

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## Awards and Recognition

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American Speech Language Hearing Association, Award for Continuing Education (ACE), May 2012

American Speech Language Hearing Association, Award for Continuing Education (ACE), March 2015

American Speech Language Hearing Association, Award for Continuing Education (ACE), April 2017

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## Education

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**American Speech Language Hearing Association’s Leadership Development Program in Health Care**  
Completed March 2015

**University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, August 2007-May 2009**

M.A. in Communication Sciences; Concentration in Speech-Language Pathology, May 2009

**University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, August 2003-December 2006**

B.A. in Communication Sciences, December 2006

## **Continuing Education**

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### 2018

- 7/22/18: ASHA Connect 2018
- 7/3/18: Knowledge, Skills, and Competencies for Supervision
- 5/7/18: Pediatric Feeding Assessments and Interventions
- 4/28/18: Advances in NICU Feeding Management
- 3/26/18: Documentation Essentials for Pediatric SLPs

### 2017

- 9/15/17: Symposium on Neonatal Advances: Update on Feeding and Nutrition Practice
- 5/29/17: Finding the Right Data to Improve Practice and Demonstrate Your Value
- 4/24/17: Value Added Assessment and Practical Use of the PACE Tool
- 4/2/17: 12<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Brain Injury
- 3/31/17: Addressing Auditory Access in Schools: Models of Effective Collaboration
- 2/7/17: Standardization of Dysphagia Diets: Successful International Engagement

### 2016

- 10/27/16: CSHA Fall 2016 Conference: Ethics in Practice
- 10/27/16: CSHA Fall 2016 Conference: Putting It All Together
- 4/22/16: CSHA Spring 2016 Conference
- 2/29/16: Turning Problem Behavior Into Effective Communication
- 1/31/16: ICD-10 Is Coming: Are You Ready?
- 1/31/16: Aural Rehabilitation in Private Practice

### 2015

- 12/17/15: Supervision 102: Building Your Supervisor's Tool Kit
- 11/30/15: Dysphagia Management in Individuals with Tracheostomies
- 10/22/15: CSHA Fall 2015 Mini-Conference
- 8/31/15: What Makes for an Appropriate Vestibular Referral?
- 8/22/15: ADOS-2 Introductory/Clinical Training
- 7/15/15: Telepractice Technology: Tools to Deliver Care Remotely
- 5/3/15: FEES Training
- 3/11/15: Leadership Development Webinars for Health Care Professionals