



# USING YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT TO HELP OTHERS FIND THEIRS

*2022 Adler Aphasias Center Report to the Community*

## a•pha•sia (ə-ˈfā-ZH(ē-)ə):

A language disorder that usually results from a brain injury (such as stroke, brain tumor, accident, or infection). While aphasia can affect one's ability to speak, understand, read and write, it does not affect intellect.

Our mission is to enrich the lives of people with aphasia, their families, and communities.

### Full-Service Centers

#### Maywood Campus

60 West Hunter Avenue, Maywood, NJ  
201.368.8585

#### West Orange Campus

Temple B'nai Shalom  
300 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, NJ  
551.287.2237

#### Toms River Campus

Church of Grace and Peace  
1563 Old Freehold Road, Toms River, NJ  
551.287.2236

### Aphasia Communication Groups

Haddonfield  
Hammonton  
Maywood  
Monroe  
Toms River  
Virtual NJ Group  
551.287.2238



**Adler Aphasias**  
**CENTER**

[adleraphasiacenter.org](http://adleraphasiacenter.org)

## MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

For 20 years, your donations have helped to break down the communication barriers brought on by aphasia and create new opportunities for our members to return to a more active and fulfilling life. Your gifts help our members reach their potential despite this communication disorder, attaining meaningful relationships at our Center, at home, with family and friends and in their communities. In the past year, your support enabled us to touch the lives of 10,344 individuals. We provided essential programming to those impacted by aphasia and their care partners while expanding our reach by increasing awareness and knowledge of what aphasia is throughout the state and beyond. Our Center can be an integral part of one's aphasia journey, and that message continues to be shared.

The Adler Aphasias Center began through the generosity of Mike and Elaine, and now their philanthropic spirit lives on through your voices and support. We are excited about the future as we enter our 21st year and recommit ourselves to enabling you and the Adler community to use their voices to help our members find theirs.

With appreciation,



Sandra Govic  
Chairperson, Board of Directors



Naomi Gewirtz  
President & CEO



## Adler Aphasias CENTER Legacy

### The Adler Aphasias Center LEGACY SOCIETY

We invite you to join the Adler Aphasias Center Legacy Society. We hope you will consider a future gift to the Adler Aphasias Center. Through your estate plans, you can create a legacy of care and continue your support for individuals with aphasia and their caregivers.

The information below may be helpful to you and your advisors. To get started, contact Naomi Gewirtz at 201.368.8585 or [ngewirtz@adleraphasiacenter.org](mailto:ngewirtz@adleraphasiacenter.org).

**Legal Name:** The Adler Aphasias Center  
**Address:** 60 West Hunter Avenue  
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**Federal Tax ID:** 02- 0687863

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# 10,344 PEOPLE TOUCHED BY ADLER

YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT HELPED US TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THOUSANDS – PEOPLE WITH APHASIA, THEIR CAREGIVERS AND FAMILIES, VOLUNTEERS, AND PROFESSIONALS IN THE HEALTHCARE AND SERVICE SECTORS WHO PROVIDE THEM WITH VITAL SERVICES

## LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS

### 28,540 PROGRAM HOURS

YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT ALLOWED US TO PROVIDE THOUSANDS OF PROGRAM HOURS FOR 146 PEOPLE WITH APHASIA ACROSS NJ

We continued to offer programming across 9 NJ counties in 2022, to include our 3 full-service Centers in Maywood, West Orange, and Toms River and 9 less-intensive Aphasia Communication Groups, including one virtual group that provides support for homebound and geographically distant New Jersey participants. New approaches and innovative elements in our Life Skills Program have helped to engage Adler members on their path to rehabilitation, with more than 20% continuing to receive scholarship support to ensure full access to Adler programs.

*"My participation at Adler has had a very therapeutic effect on me. It has helped me in many ways because I feel accepted and the support has been vital to my mental wellbeing. While doctors are helpful with a diagnosis following a stroke, they are not living it every day. The people who are, like those in my groups, are the real experts. They know things that doctors can only talk about."*

## CAREGIVER SUPPORT AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

### 1,484 PROGRAM HOURS

YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT PROVIDED RESOURCES FOR ALL STAGES OF THE CAREGIVING JOURNEY FOR OUR CAREGIVERS

From our 10 monthly in-person and virtual support groups throughout the state to our caregiver education events, our programs are designed to reduce caregiver stress and anxiety, and to help our caregivers develop a better relationship with their loved ones. We provide information about aphasia, entitlements, and group support activities that help them communicate more effectively with their loved ones. Our popular education programs include conversations with guest experts in all aspects of their journey from self-care to addressing their own needs for socialization- from art to yoga, meditation to Medicare, and more. In addition, monthly email updates and semi-annual e-newsletters are distributed with tips and relevant, up-to-date information for this group.

*"If I didn't participate in the Adler caregiver group, I know I'd be struggling more with my journey as the caregiver to my husband. The caregiver group is my place and my time to say whatever I want to say or need to say in a safe place."*



## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

### 561 PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS

YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT PROVIDED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTHCARE AND SERVICE PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND APHASIA, INCREASING OUR MEMBERS ACCESS TO CARE, ENTITLEMENTS, AND VITAL SERVICES

Adler staff co-developed a new mental health initiative, in partnership with the UNC - Chapel Hill's School of Medicine and a renowned author on the subject and co-founder of *Stroke Onward*. Aimed at training mental health professionals to work effectively with people with communication deficits, the goal is to offer more options for people with aphasia and caregivers to seek counseling and support on their emotional journey to rebuild their identities following their diagnosis. The Center also offered its 18th annual SLP Workshop for speech professionals statewide to this popular training event. Through our Education & Training program, we are reaching more students, healthcare and service professionals and are widening our support network in the medical community, its schools, service organizations and the corporate, community and civic sectors.

## VOLUNTEERS

### 136 DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS SERVING 4,000 HOURS

YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT PROVIDED VALUE TO OUR ORGANIZATION BY INVESTING IN OUR RESOURCES AND UNDERSTANDING THE POWER OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE AND ITS POSITIVE EFFECTS ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

Our volunteers are an essential resource for us to maintain a sustainable nonprofit. This dedicated group perform numerous duties from facilitating fitness and art, to acting as partners to members using technology and creating jewelry and gifts for *Something Special* sales. In addition, others serve as members of our Board and Honorary Boards, our elite advisory committees, and our Young Professionals Group. Our volunteers' voices and support help us to spread the word about our organization and move us forward in our mission.



## CORPORATE CONNECTIONS

### 5,597 CORPORATE EMPLOYEES

*YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT HELPED TO CULTIVATE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS THAT SHARE OUR BELIEF IN THE POWER OF ENGAGING PEOPLE WITH APHASIA IN MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES TO COPE, HELP AND THRIVE IN BUILDING BACK THEIR LIVES*

The Center's social enterprise, *Something Special*, celebrated its 14th year in 2022 of offering opportunities for people with aphasia to craft jewelry and gifts, engaging in business planning and marketing, and selling their creations. As part of a growing initiative with 13 NJ corporations and partners, this program is raising awareness for aphasia while promoting inclusive workplaces among thousands of corporate employees via corporate lobby sales, Beading Buddies, and Snack & Learn programs. By 2022, *Something Special* revenue surpassed \$600,000 and contributed to 188 scholarships for Center members throughout NJ, since its inception.

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### 3,410 PEOPLE IN 218 VENUES TOUCHED BY OUR OUTREACH PROGRAM

*YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT ENABLED OUR TEAM TO FURTHER DEVELOP PROGRAMS AND CONTACTS THAT EDUCATE, BUILD, AND STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS IN OUR COMMUNITIES*

Raising awareness for the importance of long-term aphasia rehabilitation is key to our outreach efforts, which is critical even within healthcare institutions that may not make stroke and brain injury survivors aware of the options that can assist their rehabilitation over time. By directly informing organizations and institutions as well as stroke survivors and their families of available options, we are educating them about our programs and helping them understand what Adler offers and how they can be assisted in their rehabilitation. Additionally, Center participants regularly volunteer to assist outreach staff in educating healthcare and service students and professionals about aphasia, both in on-site programming at the Center and through in-service programs. The Center's healthcare partners, including major area medical and rehabilitation centers, universities, financial services companies, and other community service organizations, now regularly incorporate aphasia training into their annual staff and student education timelines.

*"It was a great experience yesterday at your Center. I am a neurologist and have been interacting with stroke patients both in clinical practice and pharmaceutical clinical trial settings. However, most of the time my interaction with them ends after hospital discharge or for a short follow-up period up to 3 months. Seeing them in your center continuing their recovery journey is profound. Their stories make me think deeper as a pharm drug developer and community member."*



## RESEARCH

### 420 HOURS OF THERAPY PROVIDED AS PART OF NIH STUDY

*YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT HAVE ALLOWED US TO DEEPEN OUR RESEARCH AND DATA DRIVEN RESULTS, SEED NEW INITIATIVES, AND SHARE EVIDENCE-BASED INSIGHTS WITH APHASIA ADVOCATES AND PHILANTHROPISTS*

44% of Adler members took part in the first of a 3-year National Institutes of Health funded clinical trial in conversational treatment for people with aphasia, collaborating with Boston and Temple Universities, examining the efficacy of group conversation treatments for people with aphasia. The Center's research program was also heavily involved in Project BRIDGE (Building Research Initiatives by Developing Group Effort), a nationwide effort to increase stakeholder engagement in aphasia research. Adler had served as one of 4 regional centers to support recruiting and training multi-stakeholder research teams. In 2022 our research team presented two posters on stakeholder engagement at national conferences related to BRIDGE, one being co-authored and co-presented with 3 Center members.

## ANNUAL MEMBER SURVEYS

### 99% OF MEMBERS' REPORT THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE WAS MAINTAINED OR IMPROVED SINCE ATTENDING ADLER PROGRAMMING

*YOUR VOICES AND SUPPORT HAVE GREATLY IMPACTED OUR MEMBERS' WELL-BEING, THEIR COMMUNICATION, THEIR CONFIDENCE, THEIR CONNECTIONS TO OTHERS AND THEIR SENSE OF SELF*

An annual survey of our members is conducted by our Research Department to measure our members' interpretation of how the Center has impacted their lives. The following 2022 sample results demonstrate the substantial benefits of our programming for our members: 100% of responding members reported that they maintained or improved their **communication skills**; 99% of responding members reported that they maintained or improved their **overall quality of life**; and 99% of responding members reported that they maintained or improved their **mental health**.

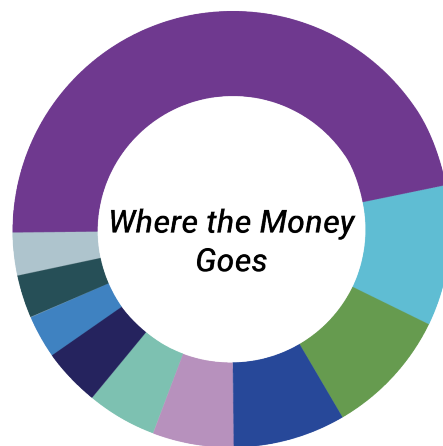
## PROGRAM GRANTS

### \$464,000 IN FOUNDATION GRANTS RECEIVED

*THE VOICES AND SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY AND STATEWIDE FUNDERS ARE VITAL AS WE RELY ON OUR FOUNDATIONS AND OTHER SUPPORTERS TO ENSURE THAT THIS VERY UNDER-SERVED AND VULNERABLE POPULATION CAN HAVE ACCESS TO VITAL REHABILITATION SERVICES*

The Center actively seeks foundation grants and other contributions to expand our programming to better serve our aphasia population. As our programs expand due to growing interest on the part of healthcare professionals, corporations, and service sector sites, we continue to promote the program and invite funders and private donors to offer their support, to create a more inclusive society for people with disabilities.

## OUR SOURCES OF INCOME



- ♥ 41% Individuals
- ♥ 12% Foundations & Corporations
- ♥ 12% Donated Goods
- ♥ 10% Government Grants
- ♥ 10% Events
- ♥ 9% Member & Program Fees
- ♥ 5% Other
- ♥ 1% Something Special
- ♥ 46% Life Skills
- ♥ 10% Management & Administration
- ♥ 9% Fundraising
- ♥ 8% Adler West Orange
- ♥ 6% Adler Hadassah
- ♥ 5% Adler Toms River
- ♥ 4% Outreach, Education, & Training
- ♥ 3% Technology
- ♥ 3% Something Special
- ♥ 3% Aphasia Communication Groups

## OUR DONORS

We thank the following donors who gave January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

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Marianne Dvoretzky  
Helene Dyzenhaus  
Patricia Fagan  
Tibey Falk  
Steven Louis Finkelstein  
Marilyn Flanzman  
Peggy and Jerry Fond  
Janet Forer  
Samantha Freeman  
Harryette Friedland  
Alisa Gadon  
Lynne and Michael Gass

Laynie Gershwin  
Johan Ghillebert  
Victoria Giancespro  
Karen and Eric Ginsburg  
Sharon and Leon Glaser  
Phylis and Steven Goldenberg  
Faye Goldman  
Betsy Goldstein  
Michael Gottfried  
Linda E. and Phil Gould  
Marsha and Paul Greenberg  
Carolyn Gretchen  
Marcia and Kenneth Grossman  
Barbara and Bill Grundy  
Susan Gurnett  
Phyllis Gutmann  
Ronald Halber  
Rita Halpern  
Raymond and Kay Hamlin  
Susan Harrison  
Susan Ilene Haspel  
Regina Hathaway  
Bonita Porte Heyman  
Linda Hirsch  
Lynne Hirschhorn  
Laurence Hyman  
Samantha Hymen  
Carmela Inghilterra  
Nanci and Joseph Iovino  
Nighat and Javed Ispahany  
David Jagoda  
Alyssa Johansen  
Adele and Cory Kallet  
Mary Kaltenberg  
Candance Kaplan  
Stacy Kaplan  
Esther Kattine  
Mary Keady  
Lynn Ketterman  
Linda Kligman  
Linda Kostrinsky  
Beth Kotek  
Renee Krantz  
Bonnie and Stew Krentzman  
Mary Kuller  
Cecelia Kurland  
Jacquie Kurland  
Carol and William Kurtzer  
Amanda Lahikainen  
Lawrence Leder  
Michael Leonida  
Amy Levine  
Jamie Lewin and Scott Benz  
Jill and Richard Lichtig  
Erica Lieberman  
Gloria Lieberstein  
Rhoda Liebowitz  
William Lobb  
Joanna Molly Longcore  
Ruth Lowenkron  
Charline Ludgate  
Kathleen Maat  
Jenifer Madison  
Stan Makovsky  
Kaite Mannon  
Tommy May  
Lizz Mejia  
Mirjam and Mar Melin  
Ellen Menschel  
Elaine Meyer  
Alice and Vincent Minnecki  
Stephen Missbrenner  
Thomas Murray  
Angela Nastasi  
Robert Needham  
Samuel Negin  
Network for Good  
Carol Newman  
Jason Noggoh  
Walter Nolting  
Teresa Ortyl  
Chuck Ott  
Becky Parker and Arthur Matarazzo  
Howard Plissner  
Micki Prokop  
Hazeland Raymond Ralph  
Carol Ramer  
Johanna Reagan  
Magdalena Redroban  
Ronnie Rein  
Judith Reiner  
Lucien Rioux

Mary Alice C. and Robert D. Rippe  
Gail and Ron Rivlin  
Natalie Rebecca Robin  
Donna and Mark Rosen  
Jill and Kenneth Rota  
Marilou Rowan  
Carolyn and Louis Russo  
Melissa Sacks  
Lisa and Robert Safer  
Elizabeth Saltmarsh-Smith  
Tamar Samuel-Siegel  
Doris and Robert Sarokin  
Felice Schlesinger  
Erin Schoor  
Iris and Steve Schulman  
Fredrika Schwerin  
Patricia Seco  
Fran and Al Shapiro  
Arlene and Alan Silverstein  
Loraine Simunek and Jo Ann Binkert  
Roberta Sinatra  
Marci Skolnick  
Paul Smith  
Ruby Smolinsky  
Joanne Snyder  
Gail Solomon  
Jess Someck  
Fran and Lee Spechts  
Linda and Charles Stinson  
Michael Strauss  
Elaine Stundell  
Helen Stutz  
Marta Suarez and Michael Hazel  
Kristine and Steve Swanson  
Harold Takooshian  
Paul Tassler  
Marilou and Joseph Tenenbaum  
Betty Tusing  
Julie and Dave VanTine  
John Vaughan  
Peter Vaughan  
Marie and Bobby Wallum  
Deborah Weiss  
Marjorie Wilkoff  
Susan Wilkoff  
Joan and Chuck Wilson  
Cathy Wisneski  
Henrietta and Bernard Wolfeiler  
David Wolff  
Ruth Wolkind  
Ilene and Samuel Wolosin  
Jennifer Woo  
Riberta Yeshion  
Andrea and Mark Zettler  
Jill Ziman

#### **IN-KIND GIFTS**

A & P Printing  
Christine Brewster  
Brian Castka  
Karen Castka  
Linda and Phil Cennerazzo  
Judy Cohen  
Columbia Bank  
Kristine Deer  
Janet Dishuk  
E & M Holdings (Elaine & Mike  
Adler)  
Elie Tanous Salon  
Dwight Gooden  
Sandra Govic  
Richard Graff  
Jim Kabakow  
Caryl and Jimmy Kourgelis  
Lee Parla Jewelers  
Tracy Lomango  
The Martino Family  
Matisse Chocolatier  
Edward Morgan  
John Neagle  
NJ Car Wash  
NY Giants Organization  
Christine and Ed Ordway  
Hayley Rivlin  
Kathy Santo Dog Training  
Sanzari's New Bridge Inn  
Esta-Ann and Jack Schapiro  
Lucille and Vlado Skroce  
Elie Tanous  
Barbara Tillman  
Total Wine & More