
Cheryl L. Dickson
Certified Auditory-Verbal Therapist
M.Ed, LSLS Cert. AVT

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OBJECTIVES:

To develop, facilitate and supervise quality services for children with hearing loss to maximize the use of residual hearing and emphasize daily training in audition, speech and language. To provide opportunities for integration which foster each child's sense of self-worth and ability to contribute to society.

To implement training programs for teachers and therapists in the methodologies and techniques of Auditory-Verbal Therapy with an emphasis on Early Childhood Education.

To provide comprehensive mentoring services for suitably qualified therapists to achieve international qualifications as a certified LSLS by the AG Bell Listening and Spoken Language Academy.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016 to present

Trainer - Cochlear Asia Pacific Thailand and Japan.

Consultant and trainer with Cochlear Ltd., in South East Asia in conjunction with Thailand Department of Health and Department of Education providing lectures and practicums in auditory-verbal therapy and techniques.

2014 to present

Coach and Mentor– Victoria Deaf Education Institute (VDEI)

Train educators of the deaf in Auditory Verbal pedagogy. Mentor four staff in theory and practice to qualify for AG Bell LSLS Certification.

2002 to Present

International Auditory-Verbal/ Spoken Language Consultant

Provide individual, parent centered therapy for infants, preschoolers and school age children. Provide consultation for organizations requesting further skills in auditory-verbal methodologies. Contracts with the Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre, Cochlear Limited, St. Vincent's Hospital, University of Newcastle, Ministry of Education NZ, First Voice Centre's and MED-EL, Indonesia. Present a variety of topics for international conferences, seminars and workshops. *(See last page for details.)*

Jan 14 to Jun 16

Mentor and Trainer – RSI Indonesia

Train and mentor clinicians in Auditory Verbal techniques. Provide company directors with strategies and best practice guidance for RSI clinics.

Jan 2006 to 2011

President, Board of Directors – AG Bell Listening and Spoken Language Academy

As president of the board, provided direction and initiatives on improvements, changes and governance of the academy. Advised and directed sub committees on ongoing certification, qualifications, and procedures. The outgoing president is responsible for governance of the board for the ensuing 2 years.

Jul 2010 to Jun 2012

Clinical Director – The Hearing House, Auckland, New Zealand

Provided Auditory-Verbal training, guidance and direction for five therapists. Improved center efficiency by establishing a more disciplined approach to therapy. Advised the General Manager on Auditory-Verbal concepts and practices. Together with the General Manager, set and documented policy and protocols for the center.

2000 to 2002

Managing Director - C.L.A.S.P (Center for Learning and Speech Philippines)

Concept development and initiation of the center of excellence for Hearing Impaired in the Philippines. Setup of Board of Directors, audiologists and local therapists as support for the center. Overall management of the day to day operations of the center.

1999 to 2001

Senior Lecturer – University of the Philippines, Aural Habilitation

Lecturing to Speech Pathologists and ENT Specialists in modern AV Therapy techniques and Cochlear Implants.

1999 to 2002

Director – Auditory-Verbal Training & Development, Philippines.

Provide services to the professional community and individuals for the training and development of the auditory-verbal profession in the Philippines. Transfer information on latest advances in the profession. Develop and train therapists in the profession to a high level of skill which will maximise the benefits and use of Cochlear Implants and hearing aids. Facilitate a weekly playgroup for children with Cochlear Implants and provide learning opportunities for the parents of these children.

1997 to 1999

Hearing Consultant for Royal Institute for Deaf & Blind Children.

Provide services for hearing impaired children and adolescents in their own learning environments throughout greater Sydney area. Consult with teachers and parents on methods of assisting their pupil/ child in the mainstream setting. On-going duties included setting goals and objectives for the child/ parent/ teacher to achieve best results for the child, in-services for teaching staff and students pertaining to hearing loss and its effects in the educational setting and training note takers to aid students in the mainstream.

1996 to 1997

Auditory-Verbal Therapist for Cochlear Implants International.

Habilitation leader of a small team of specialists habilitating implanted and aided hearing impaired children from South East Asia. Presentations on cochlear implants and habilitation for children at conferences for professionals both in Australia and overseas. Preparation and planning for overseas training programs for professionals and parents. Guidance and training for parents in methodologies and techniques for their hearing impaired children.

1995 to 1996

Auditory-Verbal Therapist for The Royal Institute for Deaf & Blind Children.

Together with the team of other therapists, provide home based, parent centered therapy for children with impaired hearing from birth to 5 years. Guidance and training for parents in methodologies and techniques for their hearing impaired children.

1990 to 1995

Auditory-Verbal Therapist for St Gabriel's School for Hearing Impaired Children.

Member of a team in the Early Intervention Centre which provided both center based and home based therapy for parents and their child with impaired hearing. Setup and manage a clinic for the Hearing Impaired in Brisbane. Preparation and publication of brochure advertising the St Gabriels Clinic in Brisbane. Preparation and publication of booklet for St Gabriels Early Intervention Centre. Planning, preparation and coaching of staff for the presentation at Perth AVI Conference.

1986 to 1990

Teacher of the Deaf for Colorado Department of Health.

Provide direct parent centered support for 0-3 year old hearing impaired children and their families. Consult with public and private preschools regarding appropriate programming for hearing impaired preschoolers.

1981 to 1990

Hearing Consultant for Mountain Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

Responsibilities included coordination of programs for hearing impaired students (3-21 years) in five rural districts. Consult with classroom teachers, special education teachers, speech and language therapists, administrators, preschools and parents in the implementation of programs for hearing impaired students. Offer classes and workshops for professionals and parents to learn about hearing loss and its effect on a student's education.

Work with severely to profoundly impaired students in the areas of language development, auditory training, speech acquisition / remediation and general content subjects. Create and implement a resource room program for severely impaired children from four school districts. Responsible for hiring and evaluating tutor interpreters, involving regular educators as team members through collaboration and budgeting for the hearing impaired program.

EDUCATION

1994

Certified Auditory-Verbal Therapist

Passed exam to become a Certified Auditory-Verbal Therapist as recognized by Auditory-Verbal International.

1989

Auditory-Verbal Training - Listen Acoupedic Center

Completion of a full-time, six month training program in Auditory-Verbal techniques. Training included practicum in an auditory-verbal clinic working with 0-5 year old hearing impaired children and course work in speech acoustics, speech acquisition, language, normal development, amplification and other related topics.

1981

Masters: Education - Special Education - University of Arizona.

A two year, full-time course including a variety of experiences working with hearing impaired students. Student teaching was done both at the State School for Deaf and Blind and in public school settings. Internships provided experience in all age levels (K-12) and full intellectual range from normal to multiply handicapped.

Published Works & Articles

- 2015 Fickenscher, M.S., Gaffney, Elizabeth, Dickson, Cheryl L. Editor. *Auditory verbal strategies to build listening and spoken language skills*. www.auditory-verbal-mentoring.com, 2015.
- 2013 Dickson, Cheryl L. *A clinician's guide: adult expectations*. Cochlear, Ltd. Sydney Australia, 2013.
- Dickson, Cheryl L and Caleffe-Schenck, Nancy. *Track a listening child (TLC)*. Cochlear, Ltd. Sydney Australia, 2013.
- Dickson, Cheryl L, Morrison, Helen M and Boucher-Jones, Mary. *The mentors guide to Auditory-Verbal competencies (Year 1-3)*. Copyright © 2013.
- 2012 Estabrooks, W. Editor. *101 FAQs about auditory-verbal practice*. A.G. Bell Association, Washington D.C., 2012 (One Question)
- 2011 Madell, Jane R. and Flexer, Carol. *Pediatric audiology casebook*. Thieme, New York, NY, 2011. (Case Study)
- 2010 Goldberg, D., Dickson, C. and Flexer, C. *Meeting a world-wide need for qualified professionals*. P129. Volta Review, Summer 2010 Vol. 110 No. 2.
- 2009 Dickson, Cheryl L. and Kendrick, Andrew. *Sound foundation for babies*. Cochlear, Ltd. Sydney, Australia, 2009.
- 2003 Estabrooks, Warren; Birkenshaw-Fleming, Lois; Ling, Daniel and Beatty, Ann. *Sounds for listening; sounds for life*. Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf. Washington, D.C. 2003. (Two Lesson Plans)
- 2001 Estabrooks, Warren Editor. *50 FAQs about AVT/50 frequently asked questions about auditory-verbal therapy*. Plural Publishing, San Diego, CA 2001. (Two Questions)

Guest Speaker, Seminars & Workshop Presentations

- 2017 Two Day Workshop for Cochlear, Asia Pacific, Japan. *Current Level of Function and Rate of Progress.*
- 2016 Webinars for Cochlear Asia Pacific Thailand. *Current Level of Function and Rate of Progress.*
- 2015 Four Workshop/Webinars for Victoria Deaf Education Institute . *Auditory-Verbal Basics: Rate of Progress, Audition, Language, Additions to Audition for Special Populations.*
- 2013 Presentation for the Indonesian Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery Society's PITO-vii. *Key factors in successful cochlear implant outcomes: Principle research findings.*
- 2012 Presented a half day short course for the AG Bell Association's biennial convention. *Mentoring today's LSLs for tomorrow's children and families.* June 2012.
- 2011 Presented two day workshop for Cochlear Ltd., Singapore for parents and professionals. April, 2011
- 2005/2006 Presentations on Habilitation for Cochlear Limited
As a part of the regular Cochlear induction training for new staff in Cochlear products, presentations on habilitation.
- 2005 Keynote speaker for International Conference: Hearing Habilitation 2005, Beyond Limits
Key Note Address and two presentations: Teaching Language in the Natural Setting and Assessing Auditory, Speech and Language Skills of the Hearing –Impaired Child
Manila, Philippines
- 2004/2005 Consultant for Renwick College; University of Newcastle
Producing information and lecture content for EDUC6860: Introduction to Auditory-Verbal Practice
- 2004 Consultant for Cochlear Limited
Providing intensive training for therapists in South East Asia
- 2003 Functional and Ongoing Diagnostic Evaluation of Profoundly Deaf Children
Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre
- 2002 Outreach Workshops: Greater Sydney Area
Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre
- 1999 Integration (of Hearing Impaired into the Classroom)
Education Department of the Philippines, Puerto Princesa, Philippines

- 1998 Hands on Workshop on Rehabilitation of Profoundly Hearing Impaired,
Santo Tomas University, Manila, Philippines
- 1998 An Overview of Cochlear Implants
Santo Tomas University, Manila, Philippines
- 1997 Cochlear Implants, The Whole Process (display stand)
International Satellite Symposium on Pediatric Cochlear Implants - Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 1997 Cochlear Implants: Current Trends & Future Directions,
Speech Pathology Conference - Canberra, ACT, Australia
- 1997 Auditory-Verbal Therapy: A Model for Working with Hearing Impaired Children
Speech Pathology Conference - Canberra, ACT, Australia
- 1995 Distance Education Program & Early Intervention (presentation & booklet)
Auditory-Verbal International Conference - Perth, Western Australia
- 1995 Rehabilitation of the Severely to Profoundly Hearing Impaired
Philippine Otolaryngology Annual Conference - Cebu, Philippines
- 1994 Cochlear Implants, Basics, Benefits & Financial Requirements.
Rotary Club, Caboolture, Queensland, Australia
- 1986 Listening Strategies & the Comprehensive Management of Hearing - Impaired Children
Acoupedic Seminar - Denver, Colorado
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