

**AUGUST 12, 2016**

*This is a weekly report from the HLAA national office in Bethesda, Maryland. Please also sign up for the [HLAA e-News](#) where even more news is published.*

## **ADVOCACY**

### **National Academies of Science Report Update**

In June, the National Academies of Science (NAS) issued a groundbreaking report, *Hearing Health Care for Adults: Priorities for Improving Access and Affordability*. HLAA, as one of the sponsors of the report, recently met with all of the other sponsors to discuss the recommendations in the report. HLAA is the only consumer voice at the table, and an important one. The sponsors are working together to move the recommendations forward in a concerted way. Meetings are planned for federal stakeholders and later for other groups, including industries and professional groups. The recommendations are just a blueprint; now the hard work begins, which will include research, studies, public policy, outreach and more. Read more about the report [here](#).

### **Join HLAA in the Fight for Affordable Hearing Health Care**

The NAS report outlined 12 recommendations that would make hearing health care more accessible and more affordable for those with hearing loss. Implementation of the report's recommendations could change the face of hearing health care. HLAA will move to ensure that the recommendations most important to our members and supporters come to fruition, but we can't do it alone.

We need to spread the word about the report to everyone who has an interest in or is touched by hearing loss in some way. We have started a campaign on [Change.org](#) and we need your help to generate momentum. Share the link on your social media feeds such as Facebook and Twitter, tell your friends, tell your doctor...tell everyone you can!

[Click here](#) to go to the campaign page and sign the petition. There you will find more information and links to the NAS report. Sign on to the campaign by completing the information on the right side of the screen, underneath **Sign this Petition**.

Lastly, as progress is made toward implementation of the recommendations we will post updates to the [Change.org page](#) so be sure to check back frequently.

## **CHAPTERS**

### **Attention Chapter Leaders – Do You Have Questions?**

The [Leader Support page](#) of the HLAA website contains a wealth of information. In fact, you can probably find answers to most any question you have. But with so much information maybe you need a little help navigating the site.

**Join us September 1, 2016 from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. (EDT)** for a webinar that will take you on a real-time walkthrough of the Leader Support page. You will learn where to find answers, templates, and other helpful resources to help you do your role as an HLAA Chapter and State Association leader. We will be exploring the following sections of the site:

- Annual Requirements
- Leader Training
- Start a Chapter
- Unified Membership
- Run a Strong Chapter
- Legal/Governance
- Financial
- Publicity/Promotion
- Outreach/Service
- Meetings
- Members/Leaders
- Coordinators
- State Organizations
- Additional Resources

Please join us for this interesting and informative webinar on the topics you deal with every day. More information about how to join the webinar will be coming soon.

## **MORE UPCOMING WEBINARS!**

### **Educational Webinars**

**August 17, 8 p.m. – 9 p.m.**

***Wait – There’s a Student with Hearing Loss Coming into My Class?***

**Presenter:** Kym Meyer, M.S., CCC-A

#### **Summary:**

Children with hearing loss often do not have a professional in their school who understands hearing loss. If you are a teacher/speech pathologist with a new student with hearing loss, this webinar will address the issues that will be important for you to understand to allow your student to access communication and learning. Parents – please join us (you might learn something new), and share this webinar with your child’s teacher!

**September 21, 8 p.m. – 9 p.m.**

***The Patient's Guide to Tinnitus: 2016***

**Presenter:** Douglas L. Beck, Au.D.

### **Summary:**

Taming tinnitus begins with a complete history and audiologic evaluation, and might involve multiple health care professionals depending on the findings. In this webinar we'll detail the types of tests that are useful for diagnosing and managing tinnitus patients (audiometric tests as well as questionnaires, medical consultations, radiographic studies and more), tinnitus classifications (subjective versus objective findings), treatments (medical, audiologic, psychological and more), and the vast multitude of wallet-biopsies, scams, snake-oil and "take the money and run" approaches found in newspapers, airline magazines, food stores and pharmacies.

### **Product/Service Showcase Webinar**

**September 8, 2016**

**Company:** [Ditto](#)

**Presenter:** Neal Pecchenino, Director of Product and Operations

**Come learn about the "anti-gadget"** – Ditto is something to free people from worrying about their smartphones and to be more present in life. Ditto is tiny and elegant. No buttons, switches, lights, displays, or cables. See more at [simplematters.com/how-it-works](http://simplematters.com/how-it-works).

*Products/Service Showcase webinars are in no way to be construed as an endorsement by HLAA.*

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

### **Are You Following HLAA on Social Media?**

Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter!

- Follow Executive Director Barbara Kelley on Twitter [@BKelley\\_HLAA](#).
- Follow HLAA on Facebook at [facebook.com/HearingLossAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/HearingLossAssociation) and on Twitter [@HLAA](#).
- Follow the Walk4Hearing on Facebook at [facebook.com/Walk4Hearing](https://www.facebook.com/Walk4Hearing) and on Twitter [@Walk4Hearing](#).

***NOTE: This Week in Bethesda will not be published on August 19. It will return on August 26.***