

May 27, 2011

Better Hearing and Speech Month



Alan Duncan, MS, CCC/SLP

Since 1927, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has celebrated Better Hearing and Speech Month each May to raise public awareness of speech and language disorders that affect 14 million Americans.

Speech and language disorders can take many forms and can limit academic achievement, social adjustment, and career advancement. An individual may be born with a speech or language disorder, or it may be caused by accidental injury or illness.

"Fortunately, most people with speech and language problems can be helped," said Alan Duncan, Speech-Language Pathologist with Carlsbad Medical Center's

Rehabilitation Therapy Services. "Even if the problem cannot be eliminated, we can

teach people with speech and language problems strategies to help them cope. People may not fully regain their capacity to speak and understand, but a speech-language pathologist can help them live more independently."

Speech-language pathologists are the professionals who treat all types of speech, language, and related disorders. They hold at least a master's degree and are certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Speech-language pathologists work in schools, private practice, hospitals, clinics, and other health and education settings.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is the national professional, scientific and credentialing association for more than 145,000 audiologists, speech-language pathologists and speech, language, and hearing scientists.

For more information on how speech-language therapy can help you or someone you know, call Carlsbad Medical Center's Rehabilitation Therapy Services at 885-1814. They are located at 1034 N. Spring Street.