



Communication is how we think, feel and express our ideas, wants, and needs. It's how we interact with the world!

The Speech-Language Program strives to promote health through the facilitation of good, effective communication skills from birth through all of adulthood. Our services are available to all ages.

Therapeutic intervention and parental training on language and vocabulary-building are available to infants, toddlers and their families. Sessions can also be scheduled to help with your child's IEP goals. Early intervention builds self-worth!

Services for adults and the elderly include, but are not limited to: stroke prevention, aphasia screening including Alzheimer's, hearing screenings and referrals, swallowing (dysphagia) evaluations and treatment, and consultations.



**Rhonda Friedlander, MS
Certified Speech &
Language Pathologist**



AMERICAN
SPEECH-LANGUAGE-
HEARING
ASSOCIATION

Rhonda has over 36 years of experience assessing and helping to treat issues around speech and language difficulties. She can consult with individuals or families at their home or in her office to help them know what issues to bring up to their primary care provider and then incorporate therapy techniques after referral from a doctor or nurse practitioner.

Culturally sensitive assessment and screening is the first step in getting the help needed to improve your communication. Call today!

 (509) 422-4779

 rhonda.friedlander@colvilletribes.com

 169 N End Omak Lake Rd.
Omak, WA 98841

COLVILLE TRIBES
TRIBAL HEALTH



**SPEECH -
LANGUAGE
PROGRAM**

www.cct-hhs.com/tribal-health

A variety of factors can lead to hearing loss and/or speech difficulty, including:

- Prenatal exposure to drugs or alcohol
- Birth complications, genetic abnormalities
- Developmental conditions such as ADHD or autism
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) including concussion, head trauma
- Exposure to loud noise (occupational or recreational including headphones)
- Illness such as meningitis, Long COVID
- Some medications or substance use
- Stroke
- Dementia
- Aging process

Symptoms can include:

- Repeating sounds, which is most often seen in people who stutter
- Making jerky movements while talking, usually involving the head
- Visible frustration when trying to communicate
- Distorting sounds when talking
- Muffling of speech and other sounds
- Difficulty understanding words, especially against background noise or in a crowd
- Trouble hearing consonants (phonemes)
- Frequently asking others to speak more slowly, clearly and loudly
- Needing to turn up the volume of the television or radio
- Withdrawal from conversations
- Avoidance of some social settings

The impact of consuming alcohol during your pregnancy

Language development problems associated with fetal alcohol syndrome are not uncommon. Children with fetal alcohol syndrome can have problems with language acquisition, expressive language and receptive language.

- **Expressive language:** getting their message out to other people, recalling words they know, using wrong parts of speech or inappropriate responses
- **Receptive language:** difficulty understanding or remembering what is said

<https://tinyurl.com/2fh56a5b>

In humans, the critical period for hearing and language development occurs during the first few years of life. A hearing impairment (caused by otitis media, which is more prevalent in AI/AN children), is similar to sensory deprivation and can result in permanent speech, language, and learning disabilities.

<https://tinyurl.com/3r5d5byz>

***Early intervention is key!
Reading with your child is one of
the best activities you can do to
strengthen language skills.***



Speech & Language concerns for aging people

Hearing loss as we age is quite common with 30% of adults over 65 and 50% of adults over 75 experiencing hearing loss. People who have difficulty hearing may feel bad about themselves and withdraw from social situations, become depressed, or put themselves in danger because they didn't hear a warning signal like a car horn.

After a screening, you may be offered assistive technology and ways to improve your communication which will in turn build self-esteem and confidence.

Every year, more than 795,000 people in the United States have a stroke. About 610,000 of these are first or new strokes. If you have a stroke or other major medical event that impacts your speech or hearing, we can help with that, too. Swallowing disorders are common after a stroke and usually can be addressed with the proper therapy and treatment.