

Four Residential Summer Programs Designed for Children and Teens Who Stutter

ASHA Convention November 14th, 2015

Judith Kuster (honorary member of Shady Trails) – Shady Trails, Northport, Michigan, was an early residential summer program designed for children/teens who stutter in the United States. It began in 1932 when John and Grace Clancy opened the camp near Grand Traverse Bay, Michigan. Clancy, himself a person who stuttered, began this historic camp with four boys. Shady Trails closed in 1995 after 63 years of serving several thousand campers ages 8-21. Staff included speech clinicians as well as visiting consultants in the areas of speech pathology, audiology, clinical psychology, medicine, and dentistry. Memories of Shady Trails is online at <http://www.mnsu.edu/comdis/kuster/shadytrails.html>

Taro Alexander (Founder) – Camp SAY is a 2-week residential camp, located on a 500-acre, American Camp Association (ACA)-accredited facility in North Carolina (one-week and shortened stays are also available). Camp SAY (formerly Camp Our Time) was established in 2008, by Taro Alexander, who has stuttered since childhood. Camp SAY welcomes children and teens who stutter (ages 8-18), and their young family members and friends. Camp combines a traditional summer camp experience, with a broad range of programs & activities that build confidence, communication skills and community. Speech Therapy is offered as well, with individual & group sessions personalized to fit each child's communication goals. Our diverse camp staff includes speech-language pathologists, plus certified, specialized activities staff. Financial Aid is available, on a need-basis, for tuition & travel. Learn more at: CampSAY.org.

Kristin Chmela (co-founder and co-director) - Camp Shout Out, provides a therapeutic and training experience in a residential, recreational camp environment held on Big Blue Lake in Holton, Michigan. Camp Shout Out seeks to help children with fluency disorders continue to grow the quality of their lives by becoming the best communicators they can be. Trainees, including graduate students and speech-language pathologists, engage in a unique critical thinking, hands-on learning opportunity with a variety of fluency experts in the field. Camp Shout Out can be found online at <http://campshoutout.org/>

Tricia Zebrowski (founder and director) UISPEAKS for Teens is a week-long residential program at the University of Iowa for teenagers between the ages of 13-18 who stutter. Since 1998, UISPEAKs has been held in early June, with teens from across the country coming to Iowa City for a week of exploration, learning, camaraderie and fun. Our program is designed to give teenagers who stutter a safe and supportive place in which to “let stuttering out”. Our goal is to help teens to develop *their own policies* about speaking and stuttering, including: what changes they want to make and how they will do it; how they will manage the social and emotional challenges they may face related to stuttering and being a person who stutters, and what they want their speech-language pathologists and parents to do to help, and *how to ask for it!* Information about UI Speaks for Teens is online at <http://clas.uiowa.edu/comsci/files/comsci/ui-speaks-teens-2014.pdf>