

Sponsored Silence Committee Chair

Overview of Responsibilities:

The Sponsored Silence is a community event designed to increase public awareness about the importance of communication, the isolation that can occur when communication is disrupted or completely lost, and the role of the speech and hearing professional.

- The Sponsored Silence Chair:
 - Identifies professional(s) interested in organizing a Sponsored Silence event in through their organization, sporting event, etc.
 - Mentors organizers.
 - Provides organizers with information, Sponsored Silence procedures, guidance and help as needed.
- The “Sponsored” Part
 - The event can include the contributions of “sponsors.” Sponsors may be co-workers, students, audience members, etc. who pay a nominal fee to keep the leader quiet! All donations are designated for people with communication disorders to access speech and hearing services.
- Key Steps in Planning a Sponsored Silence Event
 - Choose and solicit the community leader
 - Select a time for the event and define the leader’s activity
 - Determine if sponsorship is appropriate
 - Recruit volunteers to help organize and publicize the event
 - Secure an AAC device for use during the event
 - Discuss what vocabulary/sentences the community leader would like programmed into the AAC device
 - Train the community leader to use the AAC device
 - Arrange media coverage
 - Videotape the event itself and the post-event interviews of the participants