



**Participation  
in all Stroke  
Recovery  
Groups is FREE.**

**The stroke recovery groups at the USC  
Speech and Hearing Research Center  
are for those people who have difficulty  
communicating as a result of a stroke.**

**This problem is referred to as Aphasia.**

### **Do you have Aphasia?**

A person with aphasia might have one or more of these symptoms:

- Difficulty in coming up with the right words to say.
- Difficulty understanding the speech of other people.
- Difficulty reading and writing.

### **What to Expect:**

Each group meets for one hour each week. Individuals are placed in a particular group based on their communication abilities and goals.

Most sessions start with discussions about current events or other things that the group members would like to talk about. Discussions can involve topics such as: spiritual issues, politics, family, past experiences, upcoming events, difficulties encountered as a result of the stroke, etc.

The bulk of each session is focused on improving the group members' ability to communicate. This is accomplished by working on specific language tasks administered by the clinician.

## **Purpose: Why a Stroke Recovery Group?**

The Stroke Recovery Groups provide speech-language therapy to help members improve their communication abilities. The group setting allows a unique opportunity to strengthen communication by interacting with other individuals who have similar communication problems. The groups also provide the opportunity for individuals to receive support and share experiences with other persons who have suffered a stroke.

Each group is lead by a master's or doctoral student in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at USC and supervised by an experienced and certified speech-language pathologist.

Participation in all Stroke Recovery Groups is FREE. There are also opportunities to participate in research studies at the Center.

**Julius Fridriksson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP** is a certified speech-language pathologist and associate professor at USC in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, as well as an adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Neuropsychiatry at the USC School of Medicine. Dr. Fridriksson conducts extensive research in the area of stroke recovery.



**Charley Adams, Ph.D., CCC-SLP** is a certified speech-language pathologist and clinical assistant professor at the USC Speech and Hearing Research Center with extensive experience treating persons with difficulty communicating as a result of stroke.



**Sarah Scarborough, M.S., CCC-SLP** is a certified speech-language pathologist and clinical instructor at the USC Speech and Hearing Research Center with extensive experience treating persons with difficulty communicating as a result of stroke.



### **Who comes to group meetings?**

The Stroke Recovery Groups are for persons who have difficulty in communication as a result of stroke. This may include: 1. A person who suffered a stroke recently and has been discharged from speech therapy, but would like to continue to make communication progress, 2. A person who suffered a stroke a long time ago, but would like the benefit of improved communication, as well as social support from other persons with a similar background or, 3. A person who has not been participating in life as much as before the stroke and who would like to interact with other stroke survivors who have had to deal with some of the same difficulties.

## **USC Speech and Hearing Research Center Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders**

Arnold School of Public Health  
University of South Carolina

**803-777-2614**

**[www.sph.sc.edu/shc](http://www.sph.sc.edu/shc)**

If you, a family member, or a friend would like to participate in a Stroke Recovery Group, or if you want to find out if you are eligible, please call us at (803) 777-2614.

The USC Speech and Hearing Research Center is located at  
1601 St Julian Place  
Columbia, SC 29204  
(on the corner of Forest Drive at Middleburg Office Park)

**Speech & Hearing Research Center**

# **Stroke Recovery Groups**

for persons with aphasia

