

## A Spotlight on Chapter Conferences

Two recent regional HLAA events are serving as a model for other HLAA Chapters and State Organizations to emulate: the second **HLAA Southeast Pennsylvania (SE PA) Conference** on April 13 and the **HLAA Wisconsin State Conference**, “Shine New Light on Hearing Loss,” April 26–27. Both spring conferences featured speakers on a range of hearing-related topics, buffet lunch and plenty of socializing time, all for a nominal admission charge—with attendance close to 100 people, including many new to HLAA.

In Pennsylvania, four area chapters pooled their funds from the previous year’s Walk4Hearing and organized the one-day conference jointly. The speakers were educational audiologist Tina Childress, Au.D., and HLAA Executive Director Barbara Kelley. The two-day Wisconsin State Conference was organized by HLAA Fox Valley Chapter with a range of presenters, including Nicholas Reed, Au.D., Tina Childress and Ruth Litovsky, Ph.D., sharing the latest information about research, technology, advocacy and more.

If you’d like to explore a chapter conference in your area, email HLAA Chapter Engagement Manager Melissa Kruse at [mkruse@hearingloss.org](mailto:mkruse@hearingloss.org).



*HLAA Executive Director Barbara Kelley with Mike Miles at the HLAA SE PA Conference in April*



*HLAA SE PA Conference attendees*



*HLAA Wisconsin State Conference exhibitors*



*100+ attended the HLAA Wisconsin State Conference*



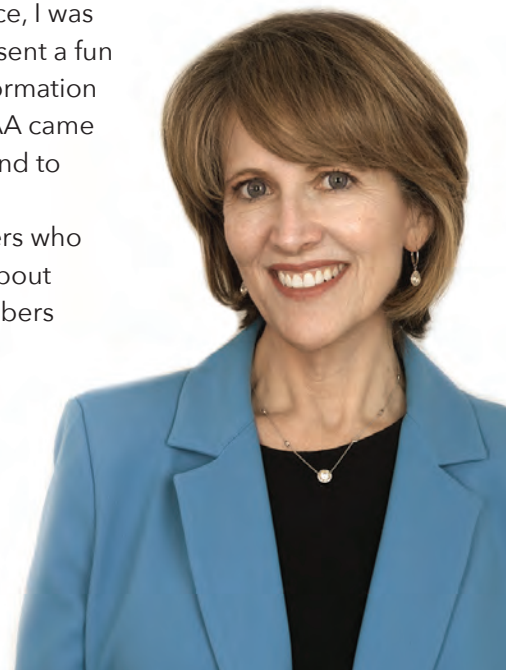
*Tina Childress, Au.D., presented at the HLAA SE PA Conference*

**A**s a guest speaker at the HLAA Southeast Pennsylvania Conference, I was impressed by how four regional chapters joined together to present a fun and educational event. People new to HLAA attended to get information and some were inspired to start a chapter or join one. Stalwarts of HLAA came with a refreshed outlook of how important their work is in the region and to learn something new.

HLAA Chapters don't just happen, they take dedicated volunteers who realize there are others in the community who just might like to hear about HLAA. Chapters create a community of support where individual members bring hope to people with hearing loss. It's passionate and dedicated volunteers like those in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin who get involved initially to help themselves, then turn around and help others.

We hope more chapters can pull together in a region to hold one or two-day conferences such as those described here. Start simple, start small, see what happens and build on your success!

— Barbara Kelley, HLAA Executive Director



**HLAA**

**CHAPTERS & STATE ORGANIZATIONS**

## **Join a Chapter** *Learn that you're not alone in your hearing journey!*

Find an HLAA Chapter near you by visiting [hearingloss.org/find-a-chapter](https://hearingloss.org/find-a-chapter). For more information, including how to start a chapter, contact Melissa Kruse, HLAA chapter engagement manager, at [chapters@hearingloss.org](mailto:chapters@hearingloss.org).

