



The University of Montana's Big Sky Aphasia Program Chooses OmniJoin for Telepractice



About

The mission of the Big Sky Aphasia Program (BSAP) at the University of Montana is to provide high-quality, cost-effective, research-driven speech and language therapy to individuals with aphasia and associated deficits resulting from stroke and traumatic brain injury, while serving as a clinical training facility for graduate student clinicians who attend the Communicative Sciences and Disorders program at the University of Montana. All of their services are delivered by graduate student clinicians from the Department of Communicative Sciences and Disorders Masters of Science Speech-Language Pathology Program at the University of Montana under the supervision of ASHA-certified and state-licensed speech-language pathologists.

The Need

The Big Sky Aphasia Program is a clinic based at the University of Montana, located in Missoula, Montana. The clinic delivers a variety of aphasia services including comprehensive evaluations, traditional and intensive therapy, and community aphasia groups. These services are delivered both in-person, and remotely via web and video conferencing. This remote therapy is called “telepractice,” which is the application of telecommunications technology to the delivery of speech language pathology and audiology professional services at a distance by linking clinician to client/patient or clinician to clinician for assessment, intervention, and/or consultation. Telepractice was a newly authorized process for speech pathologists in the state of Montana, with legislation passed in October 2013.

The Solution

The Big Sky Aphasia program uses OmniJoin[®] for telepractice speech therapy sessions almost every day. The majority of their clients are adult stroke survivors

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Catherine Off, Director, Big Sky Aphasia Program

who have communication disorders (trouble speaking, reading, writing, etc.), but they also offer services to caregivers who are a vital part of successful therapy. They have clients who live in rural regions of Montana who cannot get high quality speech therapy services, who do not have a speech therapist nearby, who do not have reliable transportation, or who have significant medical issues that make travel difficult for them. The Big Sky Aphasia Program uses OmniJoin to connect these patients with their therapists in a personalized, remote integration. Their services also extend outside of Montana for patients who leave the state, but who wish to continue with the program.

“Both our clinicians and our clients love OmniJoin’s user-friendly interface. Being able to share documents and websites quickly makes therapy dynamic and easy to plan,” noted Catherine Off, Director, Big Sky Aphasia Program.

Connect with a Conferencing Expert

When it comes to web conferencing, the first step is connecting with one of our experts to better understand your needs. **Learn how to meet smarter!**

Measurable Benefits

- Helps deliver high quality speech therapy to patients regardless of location
- User-friendly interface for both clinicians and clients
- Collaboration tools for sharing documents and websites