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|  ***Comments from Conference Participants******Following Presentations by Karen L. Anderson, PhD*** |
| *I just wanted to thank you for bringing Karen Anderson to PA! She was an excellent presenter and she possesses such a wealth of  knowledge & information. I wish our one day with her could have been at least three but I'm not going to be selfish...just grateful that I had the opportunity to learn from her today! With appreciation!  Terri Cohen-Johnson, M.Ed., LSLS Cert AVEd., Norristown, PA* |
| *Dear Karen -- THANK YOU for such an excellent presentation today!  EVERYTHING you presented is the core of what we need to coach and guide students with to help them reach their potential. As Common Core Standards are adopted by most states -- and as budget reductions are faced annually -- your provision of data collecting mechanisms are of utmost importance.  Data drives monetary decisions and although the deaf/hard of hearing population is a minority of student population, it is critical that we advocate for services using data driven information. Today, you presented a multitude of research to demonstrate the true need of our students if they are to find success in the mainstream educational environment and provided comparison data with hearing peers -- a most critical piece to include in IEPs and also during budgetary discussions regarding service needs.  Such information and tools for tracking growth rate are most critical for improving funding for students with hearing loss.  On behalf of the students I have worked with over the years -- and continue to serve -- thank you. Marcia A. Zegar, MA, CCC-SLP, LSLS AVEd,  Salem, Oregon* |
| *There is so much useful and practical information to review and learn from Karen Anderson’s workshops and from talking with others; it’s almost overwhelming. The conference answered several questions I have been trying to answer professionally for years. The perennial questions “What do you do?” and “How are you different than speech and special ed teachers?" were answered in an honest, professional, and direct way. If only I can copy those responses when put on the spot at meetings! The structured way to analyze and use data to show progress and needs is extremely valuable. Everything flowed and guided IEP goals. Advocacy is an area developed throughout all grade levels. The ideas presented were clear and thorough and start conversations that are important to our students to become advocates.Within a few weeks after the conference, I was given two evaluations on new students. I could hear Karen Anderson’s presentation about access in my head as I answered questions from the CSE chairpeople regarding the need for services and equipment.     ESSP Association Newsletter* |
| *This conference was the most amazing conference we have ever had.  Karen Anderson showered us with valuable information and tools to enable us to rise to a higher level of service providers and professionals. Now, I feel able to clearly document my services, my student's abilities/needs, and my value to the D/hh students and our school system.  I am truly amazed that we have been freely given all these wonderful resources. Her knowledge and expertise is tremendous, and I am deeply grateful. I believe this will be my most meaningful and productive school year thanks to this conference and Building Skills for Success in the Fast-Paced Classroom!           VA conference attendee* |