



Support Network Overview

An integral part of the Mission of Dysphonia International is to ensure that people living with spasmodic dysphonia and related voice conditions feel connected to our community. We utilize a multi-faceted approach, including a regional structure, to help foster support. Through this outreach, we hope to build a strong network for people living with voice conditions, family and friends, and healthcare professionals.

The Support Network Committee oversees these initiatives, which is comprised of:

Support Network Director | Mary Bifaro – pbifaro@carolina.rr.com

Oversees the activities of the support network and serves as a liaison to the Board

Area Contact Director | Dennis Kaszeta – denniskaszeta@yahoo.com

Responsible for the recruitment, development, and engagement of Area Contact Leaders

Area Contact Communications Coordinator | Patricia Hill – smilingpat10@gmail.com

Supports the efforts of the Area Contact Director and keeps in communication with ACLs

Regional Coordinators | John Comer – jrc2219@msn.com | Carol Doles – carol.doles@gmail.com

Responsible for mentoring, nurturing, and encouraging Support Group Leaders and referring new contacts to the local Support Groups and Area Contact Leaders

Support Group Development | Led by David Barton – dsbarton@gmail.com

Responsible for identifying needed locations and cultivating new support groups.

Online Support | Led by David Barton and Dot Sowerby – dsowerby@aol.com

Responsible for identifying and welcoming new people via email.

Support Leadership Development | Led by Mary Bifaro with Carol Doles

Serves as a resource for new and existing support group leaders. This committee complements the advice and support being given by staff and our Regional Coordinators along with serving as mentors to support leaders