



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Aphasia Connects* - Aphasia Health Initiative for Triangle Area**

Pinehurst, NC (November 9, 2016) - TAP, Unlimited is pleased to announce that the community-based nonprofit has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from The Ribbon of Hope program of the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation.

Aphasia Connects is a health initiative with activities that provide a bridge for people with aphasia to reengage within the community while improving an individual's competence and confidence in social settings. This expansion of the organization's passionate LPAA directive (Life Participation Approach to Aphasia), targets relationship building and increased use of language and social interaction. Maura English Silverman explains, "The partnership with The Ribbon of Hope program aims to impact those with aphasia by decreasing a sense of social isolation and improving one's sense of self-worth."

Unique to *Aphasia Connects* is the pairing of aphasia individuals with at-risk children from another local nonprofit, Read and Feed. All participants experience language challenges and will benefit from activities to enrich social communication, improve reading skills, and foster empathy for challenges and levels of disability.

About TAP, Unlimited: Founded to advance aphasia-specific programs and services for individuals, their families, health professionals, and the community, TAP Unlimited has a regional service area including the counties of Moore, Forsyth, Wake, Durham, Orange and Johnston. Group therapy sessions are locally based and provided throughout the Triangle Area including Pinehurst, Winston-Salem, Raleigh, Cary, Durham, Chapel Hill, Clayton, Apex, and Holly Springs with expansion requests into Wake Forest and Asheboro. Visit us at www.aphasiaproject.org

About the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation: The North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation is an independent self-funding 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supporting activities that help meet the educational and health needs of today's society and future generations. Since its creation in 1986, the foundation has granted \$71.0 million to support North Carolina projects and programs that emphasize the understanding and application of science, health and education at all academic and professional levels. Visit us at NCGSKFoundation.org.