Demystifying aphasia

Aphasia is the loss of the ability to use or comprehend words, due to a brain injury, stroke or aneurysm. Impairs the ability to communicate. Strictly related to language, including speaking, listening, reading and writing—NOT related to intelligence.

**FAST FACTS**

- **2 million+** people in the United States are currently affected by aphasia.
- **180,000** Americans acquire the disorder each year.
- Recovery is possible through treatment.

**TREATMENT OPTIONS**

Treatment is available through one-on-one speech therapy with speech-language pathologists (SLPs) in hospitals, rehab centers, skilled nursing facilities, clinics, or at home.

May also involve:

- Working on a digital therapy app to target specific skill areas.
- A weekly book club or video conference to practice conversation skills.
- Participating in research studies to help scientists discover the most effective ways to treat aphasia.

**FAMOUS PEOPLE WITH APHASIA**

- **Randy Travis**, Country music singer
- **Gabby Giffords**, U.S. Representative (AZ)
- **Sharon Stone**, Actor
- **Ralph Waldo Emerson**, Author & Philosopher
- **Dick Clark**, Radio & TV Personality
- **Dwight Eisenhower**, 34th U.S. President

Because of the brain’s plasticity, there is no end to recovery.