How do I know if I am appropriate for the Aphasia Day Treatment Therapy Program?
If you have experienced difficulty communicating following any neurological event, such as stroke or traumatic brain injury, our program may be appropriate for you. Your primary care physician, neurologist or other medical professional may make a referral for you.

Where do the program participants come from?
Patients come from inpatient settings, Traurig Transitional Living Center or the community.

Will my medical insurance cover services?
Aphasia Day Treatment is covered by most commercial insurances as well as Medicaid. Gaylord staff will work with you to verify benefit coverage or to discuss treatment costs that may not be covered by insurance.

What else does Gaylord Specialty Healthcare offer?
Gaylord Hospital is a specialty hospital that provides inpatient care for complex medical patients needing intensive rehabilitation.

Gaylord Outpatient Services provides:
• Speech, Physical, and Occupational Therapy
• Aquatic Therapy and Aquacize
• Gaylord Hearing Center
• Gaylord Center for Concussion Care
• Physiatry Consultations
• Psychology and Neuropsychology Evaluations
• Wheelchair Assessment Services and more

Gaylord sponsors support groups and can provide recommendations when prosthetics, orthotics and rehabilitation equipment are required.

Gaylord Physical Therapy Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, at 8 Devine Street in North Haven, specializes in musculoskeletal conditions requiring therapy, sports injuries and return-to-play progression following concussion.
The Gaylord Advantage

The Aphasia Day Treatment Therapy Program is an intensive outpatient rehabilitation program for people with aphasia following an acquired brain injury such as a stroke, brain tumor or other neurological condition. This full-day program, which runs three days a week for community participants and five days a week for Traurig Transitional Living Center residents, includes individual and group treatments based on the needs of each participant.

The program strives to maximize functional communication and emotional well-being by using a wide range of resources and tools. Specially trained staff give instruction on meal planning and preparation, while others focus on the latest technology by using iPad apps to increase independence.

The number of participants for each session is kept small, which allows for healthy interaction between participants and staff. Family members are encouraged to take an active role in the program.

Specialized groups include:
- Communication Group
- Social Communication Lunch Group
- Psychosocial Group

Individual therapies may include speech therapy, physical therapy, aquatic therapy, occupational therapy, and psychology.

What is aphasia?

Aphasia is an acquired communication disorder that impairs a person’s ability to process language, but does not affect intelligence. Aphasia impairs the ability to speak and understand others, and most people experience difficulty reading and writing.

Are all cases of aphasia alike?

No. There are many types of aphasia. Some people have difficulty speaking. Others may struggle to follow a conversation. For some, aphasia is fairly mild and you might not notice it right away. In others, it can be very severe, affecting the person’s ability to speak, write, read, and listen. While specific symptoms can vary greatly, all people with aphasia have difficulty communicating.

Tips for Communicating with People Who Have Aphasia

- Give the person with aphasia time to speak and do not finish the person’s sentences unless asked.
- Be sensitive to background noise. Turn off competing sounds coming from devices such as radios or televisions.
- Be open to using means of communicating other than speech; try to use drawing and or hand gestures, for example.
- Confirm that you are communicating successfully.

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To be considered for admission to the program, a person should:

- Be at least 15 years of age and medically stable
- Demonstrate aphasia symptoms
- Be able to verbally express or otherwise communicate needs. Those who are severely impaired can communicate needs using written expression, gesturing or using Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices.
- Be able to tolerate and benefit from the program schedule
- Be able and willing to benefit from and participate in the group treatment setting
- Be free from active substance abuse
- Be independent with toileting
- Be able to follow instructions and navigate from one treatment area to another. Must be physically able to transport him/herself within the designated outpatient treatment settings.
- Be less than one year following the injury
- Be able to commit to a three-month program