

Welcome / About this Issue

Welcome to the first issue for 2010 of the ProCare newsletter! In this edition, we feature an article on school-based therapy – who it helps, what it encompasses, and why it's important. We have also included our list of upcoming tradeshows and recruiting events – be sure to stop by and see us if you plan to attend any of the events!

Our Therapist of the Quarter, Sherilyn Holzer, is also featured, along with our Recruiter of the Quarter, Meredith Stone. We are pleased to introduce them both to you as part of our ProCare family!

April is OT Month. We want to take a moment to thank all of our wonderful occupational therapists for their hard work and dedication to helping students and patients improve their performance of daily tasks.

Meredith Stone

Director of Educational Resources



Who Does School-Based Therapy Help?

While therapy services are available in the community, school-based therapy is helpful for many different people.

School-based therapy can cover a wide range of services from psychologists, school nurses, speech and language pathologists, special education teachers, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and sign language interpreters. Some of these services are available from professionals on an outpatient basis outside of school. Make sure to read on to find out why these services are offered in school settings and how school-based therapy helps students.

Students with Developmental Disabilities

The school district's special education team can come together to create the best learning environment for

students with developmental disabilities. Special education teachers can help teach students who are unable to attend mainstream classes with their peers. Speech-language pathologists can help these students learn the communication skills they need to make themselves heard. Occupational and physical therapists can help them with the physical challenges they need to overcome.

Students with Behavioral Problems

Many students are recommended for counseling when behavioral problems occur during the school day. Behavior can be a symptom of mental illness or

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Who Does School-Based Therapy Help?

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ADHD, or it can be a manifestation of problems at home. The loss of a loved one, divorce, or having to move can be troubling for students, causing them to act out. Because these behaviors are usually identified at school, it is a likely place to address the issues causing them.

Students from Abusive Homes

Sadly, some students who need services would not get them if it was left up to their parents. Students who suffer from physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect at the hands of their parents are not going to have the opportunity to seek treatment outside of school. School-based therapy allows these students to get the help they need during the safety of the school day.

The School District

Offering school-based therapy also helps the school district on many different levels. By providing therapy services to students within the confines of the school day, students do not have to be taken out of school as often for medical appointments, boosting attendance rates. Teachers can be involved in the treatment programs of their students, providing feedback on students' progress, communicating any concerns they may have, and incorporating recommendations provided by the therapy team. Students miss less class time when they do not have to leave school for therapy and often perform better in class as their therapy work progresses.

Recruiter of the Quarter – *Meredith Stone*



Meredith joined the ProCare Therapy team in early 2009. Meredith's previous background included recruiting

executive-level professionals into corporate placements. She knew she loved helping others find the perfect job and decided to continue that in the health arena. Working through her therapists,

placing candidates, and filling clients' needs are a part of her daily routine. She has placed candidates all the way from California to Georgia and is looking forward to continued growth throughout the United States. Meredith will be attending the CSHA conference in April, so stop by and say hello!

Meredith is looking forward to what 2010 holds and hopes to help many new therapists find exactly what they are looking for in their next placement!

Visit us at AOTA!

Meet ProCare at the 2010 AOTA Convention in Orlando, Florida, on April 29 – May 1. Our directors will be available during the 3-day conference at the Orange County Conference Center. We look forward to seeing you in sunny Florida!

Upcoming Events:

TSHA

March 25-27, 2010
Fort Worth Convention Center
Fort Worth, Texas

CSHA

April 15-18, 2010
Monterey Convention Center
Monterey, California

ASHA

November 18-20, 2010
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Featured Jobs

Believe it or not, it is time to start planning for the upcoming school year! The below cites and states are interviewing now for jobs starting in the fall of 2010-2011 for OT and SLP positions.

California
Texas
Maryland
South Carolina
Michigan
Connecticut
Kentucky
Washington D.C.
Oregon

Therapist of the Quarter – Sherilyn Holzer



“Congratulations, Sherilyn Holzer has been admitted to the University of New Hampshire.” After reading that sentence on my acceptance letter, that is when my

journey as a healthcare professional began. My freshman year, I chose an undeclared, liberal arts major. I knew that I really enjoyed the sciences and that I wanted to help people. Surprisingly, I had never heard of occupational therapy before going to college.

When reading course descriptions, a class called “Exploring Occupational

Therapy” caught my attention. I was intrigued, and I signed up for the class. I enjoyed the lectures and the assignments and decided to continue with the curriculum. Although it was a rigorous program, I persevered because I knew that it would be a rewarding career. I completed the five-year program and received a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy. I later passed the national board certification exam.

I enjoyed living in New Hampshire, but I wanted to move to a warmer climate. I was up for going anywhere! My spontaneity made my decision very difficult. After about a month of reading endless pediatric job descriptions and sending my

resume to various locations, I came across ProCare on the internet. I looked into the company more and decided to make a call. I told my recruiter what I was looking for, and she diligently found a job that matched my interests.

I have been working as a school-based therapist in Maryland since May of 2009. I adore the children on my caseload, and my coworkers are all very helpful and friendly. I feel very fortunate to be able to work as a team and empower children with special needs to reach their educational goals.

ProCare, thank you for being a part of my journey.

Ask ProCare

Is occupational therapy a stressful job?

Occupational therapy consistently receives praise for being a great profession. In fact, *Money Magazine* ranked occupational therapy as number nine on a list of the least stressful jobs with half of the occupational therapy practitioners surveyed saying their job was low

stress. They also reported that occupational therapy is a rewarding profession with a lot of flexibility.

Are there many men in occupational therapy?

The number of men in occupational therapy is growing! Men now represent over ten percent of the occupational therapy workforce –

up from just six percent 15 years ago. Occupational therapy has been one of those best-kept secrets, but the cat is out of the bag. NPR recently did a segment on occupational therapy highlighting that it pays well, it’s flexible, and it’s steady work with a future of 20 percent growth in a receding economy.



Do you have questions for ProCare?

Submit them to newsletter@procaretherapy.com and we’ll answer them in the next newsletter.

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