

Tara C. Hepler

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EDUCATION

Northwestern University - *Chicago, IL* - 2020

- Doctor of Speech-Language Pathology

Texas Christian University - *Fort Worth, TX* - 2010

- Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology
- Emphasis in Bilingual Speech-Language Pathology

James Madison University - *Harrisonburg, VA* - 2008

- Bachelor of Arts in Communication Sciences and Disorders
- Bachelor of Arts in Spanish
 - University of Salamanca - *Salamanca, Spain* - Summer 2007

WORK EXPERIENCE

Hanover Health and Rehabilitation - *Mechanicsville, VA* - November 2012 - Present

Sole Speech-Language Pathologist in 120-bed facility; Rehab Backup Manager 2014-2016

- Screen, evaluate and treat adult patients with deficits related to CVA, TBI, tracheostomy, head/neck cancer, dysphagia, dysarthria, aphasia, etc., in an inpatient rehab setting using a team-based approach. Typically see 8-15 patients per day
- Supervise graduate-student clinicians and clinical fellows in their CFY
- Nominated employee of the month twice since date of hire
- Perform regular staff inservices related to topics of best practice, improving swallow and cognitive screens, tracheostomy care, oral care, etc.

COBB Pediatric Therapy Services - *Polk, County, FL* - August 2011 - August 2012

Bilingual Speech-Language Pathologist

- Served on a bilingual, multidisciplinary team evaluating 3- to 5-year-old bilingual (Spanish/English) and monolingual Spanish-speaking children for speech, language, fluency, autism spectrum disorder, developmental delays, and intellectual disabilities
- Screened vision, hearing, speech, and development of children with suspected delays
- Evaluated children who spoke Haitian Creole, Russian, and Korean, with an interpreter

TALK, L.C. - *Richmond, VA* - February 2011 - June 2011

Speech-Language Pathologist - Clinical Fellow

- Assessed and treated elementary, middle, and high school students with speech and language disorders in public and private school settings in both English and Spanish

Miller Speech and Hearing Clinic - *Fort Worth, TX* - January 2009 - December 2010

Graduate Student Clinician

- Evaluated and treated articulation, language, voice, cognition, aural rehabilitation and accent modification in children/adults in English and Spanish
- Performed audiological screenings on children and adults

D. Wayne Tidwell Voice Center - *Baylor All Saints Medical Center - Fort Worth, TX* - May 2010 - July 2010

Graduate Student Clinician

- Completed perceptual and formal acoustical analyses of voice; utilized rigid and flexible videoendoscopy/stroboscopy
- Conducted voice treatment targeting resonance, respiration, pitch, loudness, vocal function, relaxation and prosody
- Provided counseling/education on anatomy/physiology of voice production, vocal hygiene, and vocal abuse
- Administered bedside swallowing assessments and provided traditional swallowing therapy

Cook Children's Medical Center - *Arlington, TX* - January 2010 - April 2010

Graduate Student Clinician

- Assessed and treated children for speech/language impairments in English/Spanish in an outpatient setting
- Treated children with cochlear implants and/or hearing aids and speech/language delays using Auditory Verbal Therapy (AVT)

Head Start - *Fort Worth, TX* - January 2009 - December 2009

Graduate Student Clinician

- Evaluated and treated preschoolers for speech/language impairments in English/Spanish

CERTIFICATIONS

- Online Teaching Certification - *Longwood University* - February 2020
- Harvard BOK Higher Education Teaching Certification - *Harvard University* - December 2019
- VitalStim Certification - September 2013
- McNeill Dysphagia Therapy Program (MDTP) Certification - March 2014
- Second Language - near-native proficiency in verbal/written Spanish

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- **Graduate-Clinician Supervisor** - *Hanover Health and Rehabilitation Center* - 2013 - Present
 - Supervise 3 graduate-student clinicians per year in their semester-long placements
- **Clinical-Fellow Supervisor** - *Medical Facilities of America* - 2014 - Present
 - Supervise, mentor, and support newly-licensed Speech-Language Pathologists throughout their Clinical Fellowship Year
- **Small Group Leader** - *Hill City Church* - Spring 2017 - Present
 - Lead 8-12 women through weekly organized discussions and real-life problem solving
 - Plan events, facilitate communication, and motivate toward goal-oriented living
- **Communication Sciences and Disorders Advisory Committee** - *Longwood University* - December 2018 - Present
 - Collaborate about coursework, program development, externship preparation, and various aspects of undergraduate and graduate program operations

RESEARCH

- Culminating Project for Doctorate - 2020
 - *Using Standardized Patients to Develop Case History Skills - A Scoping Review*
- Master's Thesis - 2010
 - *Phonological Productions of Puerto Rican Spanish-Speaking Preschoolers*
- Graduate Assistant - 2009-2010
 - Researched and performed fluency analysis on Spanish-speaking children who stutter

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Hispanic Caucus - ASHA Multicultural Constituency Group; 2012 - present
- American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA); 2011 - present
- National Student Speech Language and Hearing Association; 2007 - 2010