

D. RENEE' ATTAWAY

Profile: An experienced Speech-Language Pathologist with fifteen years of experience providing speech and language intervention to clients between the ages of 2 to 19 years. Background includes experience in both intervention and administration. As a clinician, Renee' has worked as a social cognitive specialist offering therapy for preschool to high school aged clients, taught a preschool classroom, offered individual therapy, and supervised graduate students and clinical fellows. Renee is the founder and director of Social Learning at The Parish School, a program that fully implements the Social Thinking® model developed by Michelle Garcia Winner (www.socialthinking.com). This program for children in the Houston area offers therapy for social cognitive disorders, parent groups, overnight camps, and workshops. Renee is an enthusiastic and knowledgeable presenter with experience in offering workshops and trainings to professionals at the statewide Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Houston Association of Communication Disorders, Weekday Presbyterian Childcare Conference, and many other local and school trainings.

Education: **Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders**, Baylor University
May 2000

Bachelor of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders, Oklahoma State University, December 1998, *General Honors Award*

Honors: National Merit Scholar, Outstanding Senior in Communication Sciences and Disorders Department, Lou-Wentz Research Award, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Professional Experience: **Think Social Publishing**, 2012-present

Speaker with The Social Thinking® Training and Speakers Collaborative, 2012-present

- Speaking for various workshops, conferences, school districts and organizations in one-two day workshops
- Training professionals in the Social Thinking® model throughout the United States and Canada
- Completing yearly trainings and participation in continuing learning on Social Thinking®

The Parish School, June 2000 to present, Houston, Texas

Director of Social Learning/ Social-Cognitive Specialist, August 2008- present

- Coordinate all programs including therapy sessions, parent groups, and social camp
- Enroll and schedule all therapy clients for both groups and individual therapy
- Conduct social cognitive groups and individual therapy for students between ages of preschool and high school
- Oversee and mentor therapists providing social cognitive groups within the program
- Plan, organize, and direct Camp Social Superheroes (our week-long social camp for 8 to 12 year olds at Camp For All using Social Thinking®) and Camp Connect (social learning camp for teens)
- Organize and present at the monthly Social Thinking at Parish Parent Group

- Conduct social cognitive evaluations and enroll students in the program
- Maintain budget and overall structure of program
- Develop therapy contracts and paperwork for clients and program enrollment
- Act as liaison between program and The Parish School by acting as a department head
- Coordinate the implementation of Social Thinking® into Parish School elementary and preschool programs
- Provide workshops and training locally to schools, professionals, and parents
- Organize meetings of the Social Group Network in Houston, an organization of professionals interested in Social Thinking®

Social Cognitive Specialist, August 2002- present

- Organize and schedule social therapy groups
- Facilitate social cognitive groups for preschool and early elementary students
- Guide the development of social cognitive concepts and play skills
- Maintain clinical notes indicating progress and treatment goals
- Develop lesson plans, therapy plans and progress reports
- Train parents to facilitate social skills for their children
- Communicate progress and concerns to parents and therapy team
- Supervise assistants in delivering social cognitive intervention

Summer Camp Director, Summers of 2005, 2006, 2010

- Planned and coordinated all details of Camp Acorn, The Parish School's Summer Day camp
- Organized summer therapeutic intervention and activities for children 18 months to 12 years old
- Completed admissions procedures for all clients for enrollment in the program
- Designed and disseminated marketing flyers for advertising
- Hired and supervised teaching and clinical staff
- Completed staff training and orientation for all staff and volunteers
- Led orientations and meetings for parents and families of students
- Oversaw and provided troubleshooting daily events and therapy services
- Maintained and reported on budget and program details
- Ensured quality of programming for all clients
- Supported parents and families of students enrolled in the camp
- Acted as a liaison between The Parish School Administration and Camp Acorn programs

Speech Pathology Coordinator, August 2004-February 2007

- Managed speech pathology concerns for The Parish School which included CEUs, disseminating SLP information, licensure concerns, and other tasks
- Organized staff and parent education meetings
- Provided presentations to the school and community members
- Supervised Clinical Fellows and Speech Pathology Interns
- Aided in the continuing development of the curriculum and mission of the school
- Acted as a liaison between administration and preschool teachers by communicating information and representing interests of the preschool team
- Participated in admissions decisions concerning students
- Contributed to team meetings to make decisions about student intervention plans

- Coordinated The Parish School's reaccreditation process for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, including writing and organizing the assessment report

Speech Pathologist/Preschool Teacher, June 2000-February 2007

- Provided group and individual language interventions within a naturalistic preschool setting for children presenting with a variety of diagnoses
- Developed treatment plans in collaboration with parents and outside professionals
- Participated in multi-disciplinary teams (including speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, special education teachers, psychologists, and physical therapists)
- Implemented ongoing assessment in the group classroom model
- Conducted team meetings to develop and discuss intervention techniques
- Communicated assessment and progress through written reports, portfolio assessments, and conferences
- Supervised and provided job assessments for teaching assistants

University of Houston, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, 2008

Director of Cougar Communication Groups

- Designed and implemented a summer group therapy program for graduate students
- Scheduled group therapy sessions targeting language, speech, social, and academics
- Assigned clinicians to therapy groups
- Formed groups and enrolled students in the group therapy program
- Designed forms and paperwork to accompany the program, including resource binders, lesson plans, and group notes
- Provided training and mentorship on offering group speech and language therapy
- Held orientation meetings for clinicians participating in cougar communication groups
- Communicated program details to staff at the University of Houston Communication Sciences and Disorders Department

Clinical Supervisor

- Supervised graduate students offering clinical therapy for clients
- Edited treatment plans, progress reports, and notes of graduate students
- Offered training and mentorship to graduate students offering individual and group speech and language therapy on a variety of diagnoses
- Supervised clinical externs located at public schools in the Houston area

The Speech and Language Connection, 2008

Social Cognitive Group Specialist

- Organized and scheduled social therapy groups at a private speech and language clinic
- Facilitated social cognitive groups for preschool and early elementary students
- Guided the development of social cognitive concepts and play skills

- Maintained clinical notes indicating progress and treatment goals
- Developed lesson plans, therapy plans and progress reports
- Managed billing for clients
- Trained parents to facilitate social skills for their children
- Offered training to other Speech-Language Pathologists beginning social groups

Certifications: Certificate of Clinical Competence, ASHA, 2001
Texas Licensure, 2000

Memberships: American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association (TSHA)
Served as Co-Chair of the Programming Committee for TSHA & Strand Chair for Birth-to-Three from 2007-2009
Houston Association for Communication Disorders (HACD)

Professional Honors: 2003 *Teacher of the Year* at The Parish School