

Preferred February 2010 Newsletter



Registry, Inc.

Connections Newsletter

February 2010

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Our Preferred Team works hard at building close relationships with our Therapists. It is our passion to find you just the right job!

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HOT JOBS!

Supplement your current income with our HOT JOBS!

Please call our office or [check out our website](#) for a more thorough and complete listing of all the many assignments we have ready to fill NOW!

PTs:

[Redding, CA](#) - Ongoing PT help needed. Acute inpatient facility.

[Napa, CA](#) - Intimate hospital in Napa has several PT staffing needs.

[Walnut Creek, CA](#) - Looking for a confident PTA in this clean and fast-paced SNF.

[Antioch, CA](#) - This brand new hospital needs a PT to work inpatient acute. A nice long-term assignment lasting approximately 90 days.

[Carmichael, CA](#) - SNF in Carmichael has a 4-week need for a PT.

[Stockton, CA](#) - This Stockton SNF needs needs a PT for a three-week assignment starting mid-March.

[Stockton, CA](#) - Stockton inpatient facility has a two-month assignment. Start ASAP.

[San Luis Obispo, CA](#) - Ortho sports therapy clinic in San Luis Obispo seeks PT for four days starting March 30.

[San Francisco, CA](#) - San Francisco area hospital has an ongoing need for a PT or PTA throughout March.

no minimum hours requirement

- Up to two weeks of PTO
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- \$700 Referral Bonuses
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CURRENT THERAPY TOPICS

PHYSICAL THERAPY & SPEECH THERAPY

As of January 1, 2010, the therapy cap on combined physical therapy and speech-language-pathology went into effect. If Congress fails to act before March 1, 2010, **an approximate 21% cut in reimbursement will occur.**

APTA is aggressively lobbying Congress to quickly address both the therapy caps and the potential cuts in the fee schedule. Please take action now and [contact your Members of Congress](#) about the urgency of passing legislation to ensure Medicare beneficiaries have access to physical therapy services.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Anthem Blue Cross' new payment model changes the current payment system to one where providers will be paid \$75 per visit regardless of the treatment(s) provided or the intensity of those treatment(s). [Access the OTAC sample letter](#) to take action against this payment system.

[Santa Rosa, CA](#) - Outpatient facility has an ongoing need for a PT or PTA during March.

[San Francisco, CA](#) - San Francisco acute care hospital has an ongoing need for a PT or PTA in March for a total of 11 days.

[Pleasant Hill, CA](#) - East Bay SNF needs a PT on an ongoing basis starting in March.

[San Jose, CA](#) - Seeking a PT to work this great assignment: Mon-Fri 8:00- 4:30 for four months.

[Hayward, CA](#) - PTA needs: one 8-day assignment in April and one two-week assignment in May.

[Santa Clara, CA](#) - Santa Clara SNF needs a PTA for 6 days in March.

[Santa Clara, CA](#) - Outpatient facility in Santa Clara needs two PTs for a two-three month assignment.

[Watsonville, CA](#) - SNF in Watsonville has PT needs 3-5 days a week for 4-6 hours shifts.

[Vacaville, CA](#) - State prison has ongoing and immediate need for a PT.

[Porterville, CA](#) - Porterville SNF has an immediate need for a PT for a four, eight or 13 week assignment.

[San Jose, CA](#) - Hospital needs part time PT or PTA, approximately 15-20 hours per week.

[East Bay, CA](#) - San Leandro SNF has an immediate and ongoing need for a PT or PTA for 6-8 hours a day.

OT/OTA:

[Whittier, CA](#) - This acute rehab center in Whittier has an immediate need for an OT or OTA the month of March.

[San Rafael, CA](#) - SNF needs an OT or OTA for four hour shifts, three-four times a week.

[San Jose, CA](#) - Need OT to work full-time on weekends. Hours are 8:30-5:00.

[San Francisco, CA](#) - Need an OT or Certified Hand Therapist for a great block assignment from March 12-April 30.

[Bay Area, CA](#) - SNF has an ongoing OT need in acute rehab on Saturdays.

[Vacaville, CA](#) - SNF has an ongoing need for an OT to work 6-8

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

[Please contact](#) your U.S. Senators and Representative and request that they co-sponsor S. 1019 in the Senate and H.R. 1646 in the House of Representatives. These bills would allow for a \$500 per hearing aid tax credit every five years.

hours a day.

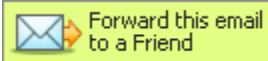
SLP:

[Walnut Creek, CA](#) - SNF needs SLP coverage for maternity leave.

[San Jose, CA](#) - SNF has an immediate need for a SLP. Start ASAP on this two-week assignment.

[Sacramento, CA](#) - SLP to cover maternity leave for approximately three months, starting in May.

Do you know a therapist looking for work?



NEW! EMAIL TIMECARDS



It's Earth Day, Every Day!

As part of our continuing efforts to help reduce waste, Preferred Healthcare Registry will begin to email you blank timecards beginning 2/18/10. This will also help you get your timecards more quickly. **If you prefer to have your timecard sent to you in the U.S. mail, please call Dana at: 800-787-6787 [or email her.](#)**

Getting to Know Your Preferred Healthcare Team:

Pat



When you have questions about your paycheck, contact our payroll expert, Pat. Pat has been with Preferred since August 2008 and brought with her more than 26 years of experience. In addition to her many job duties, she is our "office Mom," always there to lend an ear or a comforting hug. We love Pat, and know you do, too!

What I love about my job: I enjoy the interaction with our Therapists and their comfort with calling the Payroll department with any questions or concerns.

When I am not working here: I enjoy playing golf with my husband and our friends.

My secret personal goal: To be the best at my job and especially my family life.

Preferred's Therapist Spotlight: Pam, SLP



"My participation in the Bolivia Project has had a profound impact on me, both personally and professionally."

Preferred Healthcare Speech-Language Pathologist Pamela recently participated in an

international speech-pathology program abroad. Pam was a clinical supervisor in the [Bolivia Project](#) through the Teachers College at Columbia University. The project's mission is to develop culturally competent SLPs. The program provides TC graduate students in SLP with an academic understanding of linguistics, sociolinguistics, and educational policies in multilingual societies with specific emphasis on the current practices that impact the provision of services to people with communication disorders in Latin America. The focus on research and clinical practice in such a diverse setting as La Paz, Bolivia aims to prepare students to better understand the multicultural and bilingual issues that face clinical professionals in the United States.

Director
Catherine
Crowley MA,
CCC-SLP, JD
began taking
groups of
students to
Bolivia for one



month each summer to provide free speech and language services at established facilities there, supplementing and in many cases working to build up existing services. Under the direction of Crowley and others, the students worked at the Hospital Del Niños, Bolivia's national pediatric hospital; at Camino de Sordos, a school for the deaf; and at Fundacion CEREFEE (Center for Physical Rehabilitation and Special Education), a school for students with developmental disabilities and autism.

Q. How did you get involved in the program?

A. I completed my M.S. in Speech Language Pathology at Teachers College at Columbia University, and I participated in the first year of the Bolivia Project as a student. The M.S. program at TC has a strong bilingual/multicultural emphasis, which was one of the reasons I decided to pursue my degree there. When Cate created the Bolivia Project, I was very interested in the premise, and the opportunity to immerse myself in another culture while learning clinical skills. It proved to be an amazing experience, and I was inspired to pursue a career in the field as a bilingual service provider. Further, I was inspired to pursue opportunities to learn about the needs that exist and the clinical services that are provided in other countries, with the hope of contributing. Since my initial trip, I have traveled twice to Argentina where I volunteered at the University of Buenos Aires - Hospital de Clínicas, and engaged in a research project involving clinical observation and interviews with fonoaudiólogos (professionals certified in both audiology and speech-language pathology).

I currently work as a bilingual SLP in the acute medical setting, including much work with patients with traumatic brain injuries. I have maintained contact with Cate and other professionals at TC and I believe the work they are doing contributes greatly to the field. When Cate asked me to participate in the Bolivia Project as a clinical supervisor, I was thrilled. The program had a huge impact on my professional development and I was excited about supporting students along their path. Also, having seen the acute need for services in Bolivia on my initial visit, I had a strong desire to return and help.



Q. How do you think you made the most impact?

A. I hoped that my background as a TC alumni and a participant in the Bolivia Project, in addition to my professional experiences traveling in South America and my work as a bilingual SLP would prepare me for the task. I was also a fairly recent graduate myself, so I felt I had a good sense of the support the students might need. For many of our students, it is among their first clinical experiences, their initial exposure to a hospital setting and Spanish is not their native language. Working in an

under-resourced medical setting in an impoverished country is a challenging and intense endeavor. Having had similar experiences myself, I could really identify with the students and tried to provide additional encouragement and clinical guidance.

With the patients and their parents, the interactions were very powerful. In many cases, we spent much time reassuring the mothers that their child's condition was not something they themselves had caused; as such beliefs are still prevalent in their culture. We educated the parents about their child's diagnosis and developmental skills, as well as provided training to facilitate carryover of our therapeutic recommendations at home. It was essential that we were sensitive to their culture in our approach and so the students also participated in a seminar course that included information about the social, political, educational and linguistic background in Bolivia to provide them with a deeper understanding upon which to draw. It was a wonderful feeling to see the difference our services provided for the patients and families. An especially memorable moment was watching a mother communicate with her 6 yr old daughter using a picture communication system made by a student. Her daughter has cerebral palsy and is nonverbal. Tears ran down the mother's cheeks to see how much her daughter was capable of and to see her daughter's thirst to learn as she requested book after book. I was also moved to see the transformative effect the experience had on the students and the passion they felt for their work. The students left the experience with a tangible understanding of the fact that people can have very different ideas about health, communication, nutrition, etc., an understanding that will serve them well as they continue in the profession.

An important component of our project is sustainability and we have incorporated several approaches to facilitate continuation of our interventions. In addition to completing family training, we provided direct education and training to medical staff. In the hospital setting where we worked, there was little understanding of dysphagia and aspiration. Introducing strategies to reduce aspiration risk had a considerable impact as upon arrival, we saw many children in the neurosurgery unit being fed in supine. Also, the students prepared presentations and lead discussions regarding relevant topics (i.e. Autism, Feeding and Swallowing, etc.). The attendees included medical professionals, teachers and parents, many of who had traveled great distances to participate. In addition, through a generous donation, the Bolivia Project has been able to install technology at Caminos to enable TC graduate students to provide aural habilitation telepractice via Skype to children newly fitted with hearing aids.



After we returned, I had the opportunity to participate in a poster board and seminar regarding international speech pathology at the ASHA convention in

New Orleans ("Developing Culturally Competent SLPs Through Ongoing International Work in Bolivia" and "Cultural Competence: Achieving Success Through Globalization"). The students presented their experiences from Bolivia and the impact the trip had on their professional development. A lively discussion followed with other professionals committed to furthering appropriate assessment and intervention techniques for service provision to diverse cultural and linguistic populations.

My participation in the Bolivia Project has had a profound impact on me, both personally and professionally. Of special importance to me is that I cannot take for granted the differences that may exist and it is my priority as a clinician to be mindful of this in my daily work with patients across a range of socio-economic, linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

Sincerely yours,
The Preferred Team

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