JULIAN MERCER

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Speech-Language Pathologist with 9+ years across public schools and acute rehabilitation, holding the CCC-SLP. Treats aphasia, dysphagia, and cognitive-communication disorders in adults and articulation, language, and fluency needs in children. Writes measurable goals and tracks progress so families and teams see results.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Speech-Language Pathologist, Inpatient Rehabilitation Sep 2022 - Present
Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, Chicago, IL

- Treat adults after stroke and brain injury, running 8 to 10 sessions a day for aphasia, dysphagia, and cognitive-communication deficits.
- Perform modified barium swallow studies with radiology, and recommend diet textures for about 15 patients a week.
- Helped upgrade 70% of patients on modified diets to a less restrictive level by discharge through targeted swallowing therapy.
- Use standardized tools such as the WAB-R and MoCA to set goals and track change, and report gains in weekly team conferences.
- Train caregivers in communication strategies and safe feeding techniques with teach-back before discharge.
- Lead a voice-treatment group for patients with Parkinson disease using LSVT LOUD techniques.

Speech-Language Pathologist Aug 2018 - Aug 2022
Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, IL

- Served a caseload of 55 students in grades K-5 with language, articulation, and fluency goals across two elementary schools.
- Completed 60 initial evaluations and triennial reviews a year, and wrote IEP goals reviewed by parents and teachers.
- Raised the percentage of students meeting at least one IEP speech goal to 82% by using data tracking and short, frequent sessions.
- Coached classroom teachers on language strategies and visual supports, and saw fewer referrals for behavior concerns.
- Billed Medicaid for eligible services in the school system, with documentation accepted in a state audit.

Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Fellow Sep 2017 - Jun 2018
Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL

- Completed a 9-month clinical fellowship in a hospital outpatient clinic, treating voice, stuttering, and adult neurogenic disorders.
- Observed instrumental swallow evaluations and presented a case on dysphagia after head and neck cancer.
- Earned CCC-SLP at the end of the fellowship with the mentor's sign-off on all competencies.

CORE SKILLS

Aphasia therapy | Dysphagia management | Modified barium swallow studies | Cognitive-communication therapy | Voice therapy | Pediatric language and articulation | IEP writing | Standardized assessment | Augmentative communication | Caregiver training | Medicaid documentation | Epic | Team collaboration | LSVT LOUD

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

CERTIFICATIONS

Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP), ASHA | Illinois Speech-Language Pathologist License, IDFPR | LSVT LOUD Certified Clinician