

# SPOT on

February 2013

Speech Physical Occupational Therapy newsletter



## Welcome to Our Third Issue of SPOTon

The RehabCare Student Programs team is excited to share with you the third issue of our SPOTon newsletter. Each quarter we shine the spotlight on a RehabCare facility, school and student that exemplifies the mission of our department to support the education and advancement of future healthcare professionals.

**Lauren Brody-Terrill**  
AZ, CA, CO, IA, ID, IL, KS, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, WY  
**314.659.2521**  
**lauren.brody@rehabcare.com**

**Jennifer Vincent**  
AL, AR, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, WI, WV  
**502.596.6278**  
**jenn.vincent@rehabcare.com**

## SPOTon Facility

### SPOT On... Making a Difference – 2012

The RehabCare Student Programs team would like to recognize the following locations that have made a difference by providing the most clinical internships within the entire organization.

#### The Top 10 Hospital Locations:

- West Jeff Medical Center, LA
- Kindred Hospital, Corpus Christi, TX
- Provena Covenant, Urbana, IL
- Vibra of Corinth/Atrium Medical Center, Corinth, TX
- Kindred Hospital Chicago Northlake, IL
- Kindred Hospital Mansfield, Fort Worth, TX
- Mission Hospital, TX
- Kindred Hospital Tulsa, OK
- Kindred Hospital San Antonio, TX
- St. Catherine's, East Chicago, IN

#### The Top 10 Nursing Center Locations:

- Kindred Transitional Care and Rehab – Sellersburg, IN
- Kindred Transitional Care and Rehab – Milwaukee, WI
- Kindred Transitional Care and Rehab – Smith Ranch, CA
- Kindred Transitional Care and Rehab – Fountain Circle, KY
- Christian Health, Louisville, KY
- Kindred Transitional Care and Rehab – Cherry Hills, CA
- Kindred Transitional Care and Rehab – Chapel Hill, NC
- Horizons Rehab and Nursing, Brunswick, ME
- Highland Pines, Longview, TX
- Aviston Countryside Manor, Aviston, IL (tie)
- Kindred Nursing and Rehab – Bremen, Bremen, IN (tie) ●

## SPOT<sub>on</sub> Student

by Jenn Vincent

### Amy Derck

Amy Derck is a third year DPT student at Walsh University. She completed her Level II clinical rotation with RehabCare at the Communicare Pebble Creek facility in Akron, Ohio last year. When we asked Amy why she wanted to share her experience with other students and faculty, she said "My experience changed my perspective in working in a skilled nursing facility (SNF). I realized the importance of physical therapy in the geriatric population and my views have positively changed toward a skilled nursing facility."

"My favorite thing about my clinical experience was working with the rehabilitative staff. I felt embraced as part of the team from the minute I walked in the door. They were all very supportive and were invested in my learning experience."

An experience such as Amy's is what we strive for at RehabCare. During a clinical internship our first and foremost goal is to provide our students with a quality rotation by providing them with the best clinicians and resources to help them develop educationally and professionally; we also hope to change the negative impression that students may have about a SNF and Amy's experience with RehabCare did just that.

But, Amy's journey with RehabCare did not stop with her clinical rotation. This summer Amy, along with two other classmates, began working on a research project for Walsh University and RehabCare. The project's main focus is to research why students choose to complete an internship at a SNF and if their perspective on working in a SNF has changed after their internship.

*"My favorite thing about my clinical experience was working with the rehabilitative staff. I felt embraced as part of the team from the minute I walked in the door. They were all very supportive and were invested in my learning experience."*

— Amy Derck

"The research project has been an insightful experience, to which I can relate. There are many misconceptions in working in a SNF and with an elderly population. I had negative connotations prior to my clinical experience when I heard the term SNF. After my clinical rotation, my views



Amy Derck, center

have changed favorably. I believe this project is beneficial for students as our findings may help open students' views on exploring opportunities in this setting."

We are anxious to see the end results from the project and are looking forward to present our findings at the 2014 APTA Combined Sections Conference. Prior to her upcoming graduation, Amy has two more clinical internships lined up. She hopes after graduation to work in an outpatient or skilled nursing setting and become Herdman Certified as she is passionate about treating patients with vestibular disorders. We wish Amy the best of luck as she finishes up her clinical rotations and prepares for graduation.



**NEW! Student Resource Website: [www.rehabcaresstudents.com](http://www.rehabcaresstudents.com)**

Find Us:



## SPOT on School

by Jenn Vincent

### Partnering with Walsh University

The partnership between Walsh University's Doctor of Physical Therapy Program (DPT) and RehabCare (RHB) has flourished during the 2012 school year. Having had successful outcomes with RHB's Clinical Internship Program, the goal was to reach for more than just clinical placement opportunities.

Walsh and RHB have come together to work on a research project that is projected to be presented at the 2014 APTA Combined Sections Conference. The objective of this project is to assess if the experience of a student's clinical rotation at a skilled nursing facility (SNF) changed their perception of SNFs and made them want to work there in the future. Sarah Zuch, Kayla Stewart, and Amy Derck, third year DPT students from Walsh, submitted a research proposal for approval by Walsh University's Institution Review Board on August 13, 2012. Data is expected to be tracked from RHB Clinical Internship students with results reviewed in 2013.

In addition to the research project, RHB provided a lecture to Walsh's first year DPT students on Technology in the Rehab Setting. Matt Sivret, PT, Sr. Director of Clinical Operations and Patricia Weber, Senior Director Information Systems presented the lecture. When asked about what has been

Walsh's experience partnering with RehabCare for guest lectures, Christine McCallum, PT, PhD, GCS, Director of Clinical Education said, "What impressed our students was the openness and honesty from Matt and Patricia during the presentation. They were also impressed that they came from different parts of the country just to present to them!"

*"Partnerships help with building systems and structure. They don't happen overnight, however. RehabCare is a good partner for Walsh..."*

*– Christine McCallum, PT, PhD, GCS, Director of Clinical Education*

As the largest rehabilitation company in the United States, RehabCare takes pride in providing strong clinical education to our students. We also strive to expand our academic partnerships by offering more than just clinical placements. By providing our schools with research project opportunities, guest lecture events, and many more resource avenues,



Walsh University students

we are able to show that we can continue to enhance the student's educational growth whether they are in the classroom or the clinic.

"Partnerships help with building systems and structure. They don't happen overnight, however. RehabCare is a good partner for Walsh, first and foremost because they are responsive and invested in the clinical education process of PT students. The folks I've been in contact with all seem to value students – not just because students are possible future recruits, but because they value training the future providers of health care to the geriatric population." – Christine McCallum, PT, PhD, GCS, Director of Clinical Education

Walsh University has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) of the American Physical Therapy Association since 2005. Walsh University enrolls 2,500+ students in its undergraduate and graduate degree programs. The physical therapy division currently has 32 students in the 2013 class and has 94 students enrolled into the DPT program. ●



## SPOT<sub>on</sub> Events

### January 2013 Events

RehabCare recently attended the APTA Combined Sections Meeting in San Diego, California. In addition to meeting with hundreds of students and practicing physical therapists in the exhibitor hall, representatives were actively involved in attending and presenting at different sessions. Tim Makowski, PT and Area Director of Operations/RehabCare in the Missouri Area and Barb Wallace, Director, Student Programs for RehabCare, were guests on a panel discussion

regarding Innovation in Student Clinical Education following a presentation by clinical instructors from physical therapy schools in Ohio and Kentucky.

Also from the APTA Conference:

#### RehabCare Student Team Sponsors Yoga Session

The RehabCare Student Team sponsored a Yoga class for our Physical Therapy student interns attending the



APTA Conference yoga session

APTA Combined Sections Meeting in San Diego, California. The class was led by Jennifer Chang, DPT and Certified Yoga Instructor. Students enjoyed the 7 a.m. session and were energized to begin their busy day at the conference. ●

### Upcoming Events

Feb 28	Ohio State University, Columbus, OH	March 25	Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA
Feb 28	Rockhurst University, Kansas City, MO	April 4	Intercollegiate OT Night, Philadelphia, PA
March 6	Pacific University, Portland, OR	April 5	Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
March 14	University of the Sciences, Philadelphia, PA	April 12	University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN
March 15	Harcum College, Philadelphia, PA	April 17	University of the Sciences, Philadelphia, PA
March 19	University of Wisconsin – Madison, Madison, WI	April 19	Breanau OT Boot Camp, Gainesville FL
March 21	Houston Community College, Houston, TX	April 23-24	AOTA Assembly of Student Delegates, San Diego, CA
March 22	MPTA Student Conclave, East Lansing, MI		
March 23	University of Texas, San Antonio	April 24-28	AOTA Annual Conference, San Diego, CA