

MARIA STRUM

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EXPERIENCE

March 2023-Present

Speech Language Pathologist and Therapy Coordinator, Aegis Therapies
Clinic coordinator

July 2021-Present

Speech Language Pathologist, Mountain Home Health

Conducted swallow, voice, speech, and language assessments and therapy within rural setting while collaborating with interdisciplinary team

DECEMBER 2018 – July 2021

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, CARILION ROANOKE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Level 1 Trauma Center. Helped create COVID schedule for team of 10 SLP's. One of the first SLP's within our department to work on COVID unit and work within interdisciplinary team for optimal patient care

SEPTEMBER 2018 – DECEMBER 2018

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, LEWIS GALE MEDICAL CENTER

Worked in inpatient rehabilitation facility, created daily schedule with target productivity goal
Assessed and designed specific patient centered care plans within interdisciplinary model

APRIL 2018 – AUGUST 2018

TRAVEL SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, KINGMAN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Worked within inpatient rehabilitation facility, while frequently assisting in acute care. Implemented dysphagia and cognitive linguistic testing and therapy to array of patients. Worked collaboratively within interdisciplinary team model. Independently completed MBSS. Completed patient and family education and training during course of stay and for discharge.

JUNE 2007 – JANUARY 2018

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, SETON MEDICAL CENTER,

Worked in acute care and outpatient setting implementing dysphagia and cognitive linguistic testing and therapy with a variety of patients and diagnoses including stroke, end of life, head and neck cancer, advanced age patients, and tracheotomy. Worked collaboratively with a variety of disciplines to develop interdisciplinary plan of care. Independently completed MBSS
Completed patient, family, and staff education and training. Participated in several committees including rehab congress, cancer care collaborative, stroke team, and several rehab work groups and interdisciplinary rounds. Mentored and supervised graduate students of the University of Texas in Austin.

APRIL 2015– MARCH 2018

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, HEART HOSPITAL AUSTIN

Part-time PRN position in acute care setting that specialize in cardiac surgeries. Independently developed and executed POC including completing MBSS.

MAY 2010 – APRIL 2012

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST, ST. DAVID'S MEDICAL CENTER

Worked within acute, inpatient rehabilitation, and outpatient department in hospital setting. Implemented dysphagia and cognitive linguistic testing and therapy to an array of patients including: spinal cord injuries, TBI, stroke, and orthopedic patients. Completed patient and family education and training regarding: speech, language, cognitive, and dysphagia testing and treatment.

JUNE 2007 – JUNE 2010

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST & COGNITIVE THERAPIST, CORE HEALTHCARE (NOW MENTIS AUSTIN)

Designed and implemented individualized therapy for brain injured adults. Completed formal and informal diagnostic testing on a daily basis. Planned and administered group therapy that focused on social skills, enhancement of self-awareness, problem-solving, academic goals and use of compensatory strategies. Completed family education and training for transition to home setting. Created educational presentations for fellow co-workers and staff.

EDUCATION

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS: SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION OF THE SPEECH AND HEARING HANDICAPPED

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGE AT FREDONIA

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Brain Injury Specialist through AACBIS
- CPR and First Aid Certified
- 200hr. Yoga Certification
- VitalStim Certified

Maria Strum
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10/6/2023

Dear UNM Speech and Hearing Department,

I am writing to express my strong interest in the clinical instructor position at the UNM Speech and Hearing Department, which I learned about through Sarah Duncan. The opportunity to join your esteemed institution in a role that combines my extensive experience in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) with my passion for mentorship is truly exciting.

Throughout my career there has been a motif, new opportunities. I've been all over the country working with in a variety settings with a diverse patient populations, their families, and hard working, brilliant colleagues. This job at UNM would also be a new opportunity for me which I would love to embark on.

I've been a practicing SLP for the last sixteen years. I initially came to New Mexico prior to starting graduate school. I lived in Taos, NM and worked as an educator on the Taos Pueblo. It left a lasting impression on me and I knew I would be back someday.

I completed my masters degree at San Francisco State University in 2007 which led me into my first job working in Texas with TBI patients at a post acute long term setting. I was ready for this new opportunity to have better hands on experience with TBI patients. I remember making strong connections in this setting with patients and being able to utilize tools such as The Ranchos Los Amigo Scale. This was one of the first tools that I learned about and used professionally that I left a lasting impression on me. It was one of the first opportunities where I used a diagnostic tool and watched my patients move within that scale. It was fascinating and challenging.

After several years of working exclusively in TBI, I moved into acute care where I have spent the last thirteen years. The hospital setting was so important to me because I craved more medical knowledge and experience. Studying neurology wasn't enough for me. After working with TBI

patients for three years I wanted to improve and understand the variety of medical conditions and the SLP's role in acute care. It was another brand new opportunity that shaped me into the clinician I am now. In that time, I helped build our team at Seton Medical Center, started a journal club, spoke at nursing and unit meetings, and was a practicum site for University of Texas Austin graduate students.

I would love another opportunity to mentor and guide students not only through assisting with identifying sites, but also helping guide students through that time in the field. I remember fondly a professor in graduate school who always tied in excellent examples to help us understand what we were learning. There is nothing more powerful than laughing at medical stories to help bring context to new learning. I want to provide real examples and stories to students to help improve their learning and understanding.

During 2020, I was at a Level 1 Trauma Center in southwest Virginia. It was an incredibly challenging two years. I helped develop and implement our first COVID safe protocols for SLP's and was one of the first SLPs that covered our COVID floors.

After those two years, I was ready for a new opportunity and came back to Taos where I worked in Home Health for the last two years. The community in northern NM is unique and diverse and one of my most favorite places I've worked. I had the pleasure of working with people across the wide variety of socioeconomic status and location, some with no running water or electricity.

I moved to Albuquerque in May 2023 and I am currently working as a Therapy Coordinator and SLP in an outpatient setting. In this role I have continued to build my leadership and communication skills running this clinic.

This is the first university job I've ever applied to and I would love to have this be another new opportunity not only to learn more, but give back to students to help them grow and develop their skills.

I look forward to meeting you in person and having an opportunity to meet the team and discuss this role more and my qualifications that make me a great candidate. Thank you for your consideration and time.

Sincerely,
Maria Strum

