

Robin Chester Torch



Education

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, Emory University 1975

Master of Medical Science, Speech and Language Pathology, Emory University 1977

Professional Highlights

- ✚ NA'AMAT USA - Have been a board member for over 20 years, served as President for 2 terms. NA'AMAT is an organization that builds schools and orphanages in Israel.
- ✚ Introduced AAC -Alternative and Augmentative Communication, to Shore School (Shore Community Services), procured devices, programmed devices, provided staff with in-service training on the use of the devices.
- ✚ Taught sign classes at Shore School
- ✚ Provided staff at Shore School with many classes on how to feed students therapeutically.
- ✚ Volunteered at a school for children with multiple disabilities in Cusco, Peru the summer of 2004. Shared my knowledge of feeding techniques and manual communication boards with the staff. They were without financial resources so the Peruvian speech therapist and I (through an interpreter) devised a few manual communication boards with core vocabulary. The director of the site video taped my classes and also created a feeding manual for the staff based on my instruction. The feeding manual explained how to position the children to optimize muscle control, how to manually manipulate the lips to encourage lip closure, and ways to encourage normalization of the neurologic system.
- ✚ Provided staff at Keshet Day School with training on use and programming of speech generating devices which I learned from attending workshops and conferences.
- ✚ Through intensive feeding therapy enabled a Keshet student with Familial Dysautonomia who had been strictly tube fed to orally eat 1 meal and several snacks a day.
- ✚ Taught Keshet students to navigate communication devices to communicate in sentences using semantic association for words not programmed.

Professional Work Experience

May, 2006 – present

Capable Kids of the North Shore, LLC

1141-C Lake-Cook Road

Deerfield, IL 60015

Title: Speech and Language Pathologist

Treat children of all ages and disabilities including those on the Autism Spectrum, mild language delay, and typical children with language and articulation disorders.

November, 2001 – June, 2009

Keshet Day School

3310 Dundee Road

Northbrook, IL 60062

Title: Speech and Language Pathologist

Position involves treating students on the autism spectrum, with genetic disorders, and other mental and physical impairments. Responsibilities include direct therapy for language and articulation disorders, programming speech generating devices, in-service training on the use of devices, oral motor and feeding therapy, supervision of graduate students from Northwestern University.

September, 1989 - November, 2001

Shore Community Services

2525 Church Street

Evanston, IL

Title: Speech and Language Pathologist

Treated students with multiple handicaps aged 0-21 for motor speech/oral motor disorders, language and articulation delays, and therapeutic feeding. Many students used AAC devices which I programmed and trained the classroom staff on the use of the devices.

September, 1981 - August, 1983

Community Consolidated School District 15

Lake Louise School

Palatine, IL

Title: Speech and Language Pathologist

School speech pathologist.

August, 1980 - August, 1981

Special Education District of Lake County (SEDOL)

Laremont School

Gurnee, IL

Title: Speech and Language Pathologist

Speech pathologist in a special education school for children with multiple handicaps. Caseload included AAC, signing, language, feeding and oral motor therapy.

January, 1979 - August, 1980

City of Chicago Dept. of Health

Near North Children's Clinic

1441 N. Cleveland

Chicago, IL

Title: Speech and Language Pathologist

Diagnosis and treatment of pediatric speech and language disorders.

September, 1977 - December, 1978

North Shore Association for the Retarded

Evanston, IL

Diagnostic and therapeutic services to both children and adults.

Licenses and Certifications

Illinois State Certification, Type 10, #1112934

Illinois State License #146-002795

ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence #00658740

Professional Organizations

ASHA (American Speech, Hearing, and Language Association)

ISHA (Illinois Speech and Hearing Association)

NSSLA (North Suburban Speech and Language Association)

INAAC (Illinois Network for Alternative and Augmentative Communication)

References supplied on request.

Charity Work

NA'AMAT USA - Have been a board member for over 20 years, served as President for 2 terms.

Volunteered in Peru for 2 weeks at a school for children with multiple disabilities.



Volunteered at a school for children with multiple disabilities in Cusco, Peru the summer of 2004. Shared my knowledge of feeding techniques and manual communication boards with the staff. They were without financial resources so the Peruvian speech therapist and I (through an interpreter) devised a few manual communication boards with core vocabulary. The director of the site video taped my classes and also created a feeding manual for the staff based on my instruction.