

Integrated Pediatric Therapy Social Groups Volunteer Role Description

Purpose: Provide support to the clinician leading the class. Classes will target a variety of skills (please see list below). Children may have difficulties communicating, following a group plan, and socializing with peers. Caregivers will not be within the room while activities are taking place.

IPT Classes: Social skills, Play skills, Food exploration, Handwriting, Sensory, Gross motor, Language skills.

**Please note if there is a class you would NOT feel comfortable participating in.*

Age range: 2-3 years, 3-4 years, 5-6 years, 7-9 years, 10-12 years, 13+ years

**Please note if there is an age range that you are NOT comfortable working with*

Office Locations:

- Abe and Ida Cooper Center at 6639 N Kedzie Ave, Chicago, IL 60645
- Elaine Kersten Children's Center, 255 Revere Dr., Suite 200, Northbrook, IL 60062
- Volunteers are asked to arrive 15min before classes start to help with setup and stay 15min after class to help clean up.

**Please note your availability at both offices*

Schedules: Classes are offered throughout the week (morning, afternoon and evening). *Please indicate when you are available (Mon-Fri) and what time of day. (The current ongoing class is Mondays 9AM-10:45AM)

Traits

- Ability to display an energetic and positive attitude.
- Personable with the ability to exhibit strong interpersonal communication skills.
- Comfortable working with children with a wide range of disabilities.
- Volunteers must be 18 years or older.
- Able to keep a level head when a child gets overly energetic or has a change in mood.
- Creativity when it comes to activities and games.
- Can be direct in communication and able to voice what they don't understand.

Responsibilities

- Walking children to and from the lobby and waiting in the hallway while they use the bathroom.
- Help with cleaning between activities.
- Sit one on one with a child who may need more attention.
- Helping children one on one with projects if they are struggling.
- Help arrange therapy equipment/materials for setting up sessions.
- Some physical touch: smaller children sitting in adult laps or physical prompting like tapping/touching the child's shoulder, arm or hand as needed – providing vocal cues and directions as needed.

Key Interactions: Clients, Staff, Caregivers, Volunteers

Volunteers will be required to go through a series of background checks, a TB Test, online trainings, and fingerprinting as part of the onboarding process. If interested, please contact Benjie Weiss, Volunteer Coordinator, at BenjaminWeiss@JCFS.org or 773.467.3821.